

MINING.

WESTWARD HO!

THE GOLD MINES OF QUEEN'S COUNTY AND THE TOWNS OF LIVERPOOL AND YARMOUTH.

(Special from the Staff Correspondent of THE CRITIC).

How little there is in a name is well illustrated by the towns in this locality. Caledonia, where one would expect to find the canny Scot, is an Irish settlement, while New Dublin is peopled with plodding Germans. At New Germany, in Lunenburg County, Samuel Moore has discovered an eight inch lead showing gold, and in conjunction with Mr. H. Wentzel and Simon Krust, of Bridgewater, has taken up a number of areas which will be developed after haying is over. Liverpool is thirty miles by coach from Caledonia, and on Thursday morning at the unpleasantly early hour of 6 a. m., your correspondent found himself the only occupant of the coach bound for the former place to catch the steamer *City of St. John* on her regular trip to Yarmouth. It was a beautifully clear morning at starting, but before proceeding far on the road the sun disappeared behind a bank of dark clouds and a drizzling rain began to fall. A lady passenger had been picked up on the way, and after a large Saratoga trunk had been stowed in the front part of the light single wagon that was used as a coach, the quarters for passengers were very limited, and the driver had to contend himself with a seat on the trunk. Half way on the journey we passed the fifteen mile gold district, where considerable prospecting has been done, and where several rich leads are reported to have been struck, but as no work was being done no authentic information of the value of the district could be obtained. The road, like all the roads in Queen's County, was very good, but for the most part passed through a barren, sparsely settled country, which was in no way improved by the steadily falling rain. Lake Mark Tapley, your correspondent determined to be "jolly under all circumstances," but when a gentle stream commenced to run down the back of his neck, colored a ruby red from the dye in the parasol with which his fair neighbor was protecting her head gear, a slight feeling of despondency did begin to creep over him. She, blissfully unconscious, comfortably enveloped in her water-proof, and punctuating her sentences with stinging prods from the iron ribs of her sun shade, smiled benignly upon him and hoped that he was not getting wet. But there is an end to all earthly misery, and shortly before twelve we drove into Liverpool and put up at Cobb's Hotel. Then the rain ceased, the sun shone out brightly, and Liverpool seemed a very paradise in comparison with the country we had just passed through. In describing one Nova Scotian seaport town, you describe nearly all of them, and Liverpool is no exception to the rule. They are all prettily situated, with churches and handsome residences perched on commanding positions. There is the one long main street of the town, with shops and warehouses in the centre, and fringed at either end with private residences surrounded by terraced lawns and handsomely laid out grounds. Numerous wharves jut into the harbor, which now that the fishermen are away, are almost deserted of shipping, and an air of peaceful, quiet content prevails everywhere. Liverpool was in a state of unusual commotion caused by several custom's seizures that had just been made, and as the victims had been snared through the gold excitement that now pervades the whole country, the story is worthy of a place in the mining columns of THE CRITIC. A week previous a Mr. Phillips arrived in town and put up at Cobb's Hotel. He introduced himself as an old miner who wished to invest time and money in prospecting the gold fields of our Province, and talked learnedly on mining matters. As he spent his money freely he was soon surrounded by friends, and was "hail fellow well met" with most of the young men about town. He was fond of adventure, spent considerable time about the wharves and made friends with the crews of the vessels sailing out of Liverpool. He became so intimate with the mate of the "Doxter," the Boston packet, that he was invited to assist in smuggling some goods ashore, and on a Wednesday evening was duly initiated into the way of defrauding the Dominion of its revenues. The cook and the mate were the smugglers, and their surprise and dismay may be imagined when their would be confederate seized the goods in the Queen's name and also attached the vessel. The morning of our arrival the seizures were still going on, and all but the victims were laughing over the shrewd device of the detective. Real prospectors, if they value their lives, will not venture into Liverpool for some time to come. It seems dirty work for the government to engage in, but in the interests of the large majority of merchants who pay their duties, and who would be ruined if smuggling was not made dangerous, it has to be done. The hotel was filled with male and female teachers up for their grade examinations, and Mr. Patillo, the efficient Inspector, who is highly spoken of, was up to his eyes in business. At six o'clock the *City of St. John* steamed up the harbor, and your correspondent felt almost at home as he stopped on board and grasped the hand of Mr. Fielding, the courteous purser. In the morning the steamer was ploughing its way through a thick fog, and attempting to make Barrington. Captain Forbes, who knows every inch of the coast, manages to guide his steamer in and out of harbors in thick fogs in a manner that seems marvellous. Barrington is however a dangerous place to enter in a fog, not being sufficiently provided with bell buoys, etc., to do away with all risk, and so the steamer was headed for Yarmouth which was reached at 3 p. m. on Friday.

