

MINING.

MOTHER AND GASH VEINS.—The question is frequently asked by inexperienced miners, how the main lode, true fissure, or mother vein is to be distinguished from the false or gash vein. Experience proves the dip of the false or gash vein to be on a different angle from that of the main lode towards which it generally extends, and not unfrequently has a direct connection with it. The false vein having been filled from above is found to have the gold nearest to or upon the under or foot wall; the main lode or mother vein is found to have the greater quantity of gold clinging to the upper or hanging wall. Professor F. J. Stanton of Wyoming, has clearly pointed this out in his essay on true and false veins.

The following extract respecting the mineral wealth of Nova Scotia is taken from the Mining and Engineering journal of New York. Our Province is evidently attracting attention abroad:—

"Nova Scotia has been treated with great partiality by nature, which has heaped upon it, with prodigal hand, the choicest treasures of her mysterious laboratory. Gold, the sorcerer that bewitches the world; coal, the main-spring of modern civilization; iron ore, manganese, gypsum, and many other useful minerals are placed in large abundance within easy reach of man, in a fertile country and wholesome climate. In their proximity to each other, and to magnificent harbors, nature has provided all the natural elements of national wealth and prosperity. The artificial elements, capital and energy, only have to be added to secure for this favored land an enviable position among the nations of the earth."

Mr. Editor,—It appears that some Nova Scotians now begin to realize that the New York and Boston miners are reaping the harvest which by right belonged to the people of your Province; but I am of the opinion that your mines would long have remained unprofitable had not American capital and American skill been employed in their development. I am fully aware that in the early days of gold-mining, many of your minded men invested their means in mining enterprises. Some few of these were fortunate and realized a handsome return, but the great majority, owing to the lack of experience, skill, and proper machinery, suffered loss, and have since held aloof from mining enterprises. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that American capitalists have come in and occupied the field. I have read with pleasure the copies of *THE CRITIC* forwarded to me from the office and will gladly become a subscriber to your paper.

Yours,

D. K. L.

New York, Oct. 31, 1885.

Paint is now being manufactured in Morristown, Kings Co., N. S., from a mineral paint discovered in that vicinity.

A valuable find has recently been made in the Colonial Copper Mine, Dorchester, N. B. It consists of a vein of red marl, which, upon analysis, was found to contain gold averaging \$7.00 per ton, leaving as a residue a fertilizer worth in New York about \$10 per ton.

The *London Mining Journal* reports that the lime cartridge is coming into general use for the English collieries. It is a decidedly economical substitute for the dangerous shot firing.

Twenty-five years ago, the yearly output from the coal mines of the United States was but 14,000,000 tons. During the past year about 85,000,000 tons of coal were raised, being an increase of 600 per cent.

Mount Uniacke gold mining district is one of the most promising in the Province. The extent of the areas, the width of the leads, and the richness of the ore, are a certain guarantee that investors will find in these mines a good return for their money. The money expended in building roads and other preparatory work, has been economically laid out, and as the quartz continues to yield gold in paying quantities, mining in that district may be considered as fairly begun.

There is great difference of opinion among bankers throughout the United States upon the silver question but all agree that the Federal Government should not make any radical change in their policy respecting it, as by so doing they would undoubtedly create a panic, which in the natural course of events, would be followed by business disturbances, ruin and disaster.

The seam of coal which has been discovered at Crowfoot Crossing, 500 miles west of Winnipeg, has a thickness of 14 feet. The coal is said to be of superior quality and well adapted for steam purposes.

The output of anthracite coal in the United States is steadily decreasing, while that of bituminous coal is as steadily increasing. This is supposed to be caused by the combination of coal carriers and producers who have succeeded in almost shutting out from the market dealers in anthracite coal.

The annual copper yield of the world is about 200,000 tons; this at present exceeds the demand. This is probably due to the fact that the carrying trade of the world is now done in iron bottoms. Fifteen years ago, in the palmy days of wooden ships, a large amount of copper was required for bolts and sheeling, but the demand for these purposes has greatly fallen off. There are, however, many purposes to which copper may be applied, and its low price, namely, 12 cents per pound, will probably facilitate its general use.

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