

MINING.—Continued.

EDITOR CRITIC.—Seeing in your paper some time ago a notice requesting opinions from miners on needed alterations in the mining laws, I take the liberty of speaking of some of the grievances borne by prospectors. I will illustrate it by a case in point, viz., my own:—A short time ago, I was lucky enough to find some rich boulders, but could not find the lead. My only plan was to cover the ground with a license. Miners, as a rule, seldom earn more than enough to support their families, and I am no exception to that rule. However, a moneyed man offered to supply all the money needed for a prospecting license. He also condescendingly offered me half, on condition that I prospect it. Thus, owing to the great cost of a license, I was forced to give half to a mere speculator. This is one point against a poor prospector.

"There," you say, "your difficulties in that line end." But, "there," to the contrary, they do not end. My license, issued in September, expires in March, including a very short time suitable for prospecting. Here is deep surface and wet ground, compelling me to push the work with all possible speed, before the fall rains set in. The result is, that I am forced to admit two more men as partners, leaving me but one-sixth of the whole. Thus, owing to short time, another point is scored against the poor prospector. The renewal is a second deal, in which the speculator gets a better hand every time. The question is, how shall we remedy it? Simply and easily. Decrease the license charges, and extend the time. The law, as it now stands, is plainly in favor of the speculator and moneyed man. The remedy is simple and easily executed, unless self-interest stands in the way of justice.

Yours, &c.,
GRYPHUS.

The continuation of our correspondent's "Trip to the Eastern Gold Districts" will be found on pages 68 of this issue.

A very fair showing of manganese has been found in Selmah, Hants County, and has been leased by a gentleman in Truro, who proposes to take the necessary steps to have the same developed at an early day.

Prospecting for gold has been carried on for some time by a local company in the vicinity of Ardoise Hill, Hants County, and with a fair showing, so it is said, of the precious metal.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING ITEMS.—Having been away considerably, I have, to a great extent, neglected the columns of THE CRITIC, but at the same time I have been keeping an eye on the movements in the mining line in the Province. Very little is being done in the mining line in the way of new developments. Those that are working, are shipping and prospecting as usual.

The mines at Markhamville are shipping manganese as usual, and Major Markham is ever busy looking after the interests of his company.

The manganese property at the Globe, owned by F. J. Alley and others, of Bar Harbor, Maine, is showing up finely, and some quantities of ore taken out recently, are worth upwards of \$200 per ton. The uses of manganese to some part of the electric light business will create a new demand for the same.

Mr. Alley and others are also making some developments at Waterford, on a belt of metals which seems promising. The ore consists of yellow sulphuret of copper, and other metals in combination.

Work at the Mineral Vale Mine in New Ireland, Albert County, is also being pushed forward. One of the principal proprietors visited the United States recently to examine various modes of treating this class of ores, and it is said concentrating machinery of the best and latest description will be put in shortly.

The prospecting for antimony, at or near Springfield, is steadily progressing under the charge of Mr. Gilbert Craudall, of Moncton. It is said the outlook is favorable.

Very little is being done in the way of coal development at Welford, Kent County. No late advices have been received from that quarter.

The extensive manganese deposit I have so often written you about, at Jordan Mountain or White's Mountain, owned by Stockton and others, is about being disposed of to a syndicate of capitalists from Baltimore. A sample piece of ore was recently shipped to the parties in Baltimore which weighed 1800 lbs. There is every evidence that the sale is bona fide, and the owners will receive \$40,000 in cash for the property. Should no hitch occur in the negotiations, which we sincerely trust will not be the case, it will give a great impetus to mining matters in this vicinity.

The existence of five veins of galena not many miles from Sussex, which show evidence of containing considerable gold, is worthy of the attention of capitalists.

As I do not know of very much more of interest, I will close for the present, and not be so long silent again, if I can avoid it.

Yours, etc.,

CARLETON DISTRICT.—W. H. TURNER & CO.'S PROPERTY.—This property comprises about 90 acres, and adjoins the property now owned, and being successfully worked, by the Carleton Gold Mining Co. Prospecting commenced early last spring under the supervision of Mr. Morrison, a man of large experience in mining in the British Provinces. The developments thus far have proved the existence of a large number of gold bearing quartz leads, from five inches to four feet in width, which prove the mine to be a valuable one. The company has just completed a most substantially timbered shaft, together with shaft house, hoisting gin, blacksmith shop, office and barn. Underground work will be pushed during the winter, and we look for splendid results.

