

The *Spring Hill News*, in a vigorous article headed "Starvation ahead," calls attention to the recent action of the Intercolonial and Grand Trunk roads in raising the freight on coal to the Upper Provinces from \$2.49 per ton to \$3.70, or an advance of 50 per cent. The effect of this advance has been to close up the Spring Hill mines entirely, and the outlook for the poor miners is blue indeed. If, as it is stated, the Intercolonial authorities are responsible for the advance, there can be little doubt but that a grave blunder has been made which the Government at Ottawa will soon rectify. We fear that the increased rate is due solely to the Grand Trunk, which has always tried to kill off through inter-provincial trade in the interest of its Portland branch. If this is the case the only course will be the immediate construction of the short line from Moncton to Mattawamkeag which is the only remedy for the hostility of the Grand Trunk.

London is going mad about Witwatersrand in South Africa, led on by *The Weekly Bulletin*, edited by the talented Kenneth Ffarington Bellairs. Mr. J. C. Ashton, who was in South Africa previous to coming to Nova Scotia, passed through Witwatersrand and was strongly advised to remain there. He reports that the "reefs" are in a kind of conglomerate and the richness of the ore may be judged from the following returns of the "Robin son mine." The mining was done by a 10 head Robby battery. July 2033 ounces; August 2454 oz.; September 3296 oz.; October 3550 oz.; November 3918 oz.; December 4100 oz. Total for six months, 19,315 ounces Gold, value £67,728. Big as are these returns, we still have reason to believe that Mr. Ashton will bless the day that he came to Nova Scotia.

We regret to see that the once profitable Stephens' Manganese Mines at Tene Cape are about to be sold under execution.

GLACE BAY MINING Co.—The annual meeting of the Glace Bay Mining company was held on Tuesday. A five per cent. dividend was declared, being one per cent. more than last year. The output of coal for 1888 was 77,000 tons, a slight increase on the previous year. An offer from J. D. Kennelly to buy out the company at 75 cents on the dollar par value of the shares, was declined.

The quicksilver mine near Oaklax, Ore., is yielding fifteen flasks per month. This is the only cinnabar deposit on the coast now worked outside of California.

#### ORIGIN AND MODE OF OCCURRENCE OF GOLD-BEARING VEINS AND OF THE ASSOCIATED MINERALS.

By JONATHAN C. B. P. SEAVER, C. E., F. G. S. &c.

(Continued.)

Other veins in this place yielded silver ores, such as chlorobromides, &c., in conjunction with gold, and a large Stotefeldt furnace was erected some years ago, with a dry-crushing battery and other appliances, to treat such class of ores. Many other of the quartz veins in this locality might be described. One very peculiar deposit, found, I may say, almost under my own eyes, was upon the top of a small rise, upon the side of which some pieces of gold of various sizes had been picked up.

Six hundred ounces of gold mixed with broken quartz was obtained in a sort of cleft in the rock some few feet wide at the top of the said rise, and although a shaft was sunk about 100 feet or so, no defined vein or lode was found, nor any more gold so far as I have heard. I might say that a large amount of gold was obtained from the district from the alluvial, evidently traceable in most cases to the denudation of reefs, or some particular reef; and also, in some of the auriferous veins, copper, silver, and lead ores, and many other minerals also occurred, but mostly in small quantities. I might add that the formation of the district just described is upper silurian, largely intersected by igneous rocks in the form of dykes and veins, and granite country lies to the east at a distance of about three miles from the Wilson Hill Reef.

Perhaps no part of Victoria is more interesting in regard to the great peculiarity of its auriferous quartz veins than Sandhurst, and at the same time it is the centre of a most thriving mining district. The saddle reefs of Sandhurst are most unique in their mode of occurrence. They appear to be irregular deposits of auriferous quartz, formed upon either two planes of the rock that intersect one another, such as bedding and jointing, or upon an anticlinal arch in the palaeozoic strata.

There are many other peculiar modes of occurrence of quartz veins in this district and other parts of the colony. The flat reefs of Pleasant Creek is another form under which quartz veins exist in Victoria.

Many of the granites and other igneous rocks contain veins of auriferous quartz. A reef in gneissic granite at Omeo contains large quantities of very auriferous pyrites and some galena; both pyrites and gold being sometimes found impregnating the walls of the lode to such an extent as to pay the miners to crush a portion of the rock. This lode is crossed in its course by igneous dykes of quartz porphyry and diorite, and the quartz matrix of it seems to contain a large percentage of galena and silver as it approaches the dykes of quartz porphyry.

Gold is found in the same district impregnating granite in the form of small grains, and at Kamarooka it is found in thin plates in the laminations of slate. It has also been obtained from sandstone, and there is little doubt that all igneous rocks that are impregnated with iron pyrites have a greater or less quantity of gold in them, most particularly those of the diorite and granitic classes.

(To be Continued.)

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To be sold at public auction by the undersigned, at the Merchants' Exchange, in the City of Halifax, on Thursday, the Fourteenth day of March next, at twelve o'clock, noon:

That extensive, valuable, and well-equipped GOLD MINE, known as the Dufferin Gold Mine, situate on the Atlantic coast, about ninety miles east of said City. Daily mail from Halifax. Telegraph office at Salmon River, four miles from the works. Salmon River harbor never freezes, and is safe and easy of access. The Mine embraces 342 acres, each 150x250 feet, all in one block. The entire area measures fifteen hundred feet in width across, and eight thousand five hundred and fifty feet along the lodes. The leases have nearly fourteen years to run, and can at any time be renewed for a period of twenty-one years, upon payment of two dollars per acre. Within this area is a belt of veins dipping on each side of an anticlinal. They have been found, by tests made on the surface, to extend upwards of 4,000 feet. The ore has been partially removed to a depth of 201 feet over a distance of about 700 feet, and to a depth averaging about 70 feet over an additional 1,000 feet in length or thereabouts. The veins are of various widths, the largest averaging about 10 feet of gold quartz.

The Mine was discovered in the autumn of 1850, but was not worked to any extent until the autumn of 1851. It has yielded up to the end of November 31,012 ounces of gold from 61,508 tons of quartz, according to the sworn returns made to the Mines Office. The gold can be produced at a cost which will leave a very handsome margin of profit.

The Mine is operated by machinery worked by water power, that power being transmitted by a line of wire rope running from the water wheel to the Mine—a distance of about 4,750 feet—and lying parallel to the outcrop of said veins, at a distance therefrom of about 50 feet. The Salmon River crosses the property twice. It supplies the hoisting and pumping power, and the same water is afterwards used to drive the crusher. The latter has 38 stamps, and there is ample water power to operate three times that number. Sixty stamps can be operated with present machinery. Of the 120 horse-power existing for pumping and hoisting only about twenty-five is used. There are about 700 acres of well timbered and well watered land owned with the Mine. This partly covers the areas, and where it does not immediately adjoin them. It is also provided with a steam plant to operate hoisting gear and pumps in case of accident to the transmission power, a sawmill, sufficient for the requirements of the property, a tramway from the Mine to the crusher for carrying quartz, and stables, offices and boarding houses sufficient to accommodate a large number of employees.

The Mine is owned, and has been operated by a partnership, and owing to the death of one of the principal owners, it has to be sold to enable his estate to be settled. A good title will be given.

Terms, ten per cent. cash; balance within thirty days from day of sale. The deposit to be forfeited in case the purchaser fails to complete the purchase within that time. Further particulars can be had on reference to

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