

MINING.—Continued.

undeveloped properties is in holding them at too high figures. Only two or three years ago, a gentleman arrived in Nova Scotia, representing millions of Australian capital. He made a trip to some of the gold districts, was favorably impressed with the evident value of the properties inspected, but when he asked the prices, he found them so out of all reason, that he left the country in disgust, and did not invest a dollar. It is amusing to see how prices jump up the moment a probable purchaser arrives. Men who, the day before, would gladly have taken five hundred dollars for their areas, now want \$5,000. They fail to sell, of course, and the next month, would almost part with them for a plug of tobacco.

One great drawback to the advancement of gold mining, which has often been dilated upon in THE CRITIC, is the facility with which speculators get hold of large tracts of areas in the best gold districts which they will not work, and for which they demand the most exorbitant prices. The Mining Act needs to be so amended that it will be impossible for these baronies to hold properties unless they work them. When I speak of speculators, I do not intend to include another class of men whom I think are deserving of every indulgence, and that is those who, in the past, have purchased areas and worked them at a loss until their capital was exhausted, and they could do no more. It seems to me that men of this description should be given ample time to secure capital or sell out their interests in the areas.

The Government now derives a large revenue from the leasing of mining areas, and the Royalties paid on gold; and in view of the fact that most of the roads leading into mining camps are in a miserable condition, it would seem only just that a portion of this revenue should be set aside for the purpose of keeping the old mining roads in repair, and for building roads into new districts. If there is one class above all others whom the Government should deal liberally with, it is the gold miners, and I trust that another season will not be passed without some special provision being made to facilitate the building of mining roads. In closing, I desire to tender to the managers and owners of all the mines visited by me the thanks of THE CRITIC for their uniform kindness and hospitality to me as its representative. Every facility has been furnished me to visit all parts of the mines, and no attempts have been made to mislead or cause me to overstate the prospects.

A more able, unassuming, hard-working and agreeable lot of gentlemen it would be hard to meet; and I shall long remember with feelings of unalloyed pleasure my trip to the Eastern Gold Districts.

ADIOS AMIGO.

GOLD RIVER DISTRICT.—The property of Messrs Gammon, Fulton and Foster, in this district, is being thoroughly prospected, and a mill will be put up as soon as the developments warrant.

The property of the Bridgewater Company, under the management of Mr. Willis, is rapidly being brought into shape; and from the number of gold-bearing leads now opened up, bids fair to become a very valuable mine.

VOULER'S COVE.—This property, which was unearthed with a great flourish of trumpets, seems to have subsided and fallen into a comatose state. We should like to hear from the district, and hope the discoverers have really struck it so rich that they remain dumb solely from amazement.

KAMPER SYNDICATE.—Nothing new has come to hand in regard to the Kamper Syndicate scheme, which may prove of the greatest value to this Province, where Mr. Kamper has evidently determined to operate. In this he certainly shows great wisdom, as in no other part of the world are there greater natural advantages for the manufacture of iron and steel. The coal and iron fields in close juxtaposition are of the greatest extent, the facilities for transportation are unsurpassed, and the cool, bracing climate is suitable for the work. Once attract the great capitalists of Europe in this direction, and the strides this Province will make in wealth and population will exceed the wonderful growth of the Southern States. The days of wooden ships are numbered, but with cheap iron and steel manufactured in the country, there is no reason why, in ten years from now, the iron ships of Nova Scotia should not be as celebrated as are her wooden ones to day. The Wizard's word to produce all this is "capital," and who knows but that Mr. Kamper may prove the Wizard.

WHITEBURN DISTRICT.—Judging from the last returns at the mines office from the Graves Gold Mining Co. (formerly the Parker Douglass mine,) 124½ ounces from 100 tons crushed, the Whiteburn district continues to improve. "The McGuire" mine, in the same district, is a small bonanza, the average yield being over four ounces to the ton.

BROOKFIELD DISTRICT.—Good reports continue to be received from the Brookfield mine, which has proved a steady gold-producer ever since it was opened up, a year ago last July.

Our correspondent was in error in stating that the Empress mine was the only one in the Province where back stopes had been adopted, as Captain Nicholls is conducting his mining operations at Uniacke on that principle, which will also be introduced into Rawdon as soon as practicable. The United Rawdons are a very fine property.

Mining has been begun at the Queen's mine, Uniacke, which, although managed by Captain Nicholls, is owned by quite a distinct company from the one operating on the old McClure et al properties, and which is also under his management.

MONTREAL, 172 D'ARBOUSSE ST.
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F. W. CHRISTIE,

Member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

Gold Mining Properties Examined, Reported on, and Titles Searched.

Information for Investors in Nova Scotia Gold Mines. Estimates obtained for Air Drills and Air Compressors for Mines and Quarries, and Steam Drills for Railroad Contracts.
Reference: Commissioner of Mines for Nova Scotia.
Address Letter or Telegram, BEDFORD STATION, HALIFAX CO., NOVA SCOTIA.

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HALIFAX, N. S.

GOLD MINING PROPERTY

FOR SALE AT

15 Mile Stream Gold District.

Lease No. 89, containing 30 Acres, and adjoining the Egerton Gold Mining Co., who are now working.
Eight Leads have already been found on this Property.

Lease No. 90, containing 20 Acres, has a shaft down on Main Lead 90 feet, and has been worked continuously for three years with good returns.

Leases Nos 91 and 114 have each 10 Acres. Also Dwelling House, Barn, Mining tools, Boilers, Donkey Engine, etc. etc., and about 230 Acres of Land.

Further information may be obtained by application to

JAMES HUDSON, Mining Engineer,
Box 116. PICTOU, N. S.



POST OFFICE,

HALIFAX, N. S., 26th November, 1887.

NOTICE.

On and after MONDAY next, 28th instant, mails will close at this office daily as follows:
For the Northern and Eastern counties of Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, New Brunswick, and the United States, at 6.45 o'clock a.m.

For the Upper Provinces; and second mails for the United States, New Brunswick and principal offices on the line of the Intercolonial railway at 1.25 o'clock p.m.

Second mails for Bedford, Shubenacadie and Tinto at 4.20 o'clock p.m.

The mail for the UNITED KINGDOM, per Canadian packet, at this port, will close every SATURDAY at 12 o'clock, noon.

H. W. BLACKBURN, Postmaster.

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 has given an impetus to the manufacturers of iron, and as the coke of the Styles seams is specially 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.