In Halifax gold mining seems to be regarded by our leading merchants (with a few notable exceptions) with great distrust, and those engaged in it are too often regarded as either "knaves or fools." If money is ventured it is generally in secret through the agency of some middleman, and the business is thus degraded from the high position it should hold. In Yar-

mouth the opposite is the case. Most of the leading men invest some of their surplus cash in developing the resources of their county, and thus give employment to hundreds, and as will be shown later on with every prospect of reaping a rich harvest for themselves. They can see no reason why, if pushing business men from the States make fortunes out of Nova Scotia gold mines, they cannot do the same. Consequently two companies are now in active operation. The Kompt Gold Mining Company (Limited), of which J. Bignay is President, and A. W. Ekins Secretary, and the Cowan Gold Mining Company, with Hon. L. E. Baker President, and Thos. B. Crosby Secretary. These companies number amongst their shareholders O. B. Rodgers, J. R. Wyman, and other prominent men too numerous to mention. Besides the regular companies there are scores of private ventures promoted by Mr. Ryerson of the Lorne Hotel, Captain Allen, Joseph Reeves, R. Halford Brown, and others. Yarmouth is one of the most thriving towns in the Province, and its business men do nothing by halves. They manage their mining ventures with the same care that marks their other business ventures, and in the end they are bound to succeed. Your correspondent had not been in the town twenty minutes before he was introduced by the proprietor of the American House to J. R. Wyman, a deservedly popular member of the town council, and a heavy dealer in furniture. Mr. Wyman is interested in the Yarmouth Gold Mining Co., of which he is a director. As he would be unable to go out to the mines in the morning he took me in charge and together we proceeded to the warehouse of Parker, Ekins & Co., where Mr. Ekins was met and arrangements made for a trip to Komptville in the morning. We then took a look at the Wiswell crusher, now being manufactured by the British American Co. at Yarmouth. This crusher has established its reputation as a quick worker and gold saver in the States, but the first one to be run on a mine in this Province is now being put up on the Fink property at Melipic. A crusher is in operation at the works in Yarmouth, and sample lots of ore from different districts have been tested by it. The ore is first put through a rock breaker, and then fed to the mill, where it is crushed under four heavy convex wheels or rolls running in a circular iron trough. It is constructed on the same principle as the old Mexican Arastos, which were noted for their gold saving qualities. A powerful dynamo is connected with the apparatus, and a constant stream of electricity accelerates the deposition of the gold. There are many other improvements, and the main points claimed for the mill are:—1st. Ease of putting up, requiring no heavy foundations or frame work; 2nd. Small amount of power to operate; 3rd. Ease with which the mill can be cleaned up and the amalgam drawn off; 4th. Great crushing capacity; and 5th. Amount of gold saved. A party stated that he had selected a quantity of quartz and after thoroughly mixing had divided it into two equal parts. One part he sent to the stamp mill and the other to the Wiswell crusher, without the owners of either mill knowing what had been done. The ore sent to the stamp mill yielded \$24.00, that to the Wiswell crusher \$42.00. If the mill will only do what its inventors claim for it, it will prove of incalculable benefit to our mine owners. Mr. Gammon, the manager, Mr. Roberts, the treasurer, and Mr. Wiswell, Jr., are all mining men of great experience. They say that the ores in Yarmouth County and other parts of the Province are often very refractory, but could be made to pay handsomely if properly treated. Ore from the Cream Pot or Cranberry Head mine yielded nothing when put through the mill, but on being roasted in a temporary kiln it gave good results in gold. The business men of Yarmouth have a happy knack of making one feel at home, and your correspondent had not been in town an hour before he felt like an old resident.

ADIOS AMIGO.

ERRATA.—Several errors crept into my last letter which it is important should be corrected. Instead of 40 tons of ore in the description of the McGuire-Eaton property read 20. In the Birthday lead read deepest instead of deposit. In the Annand Cole property change top and topped to tap and tapped, also change bed into leads in the several places where it occurs.

OFFICIAL RETURNS FOR JUNE AND JULY.

	June:		July:	
	Tons Crushed.	oz. Gold.	Tons C.	oz. Gold.
East Rawdon—Rawdon Mills	130	220	130	267
East Rawdon—Barrs & McNaughtons	130	334	131	201
Waverley—McClure's Mill.....	57	26	70	38
Salmon River—Duffin Mill.....	983	562	1061	342
Whiteburn—McGuire Mill.....	20	129		
Stormont—Gallagher Mill.....	25½	18		
Montague—Kaye's Mill	8	15		
Pleasant River—McGuire Mill.....	100	28		

OLDHAM.—Mr. A. C. Vanmeter, of Truro, has purchased forty-four areas formerly owned by the Prince Albert Gold Mining Company of Oldham. These were sold at sheriff's sale on the suit of W. B. Reynolds Esq., Mr. Vanmeter bidding them in at \$890.

It is estimated that the total amount of gold money in circulation in the world is \$3,250,000,000, and of silver money \$2,800,000,000.

The world's total coinage of gold and silver in 1885, as reported by the deputy master of the English mint, was \$71,896,000 gold, and \$77,790,000 silver.

The newly-discovered Patagonia gold field extends from Cape Virgin, on the northern shore of the Strait of Magellan, along the Atlantic shore some 50 miles. The gold country is easily accessible, and the deposits are known to be rich.—*Mining Review*.