

18 dwt. 10 gr. in the table published in issue of March the fourth.

NOVA SCOTIA GOLD FIELDS.
Statistical Summary.
1866 to 1868.

DISTRICT.	Previous to adoption of sworn returns Estimated. 1860-1861.	Per sworn returns. 1862-1868.	Stolen and not reported. Estimated. 1862-1868.	Total Product. 1860-1868.	Quartz Crushed. 1862-1868. Colonial Tons.	Average Gold Yield per 2,000 lbs. of quartz. 1862-1868.		Average daily yield of Miners. (b) 1862-68.	No. of years worked.	REMARKS.
						oz.	dwt. gr.			
Waverley.....	1,050	39,644	4,070	44,675	65,884	0 12	0 1	No. 212	8	(a) The ounce valued at \$20.
Sherbrooke.....	1,100	34,535	3,364	39,000	29,611	1 3	7 2	104	8	(b) Counting 312 working days to the year.
Renfrew.....	200	20,976	2,117	23,294	22,121	0 18	23 1	90	7	(c) The returns for Uniacke begin only with Oct., 1866.
Wine Harbor.....	750	14,746	1,543	17,040	18,984	0 15	12 8	62	8	These districts have not been continuously worked during the whole period.
Isaac's Harbor.....	250	8,346	861	9,457	6,032	1 7	14 6	53	8	
Oldham.....	100	6,927	703	7,730	8,432	0 16	10 4	56	8	
Tangier.....	550	4,520	507	5,578	4,941	0 17	0 9	61	8	
Uniacke.....	.....	4,942	494	5,437	5,871	0 16	20 1	51	24
Montague.....	.....	3,840	184	4,025	2,277	1 13	17 4	44	6
Ovens.....	1,850	412	232	2,525	169	0 15	13 1	12	3	
Lawrencetown.....	100	412	51	563	531	0 15	11 5	13	4	
Unclassified.....	.....	440	454	486	525	0 12	5 3	12	5
Country Harbor.....	50	40	10	100	24	0 1	13 8	3	2	
The whole Province.....	6,000	139,814	14,185	160,000	165,407	0 16	19 7	718		

HALIFAX, N.S., April 12, 1869.

The following returns show the actual progress for March in the leading districts, excepting Uniacke, Lawrencetown, Montague, and Isaac's Harbor, from which the monthly statements are yet wanting:

GENERAL RESULT FOR MARCH, 1869.		Sherbrooke. Wine Harbor.	
Areas leased.....	91	.....	.....
Mines worked.....	13	6	.....
Days' labor.....	3,120	3,153	.....
Quartz raised..... tons	1,080	306	8-20
" crushed..... tons	1,079	306	8-20

	oz. dwt. gr.	oz. dwt. gr.
Average gold yield p. ton	— 22	— 4 11
Total	482 11 18	68 8 14
Maximum	6 9 13	00 11 6
Mills.....	10	5
“ steam.....	9	4
“ water.....	1	1

Mill Returns for March, 1869.

TANGIER.		
Quartz Crushed.	Gold Yield.	
tons cwt.	oz. dwt. gr.	
Strawberry Hill.....	125 00	255 10 0
Barton.....	49 00	37 7 0
RENFREW.		
Hartford.....	50 00	29 17 0
Colonial.....	87 00	47 15 9
Ophir.....	541 00	263 5 0
Thomas.....	7 00	2 18 0
WAVERLEY.		
Lake Major.....	23 15	10 15 0
Rockland.....	89 00	31 3 3
Boston & Nova Scotia.....	212 00	96 12 0
WINE HARBOR.		
Globe.....	164 00	43 17 10
Mill.....	26 10	4 3 18
Provincial.....	56 00	3 11 15
Eldorado.....	59 10	16 11 7
Orient.....	00 8	00 4 12
SHERBROOKE.		
Cobourg.....	14 10	1 1 0
N. Y. and Sherbrooke.....	2 4	14 5 0
N. Snow.....	Old copper plates.	6 15 0
Dominion Mill—sundry owners.....	461 10	162 5 4
Hayden & Derby.....	6 00	1 17 0
Palmerston.....	190 27	28 1 0
Woodbine.....	14 00	3 11 17
Caledonia.....	27 00	5 7 6
Hart.....	00 14	0 5 15
Wentworth.....	153 10	21 3 0
Wellington.....	210 00	238 0 0

Recapitulation.

	tons. cwt.	oz. dwt. gr.
Sherbrooke.....	1079 8	482 11 18
Wine Harbor.....	306 8	68 8 14
Waverley.....	324 16	138 10 3
Renfrew.....	685 00	343 15 9
Tangier.....	174 00	292 17 0
	2569 12	1326 2 20

REVIEW OF MINING FOR PRECIOUS METALS IN CALIFORNIA IN 1868.