M. X.

NOVA SCOTIA Telephone Co (LIMITED.)

The Nova Scotia Telephone Company (Limited), have completed their Truro Exchange of about forty subscribers, and the same is now connected by through line with Halifax. A Toll Office has been opened at the book store of MR. MORTON, next door south of the Queen Hotel, where parties desirous of having a conversation with any residents of Truro can have connection made and five minutes conversation for twenty-five cents. The line is being rapidly pushed, connecting Truro with the exchanges of some thirty subscribers in New Glasgow, Stellarton, Westville and Pictou. Offices will be opened in a few days at Shubenacadie and London-derry, ready for business.

B. F. PEARSON,
Secretary.



SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Sheet Harbor Work," will be received at this office until Friday, the 4th of November, for the construction of a ballast wharf at West River, Sheet Harbor, Halifax County, N. S.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and on application to Mr. A. MacFarlane, West River Sheet Harbor.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the form supplied and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.

An accepted bank cheque payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent of amount of tender, must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party declines the contract, or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in care of non-acceptance of tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

A. GORELL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 12th Oct., 1887.



Oxford & New Glasgow Railway SECTIONS.

1st.—Birch Hill Road to Pugwash Junction, 13 miles.
2nd.—Pugwash Junction to Pugwash, 5 miles.
3rd.—Pugwash Junction to Wallace Station, 7 miles.
4th.—Wallace Station to Mingo Road, 17 miles.

Tenders for Grading, Bridge and Culvert Masonry, Fencing, &c

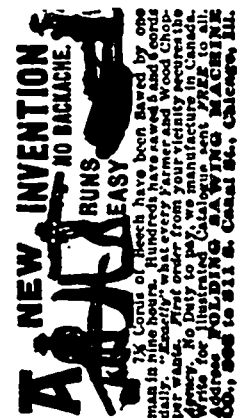
SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Oxford and New Glasgow Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Friday, the 18th day of November, 1887, for the grading, bridge and culvert masonry fencing, &c.

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the Office of the Chief Engineer of Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the Office of the Oxford and New Glasgow Railway, at Wallace, Cumberland Co., Nova Scotia, on and after the 10th day of November, 1887, where the general specification and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms, and all conditions are complied with. This Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 20th October, 1887.



Valuable Coal Mining Property FOR SALE,

Situated in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia,

AND KNOWN AS THE

Styles Mining Company's Property.

This property consists of five square miles, and is only distant from the celebrated Spring Hill Coal Mines, seven miles. It is on the north dip of the Spring Hill coal basin, and the out-crop has been traced for two and a quarter miles.

Two seams have been developed, the upper being 6 feet in thickness, and the lower, which is separated from the upper by a thickness of strata of about twenty feet, being four feet in thickness.

The indications point to the existence of other seams on the property.

The coal is of superior quality, and has been pronounced by consumers the

Best Coal for Domestic Purposes they have ever used.

For Gas and Steam Purposes, it is unequalled.

The late Mr. Hartley, a most efficient member of the Geological Survey of Canada, reported as follows:

"The analyses show the coal to belong to the class known as highly bituminous, in fact, cooking coals in character very similar to those of the North of England, known as North Country, or NEWCASTLE HADLEY COAL."

"The high rate of volatile to fixed combustible matter should render the coal in common with the Newcastle Coal, which it resembles, an admirable gas coal, while in the amount of sulphur it falls much below the average of Newcastle Coals, (which contain about nine tenths of one per cent., as determined by the Admiralty Steam Coal Tests), therefore the gas obtained from it should be very easily purified."

"The coke of the coal appears in every way well adapted for iron smelting, as it is firm and rather compact, and in content of ash and sulphur, will compare most favorably with that from any coal in the Province."

The position of the Styles mining areas is very advantageous in relation to the opening up of the seams, and also of connection with the Intercolonial Railway, which passes within a mile and a half of the property.

The Spring Hill Mine is acknowledged to be more advantageously situated for shipping its coal than any other mine now being worked in the Province. The Styles Mine is quite as advantageously situated, and commands the coal markets of Montreal, Quebec, the United States, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

The new tariff given an impetus to the manufacturers of iron, and as the coke of the Styles seams is well adapted for iron smelting, the probabilities are that in a few years a home market will be found for most of the output.

Parties desiring to purchase will be furnished with full particulars on application at

THE CRITIC OFFICE, 161 HOLLIS ST.