

coal is removed, there is no competition that the Pacific collieries cannot overcome in two seasons, and under such conditions, quite irrespective of other markets, the California market of 1 to 3 million tons of coal per annum is theirs.

Work and Wages in the Pacific Collieries.—As I have remarked, serious differences between employers and employees form a feature of some importance in these mines. This is owing, I believe, to the presence of Chinese labor in and around the pits, and the high cost of living. The number and earnings of the men are as follows:—

Nanaimo Collieries.—Value of plant £70,000 (5 pits); 1,377 whites, 10s. to 14s. 6d. per day; 46 boys, 4s. 2d. to 8s. 4d.; 87 Chinese 4s. 2d. to 5s.; miners average 12s. 6d. to 21s.

Wellington Collieries.—Value of plant £30,000 (4 shafts); 324 whites, 10s. to 14s. 6d. per day; 33 boys, 4s. 2d. to 8s. 4d.; 100 Chinese, 4s. 2d. to 6s.; miners average 12s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.

East Wellington Collieries.—Value of plant £20,000; 156 whites, 10s. to 14s. 6d. per day; 9 boys, 4s. 2d. to 8s. 4d.; 23 Chinese, 4s. 2d. to 6s.; miners average 12s. 6d.

Union Collieries.—Value of plant £20,000; 270 whites, 10s. to 14s. 6d. per day; 15 boys, 4s. 2d.; 200 Chinese 4s. 2d. to 5s.; and 100 Japanese, 4s. 2d. to 6s.; miners average 12s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.; pushers and drivers 10s.

The coal is generally wrought at contract terms, and the actual monthly earnings of the average miner varies from £20 a month in a high seam to very much less in the low 2½ ft. seams of some of the pits. The working day is eight hours. The mines are examined every morning from 3 a.m. to 7 a.m., and the "mine boss" of each shaft is compelled to telephone his report to the colliery office. Shot-firers enter the pits at 7 a.m., "riding" at 3 p.m. Robourite is used in preference to ordinary blasting powder, and is manufactured on the spot.

Accidents in the Pacific Collieries—In some instances the precautions against accidents include periodical deputations of workmen, who examine every part of the principal mines, with the assistance of the necessary appliances specially furnished by the managers for that purpose. This instils into the men some higher sense of the grave responsibility which rests upon them as miners, and furnishes them with a practical insight into the control and management invaluable to them in the ordinary routine of a colliery. Notwithstanding this, all the incidents that occurred in 1891 happened while the men were in their places, fully one-half being by falls of rock and coal, thus suggesting a discreditable recklessness and disregard of careful roof-propping.

Coal Cutters—Of course the mining appliances of these collieries are orthodox, but in one instance I find that electrical coal-cutting is being introduced, i.e., in the Union Mine. A Jeffreys electrical cutter plant, consisting of four cutters connected by heavy wires with the dynamos (at bank), is used for undercutting in the 5 ft. to 8 ft. seams. At work the machines stand end on to the "face" at regular distances apart, each fitted with toothed cutter bars set to cut 4 clear inches, and in five minutes a cutting 3 ft. 3 in. by 6 in. by 4 in. is made, after which the coal is brought down with shot. Apparently the maximum daily results of these machines is undermining to the extent of 90 ft. long by 6 ft. in, and, as a whole, they prove a valuable adjunct to the economic working of the mine.

Some progress has also been made in the allied art of electric pumping, and tail-rope haulage by compressed air is also being adopted. As a rule, it may be stated that the industries are energetically prosecuted, and prejudices in favor of orthodox mining are, if anything, less active than in other parts of Canada. As to whether there is opportunity for further capital investment, I would like to explain that so long as the tariff is permitted to retard the pronounced American preference for Canadian coal, investments in Vancouver coal should be very cautiously entered into. Although there are only four collieries, it would appear that the output of these is sufficient to supply the adjacent markets in all its demands, present or prospective. However, so rapid are the developments upon the mainland, more especially in the region of Kest-nay Lake, that it is not safe to predict the prospects of the western collieries for more than a very limited period. But it appears that, as far as tonnage is concerned, there is some opening for colliers. At times mines have been stopped for want of craft to take the coal from the wagons, and it is evident, the market for coal being on the upward grade, that craft such as frequent the waters of the North Pacific Ocean for the purpose must very soon be increased either in number or size.

