

MINING RECORD

fore can give some of the items which swell the charges from 75cts. to over \$2.00 per ton. I shall group some of the charges to save space:

Cutting and consideration.....	15
U. G. M., Overmen, Deputies, Examiner	75
Road makers, shiftmen, drivers, trappers,	15
lading tenders, etc.....	15
Timber and materials.....	20
Horses, haulage, pumping, ventilation, &c	12
Engines, screening, picking and loss from	20
stone also boilers.....	5
U. G. and surface stables, trucking, etc.	20
Repairs steam pipes, machinery, pit tubs	4
railway cars, etc.....	8
Miscellaneous labor, above and below	10
ground, lamp lighters, carpenters,	4
machinists, surveyors, etc.,	2
Workmens tools, mining tools, materials	3
and general stores.....	1½
Office help, lighting works, safety lamps,	5½
oil, etc.,	10
Car and tub construction etc.....	25
Overground haulage, shunting, trimming	
cars, etc.,	
Depreciation, ropes and machinery, etc.,	
General management, Draftsmen etc., ..	
Royalty	
Accidents and unforeseen contingencies.....	

Cost on sidings..... \$2.35
The above gives an idea of where the money goes. The charges in no two mines are similar. In one mine timber may not cost more than equal to five cents a ton; in another the cost per ton of coal produced may be nearer fifty. In some mines the cost of pumping is trifling, in other cases it is a heavy item, and so on. If any one is still inclined to shout for dollar coal he had better study the above figures till he grasps their meaning.

-APPC- - NOVA SCOTIA -

There are those who think that the Local Government ought to provide a geologist specially for work in the province. It is the prevailing opinion that the east does not get a fair show from those at the head of the Geological department. Nova Scotia comes in at the tail end. The Minister in charge of the department, his deputy and the director of the mines branch are all Western men. Seeing then that the West has a preponderance at Ottawa it is to be expected that the interests of the West will have first consideration unless Nova Scotia vigorously protests. If it is inexperienced for the Provincial government to make a local appointment Premier Murray might direct his energies in an effort to get for Nova Scotia better representation on the Geological staff. It is said that pressure is being brought upon the Minister to make certain appointments of young and energetic men. But youth is not everything. Long service and experience should count for much. If appointments are not made by merit then discontentment follows. We understand that there is to be an appointment of a Director of the survey branch of the new Department of Mines. We have a Nova Scotian who is in every way fitted for the position—Dr. Ellis. Of course Dr. Ellis is not a young man, but if Dr. Hanael's age did not

bar him from being a director of the mines branch neither should Dr. Ellis' age bar him from the survey. Dr. Ellis has had large experience. Men of his build are as active at sixty or seventy as most men of forty. Indeed in very many cases they are preferable. Dr. Ellis is a man of energy, experience and knowledge and is in every way fitted for the position. No 'influence' should be brought to bear on an appointment of this kind. Efficiency ought to be the test. Tried by this, the appointment cannot pass Dr. Ellis,—unless manifest injustice is done.

A GEOLOGICAL GURGLE.

Substitute in the axiom, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you," a deacon and he will flee at you," the word 'geologist' for deacon and you make a bull's eye. He will not only fly at you with adjectival prose, he will shower ribald rhyme at you. In issue of Record of 17th. Sept. noting Dr. Ami's visit to Pictou, it was stated that that authority had hinted that the geology of Pictou might have to be rewritten. This item had an exciting effect on one of the fraternity. He hints that it is all right these days to be heterodox er critics and new theologians, as to be heterodox is to be in the front of the procession and gains one notoriety, while the exponent has not to fear the axe, or the anger of Henry Poole or Judge Longley. Our friend gives vent to his feelings in the following lively lyric. We have no idea who the type writist is, but we exonerate freely and fully Charles Odell from any participation in the perpetration:—

"The Ami-rian came down to our tight province old
And with his remarks made our hot blood turn coal-d
For he has assured us—and truth it must be
That we hav'n't yet mastered the geologic b. c.
"Oh why did we ever kneel down at the stool
Of that long and misguided Henry S. P.—
Oh, we howl in N. S., while they shriek in N. B.
The good Lord preserve us from Dr. Bay lee.
We search Antigonish, and we scour all Pictou
And the hellman goes scampering o'er Cumberland too,
Then we find him at last; so take hold of your cue
While we play ducks and drakes with dear naughty Hugh.
Our work's but begun, I venture to state,
And we still have much pleasure to anticipate
Soon shall we shout, in ringing the knells,
Of those so called geologists Matthew and Ellis."
The only comment we have to make on the foregoing is, that while its writing served as a vent for the authors outraged feelings, it cannot, by even the most outrageous stretch of the imagination, do our readers any possible harm.

The Coal people wanted to know from Judge Longley what his decision covered. Did it mean that the Coal Coy was to supply Phelan coal for 99 years to the Steel Co. If the Phelan ran out the Judge was asked to say what would be expected of the Coal Co. And if all the seams developed 3 per cent. of sulphur, was the Coal Co. expected to find new non sulphurous seams, or make them. The Judge prudently declined to