

MINING.

SOUTH UNIACKE.—The Withrow mine in this district yielded 80 ozs. gold from 23 tons of quartz crushed for the month of February, as per official returns at the Mines Office.

The official returns from the Phoenix mill for February—quartz crushed from the dump—were 19½ ozs. from 250 tons quartz.

WHITEBURN.—The Maguire mine returns for February 91½ ozs. gold from 31 tons quartz crushed.

MILLISGATE.—We are glad to note that returns are again coming in from this district. The Millisgate Gold Mining Co. returning for February 12 ozs. gold from 4 tons of quartz crushed an average of 3 ozs. per ton.

RENFREW DISTRICT.—The "Free Claims" are now being worked by Messrs. Macdonnell and Andrews, who have laid out some \$5000 in putting the mill and hoisting gear in perfect order. Mr. MacDonnell is a miner of the greatest experience and we trust that the same good luck that always attended him in Oldham will continue with him at Renfrew.

BEAVER HARBOR.—There has been a great rush to the Mines Office of eager applicants for areas in this district.

There was little excitement at the sale of the Dufferin Mine at auction by Duggan, yesterday. P. McG. Archibald, representing Kent Archibald, the Archibald estate, Stewart, and the other old owners, with the exception of Charles F. Mott, bought the property for \$141,000.

Some leading citizens of Ottawa are moving to have the next Autumn meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers at Ottawa and we think that no better place could be selected. Halifax has been visited and derived no small benefit, and we hope that Ottawa may now be similarly honored. The *Free Press* thus speaks of the movement.

"The Canadian members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers who attended the late New York convention set on foot a proposal to hold the next autumn meeting in Ottawa. The idea was very favorably received, and since his return Dr. Bell has been moving actively in the matter, resulting in a preliminary meeting this morning in the office of the *Mining Review*. Among those present were Sir J. Sweetland, Dr. Robert Bell, Dr. Ellis, Charles Magee, W. A. Allan, A. McLean, Thos. McFarlane, Robert Blackburn, Capt. Bowie, Amos Bowman, Dale Harria, B. T. A. Bell, etc. Apologies for non attendance were received from Messrs. Thistle, Mayor Erratt, Sanford Fleming, Sir James Grant and others. The proposal to invite the institute to Ottawa was very cordially received and a committee appointed to issue a circular to leading citizens requesting them to attend a meeting to be held in the City Hall on Friday next at 4.30 o'clock, to consider what steps should be taken to secure so desirable an object."

LAKE CATCHA.—The following, taken from the *Engineering and Mining Journal* of New York, shows that gold mines in Nova Scotia when well managed can be made to pay very handsomely:—

"**OXFORD GOLD MINING COMPANY.**—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of this company, held recently in New York, the following officers were elected:—Emerson Coleman, President; Edward Tuck, Vice-President, and F. F. Randolph, Secretary and Treasurer. The capital stock of the company is \$125,000. There are nominally 125,000 shares, although only 100,000 were issued. The company is organized under the laws of this State. For a number of years it paid dividends, the last being the twenty-seventh. Mr. Randolph informs us that the company paid twelve per cent. in 1888, and twenty-one per cent in 1887. Up to January 1st, 1885, the company had paid \$36,000 in dividends." Dividends amounting to upwards of 70 per cent. of the total capital stock are not so bad when it is remembered that the company have one of the best equipped mines in the Province, their mill, hoisting and pumping gear being of the best. We must congratulate Manager Reid on the success of the mine under his management."

The President of the Board of Trade of Port Arthur in his last annual report makes the following remarks under "mining", which with a few slight alterations apply with equal force to Nova Scotia:—

"Mining appears always in Canada to be considered an illegitimate business. Men may speculate in telegraph stocks, which really neither increase nor decrease in value; they may gamble in Bank stocks, which seldom vary in the dividends they pay; they may boom real estate to such an extent that a city of 150,000 or 175,000 inhabitants has land enough laid out in 'additions' to hold a million people, and which cannot possibly have any other than a speculative value for a generation; they may take a Chicago wheat, corn or pork corner, in which they invariably pay for their experience; they may do a hundred other things of the same character, but these they consider safe or paying investments or speculations, as the case may be. But ask them to buy mining lands at two dollars per acre, and invest the most modest sum, not in mining, but in seeing what their lands contain, and what is their answer? If they have courage enough to buy the land they will neither sell at a reasonable price nor show their faith by working. What is the result? To-day, every working mine in this District is being operated by either English or American companies, and seventy five per cent. of the recent sales of Government lands are made to either American or English investors. Is it much wonder that Americans say that we do not appreciate the richness and value of the great mineral District tributary to our town?"

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