Now the circumstances of the rise and progress of the Pacific collieries are also the circumstances of the decline of the higher prosperity of the British pits. But the energies of those whose judgment the miners are accustomed to accept as prudent are not in the direction of the dissemination of these facts and illustrations among British colliers. My own experience of the British miner is that, approached in his dispassionate mood, he is ready to listen to and able to accept these true explanations of the decline in prices of his staple industry. Instinctively he appreciates the logic of the argument and the force of the illustration, and were it not for the counteraction of certain extremists, he would, as a rule, be prepared to join issue and work more harmoniously with the operator of the mine. Another unique though unavoidable feature of these colonial pits presents a striking analogy to a certain period of the decline of the Roman Empire, when aliens were introduced into the Roman armies and taught the art of war so successfully that they were ultimately able to subvert the very empire, the prosperity of which they priorly defended. This is practically the case with us. In our mines we educate to splendid perfection a race of engineers, who set willfully forth into the uttermost parts of the earth and initiate the industries which necessarily supplant our own. This, however, is merely the evolution of industries, and reflects the greatest possible lustre upon the enterprises of Great Britain,

THE
TO
Comfort
ON
Washday
IS



SEETON & MITCHELL, Halifax, N. S.
Wholesale Agents for Nova Scotia & P. E. I.

AN AUCTIONEER'S STORY.

MUCH EXP. SURE BROUGHT ON A SEVERE ATTACK OF RHEUMATISM.

Bed-fast for Weeks at a Time—His Trouble Aggravated by an Outbreak of Salt rheum—An Experience of Interest to Others.

From the Stayner Sun.

There are few people in Simcoe County who do not know Mr. Thos. Furlong. For twenty-eight years Mr. Furlong has been a resident of the county, and for twenty-two years has been a travelling agent and an auctioneer, and it is safe to say that he is just as popular as he is well-known. In a business of his kind Mr. Furlong is naturally exposed to all kinds of weather, and the result has been that for some years past he has been badly crippled with rheumatism and has suffered great pain and inconvenience. Happily, however, Mr. Furlong has found a release from this suffering, and his recovery has excited so much interest in and about Stayner, that 'The Sun' determined to secure the particulars of his cure and give them for the benefit of others. When seen with regard to the matter Mr. Furlong expressed the greatest willingness to make public the particulars of his cure in the belief that it might be of benefit to some other sufferer.

'You are of course aware' said Mr. Furlong, 'that my calling subjects me to more or less inclement weather, and this was the main cause of my suffering. Some nine years ago I felt the symptoms of rheumatism. I did not pay much attention to it at first, but gradually it became so severe that it was with difficulty that I could hobble around, and my business really became a burden to me. I consulted several physicians who did all they could for me, but without giving me any relief. During a part of the year I was bed-fast for weeks at a time, and as the remedies I tried did me no good I began to believe that there was no cure for me, and you will readily understand how despondent I was. To add to my distress I became afflicted with salt-rheum of the hands, and had to keep my hands covered with cloths from one year's end to the other. I had read of some remarkable cures of rheumatism by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People,

and at last I made up my mind to try them, though I must admit that it was with a doubting heart, for I had spent a great deal of money for other medicines without obtaining any benefit. However, they say that a drowning man will clutch at a straw, and it was with much of this feeling that I purchased the first box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Before that box was all gone I experienced some relief, which warranted me in continuing the treatment, and from that out I steadily progressed toward complete recovery.

I have used in all eight boxes with the result that I am to-day free from pain and ache, and not only did Pink Pills relieve me of the rheumatism, but they also drove out the salt-rheum, and as you see to-day the hands which had been covered with cracks, fissures and scabs are now completely well. This splendid result is due entirely to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and you may be sure that it gives me the greatest pleasure to warmly recommend them to others.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer, curing such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration and the tired feeling therefrom, the after effects of la grippe, diseases depending on humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Pink Pills give a healthy glow to pale and sallow complexions and are a specific for the troubles peculiar to the female system, and in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of any nature.

These pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold only in boxes bearing the firm's trade mark and wrapper, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Ask your dealer for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and refuse all imitations and substitutes.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company from either address. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

WHISTON'S
COMMERCIAL COLLEGE

IS OPEN ALL SUMMER.
STUDENTS CAN JOIN AT ANY TIME.

Following is the Staff:—

- S. E. WHISTON, Principal.
Teacher of Practical Book-keeping and Banking.
- E. KAULBAOH, Teacher of Arithmetic, Theoretical Book-keeping and the subjects required to pass in the civil service exams.
- W. E. THOMPSON, Teacher of Commercial Law.
- MISS GEORGIE MILLER, Teacher of Shorthand, Practical Reporting, Office Work, Correspondence, etc.
- MISS ANNA GOULD, Teacher of Typewriting, Punctuation, Letter Writing, Spelling, etc.