The weather in 1868 was favorable to mining. The supply of water was considerably above the average, and there was no extraordinary frost or flood to interrupt work in either the quartz or gravel mines.

In quartz there was little change. The mines which occupied a leading position in 1867 have it still, notwithstanding some variations. No great mine has fallen, nor has any new one risen. The Eureka, at Grass Valley, extracted about 18,000 tons of ore, and paid \$280,000 of dividends last year, or an average of \$23,500 per month. The Amador Mine, in fourteen months ending on the first of December last, worked 28,311 tons, and extracted \$617,437, an average of \$21.80 per ton. The dividends were \$340,400, about \$24,000 per month, or \$12.62 per ton. The North Star, at Grass Valley, has produced \$176,000 in the last six months, and \$60,000 have lately been expended in extensive and important improvements; so that, according to report, the mine is now in a better condition than ever to pay regular monthly dividends. The gross production of the Empire Mine is estimated at \$240,000 for 1868. The Banner, at Nevada, produced \$200,000 gross for the year. It turned out \$44,000 in the last sixty days, but that was exceptional. The yield per ton is about \$18, and the current monthly expenses about \$9,000. The Sierra Buttes turned out \$215,000

gross, an average of \$14.50 per ton, and paid \$138,000 dividends, an average of about \$9.35 per ton. The Keystone Mine, Amador County, yielded \$188,588.15 for the calendar year, the average per ton being about \$16. The Quail Hill Mine, as worked during the early part of the year with stamps, did not pay expenses, though the tailings were rich in the assays; so a Howland's rotary crusher, which bears some resemblance to a big coffee mill, was set up, and four tons were run through it daily, and then worked in two Wheeler pans. The result was that \$35 were saved to the ton, and the tailings left from the old workings paid from \$10 to \$25, the latter sum having been obtained from the tailings nearest the mill. This experiment was tried for four months, and the success being considered certain, the mill is to be remodelled, and the work resumed next spring. The Whiskey Diggings Mill, in Placer County, which was at work on a similar deposit, has been idle for a long time, and we have no information from it. Whether the success at Quail Hill will lead to a trial of the same machinery there is unknown to us.

The Mariposa estate is in the hands of Mark Brumagim, J. A. Stewart, and J. J. McEwen, Trustees, who are now preparing to work the Josephine Mine. The dam across the Merced River is completed, and the mill will soon commence reducing by the Lungren and Ryerson process on a larger scale than ever before. The miners are now taking out ore from the Josephine, and rumour says that it will yield at least \$25 per ton, and that the amount in sight equally as good is considerable. The Bear Valley Mill, which was burned down in the summer, will not be rebuilt, having been in an unfavourable situation. A very rich lode, known as the Petticoat, near Mokelumne Hill, and several in Sierra County, have been opened, but their production has not been large as yet. Two quartz mills have been erected in the Soledad District, 30 miles from Los Angeles, and the reports from them are favourable.

In placer mining there has been a steady decline. The Chinese, who did most of the shallow mining a few years since, have been employed on the railroads in such numbers that the rivers and ravines have been neglected, but next summer many of them will get back to their old haunts. Several good hydraulic claims have been worked out, and others have been beset by difficulties of drainage, so that consolidation has been necessary. The Blue Gravel Mine, at Smartsville, still maintains its pre-eminence among the placer mines of the State. Its gross yield last year was about \$200,000, of which probably 55 per cent. was net. A few days since, a blast of 15 tons of powder, the largest ever used for gold mining in this State, was let off in the Blue Point claim, at Sucker Flat, to loosen the gravel for hydraulic washing. Several large tail sluices were commenced last summer, but none of them have been finished.

The trial near Cisco of the Hagan furnace for roasting ore by burning water was one of the notable events of the year. A small woodfire is kindled in the fireplace under the ore, and as soon as it burns well, steam is turned on through pipes which pass over the fire, and the doors are closed as tightly as possible, so as to exclude all draft, and thus compel the fire to take the oxygen from the steam while the hydrogen burns and serves as fuel. Those who have witnessed the trials declare the new process a certain success, and a large furnace is now being built at Angels. The expense of roasting the ore of the Enterprise Mine near Cisco was reported at \$1.50 per ton, the largest pieces of ore being of the size of a goose egg. The Giant Powder has been introduced in mining with a decided saving. On account of its greater explosive power, a smaller drill hole is sufficient; one man can hold and strike the drill at the same time, and the drifts may be much smaller than when large drills are used. In the New Almaden Mine it was found that to cut a drift with common powder cost \$65 per yard, and with Giant Powder \$45.45—a saving of \$19.55, or 29 per cent.

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