

MINING.

MINES REPORT.

On Monday last the Commissioner of Works and Mines laid before the house the financial returns of the mines department and the report of the department of mines. Mr Brown, the accountant of the department, has compiled several tables showing at a glance the sources of revenue as condensed from the financial returns, and through his courtesy we are able to lay these before our readers.—The report on the mines of Nova Scotia by Doctor Gilpin, Deputy Commissioner and Inspector of Mines, is as full of useful information as usual, all carefully selected and presented in the most attractive form.

The mineral production of the year 1892 compared with 1891, is contained in the following table:—

	1891.	1892.
Gold	Ounces... 23 391	19 998
Iron Ore.....	Tons..... 57,311	75,000
Manganese Ore.....	" ... 41	111
*Coal raised.....	" ... 2,044,784	1,942,780
*Coke made.....	" ... 34,148	55,000
†Gypsum	" ... 161,934	162,285
†Grindstones, etc.....	" ... 19,800	11,792
†Moulding Sand.....	" ... 230	175
†Antimony Ore.....	" ... 10	—
Limestone.....	" ... 18,000	—
Copper Ore.....	" ... 900	26
Lead Ore.....	" ... —	1

*Tons of 2240 lbs. †Amount exported. ‡Value in dollars.

The coal trade returns show a sale during the past year of 1,752,934 tons, against 1,649,945 tons in 1891.

The falling off was due to decreased home consumption, lighter sales to Quebec and the United States, while the shipments to Newfoundland and New Brunswick remain about the same as in 1891.

The gold returns in 1892 show a decrease when compared with 1891 of 3393 ounces. To quote the report "the returns for the year 1892 show 32,552 tons of quartz were crushed, yielding 19,998 ounces of gold for 153,761 days' labor, as compared with 35,212 tons of quartz yielding 23,301 ounces of gold for 149,381 days' labor. It is to be regretted that small as our annual returns are, there is again a decrease as compared with the year 1891."

Since the completion of the table, returns have been received from Waverly showing 1051 tons of quartz crushed, and 332 ozs. of gold for November and December, and returns from Truro mill, Caribou, showing 30 tons yielding 750 ounces for the month of December, making the actual total amount of gold mined in 1892 21,080 ozs.

The Oldham district leads in the return of gold, the total being 3093 ozs. from 2259 tons crushed, being an average yield of one ounce seven pennyweights and nine grains per ton. The Malaga district comes second with a yield of 2656 ozs. from 2720 tons quartz, and the Stormont district third, with a yield of 2482 ozs. from 3652 tons quartz. The district showing the highest average yield per ton of quartz is the Uniacke, the average being 2 ounces 18 pennyweights 12 grains, or a total of 2300 ounces from 786 tons of quartz.

There has been a marked increase in the production of iron over 1891—copper shows no improvement, gypsum continues much the same, manganese shows an increase, and a shipment of one ton of lead ore is noted. In future issues we shall go more into the details of the report, but have to curtail our remarks to give space to the tables of financial returns.

THE MINING SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA.—The Annual General Meeting of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia was held at its rooms, 129 Hollis St., on Wednesday, and was largely attended.

The morning session was called to order by the President, Mr. H. S. Poole, F. G. S., of Stellarton, the other officers present being J. E. Hardman, S. B., Oldham, Vice-President; H. M. Wyld, Secretary, and Charles Archibald, Cow Bay; G. W. Stuart, Truro; and B. C. Wilson, Waverley, of the council; and the following members—Dr. Gilpin, Joseph H. Austen, Duncan McDonald, George E. Francklyn, Geoffrey Morrow, Alfred Woodhouse, F. G. S., R. G. E. Leckie, W. G. Matheson, C. S. Harrington, J. M. Reid, Wm. Smalls, T. R. Guo, Howard Clarke, Captain G. Macduff, A. A. Hayward, H. Graham, D. W. Robb and Captain W. R. Thomas.

After routine business and the admission of new members Mr. W. G. Matheson read his paper on "Fuel Economy," which was highly commended by Messrs. Hardman, Poole, Reid, Hayward and other members in the discussion that followed. Not having been received in time to be printed in advance of the meeting this paper will be open for discussion at the next meeting.

A very interesting and instructive discussion followed on Mr. Alfred Woodhouse's paper on "The Occurrence and Reduction of Gold," in which the President, Mr. Hardman, Capt. Macduff and other members took part, the opinion being that the principles laid down in the paper were so general and so indisputable as to call for little or no comment. This paper appears in our present issue and the others will be printed in succeeding issues. Mr. B. C. Wilson's very able paper, "Notes on some Special Features in Lode Formation and Deposition of Gold as presented in the Waverley Gold District, Halifax, N. S.," was being discussed when the meeting adjourned. Pressure on our space forbids us to do more than merely refer to the proceedings. At the afternoon session the following officers were elected:—President, H. S. Poole, F. G. S., M. F., Stellarton, N. S.; Vice-Presidents, J. E. Hardman, S. B., Oldham, N. S., R. G. Leckie, Londonderry, N. S.;

David McKeon, M. P., Sydney, C. B.; Treasurer, T. R. Guo, Halifax; Secretary, H. M. Wyld, Halifax. Council—Chas. Archibald, Cow Bay; R. H. Brown, Sydney, C. B.; D. W. Robb, Amherst; Chas. Forzie, Westville, N. S.; A. J. Sjustadt, Bridgeville, N. S.; B. C. Wilson, Waverley; J. H. Austen, Halifax; G. Fraser, New Glasgow; G. W. Stuart, Truro. The dinner at the Halifax in the evening was a very enjoyable one ending to the most interesting meeting the Society has yet held.

Mr. Dickman, of Cleveland, Ohio, who is taking a look at our gold mines, was present at the meeting.

MINING FINANCIAL RETURNS.—We are indebted to W. H. Brown, Chief Clerk and Accountant of the Dept. of Public Works and Mines, for the following tabulated statements:—

Amounts received from various sources as revenue by the Dept. of Mines for the year 1892. Also showing a comparison with 1891.

Source.	Year 1891.	Year 1892.	Inc. '92 over '91.	Decr. of 1892 with '91.
Prospecting Licenses.....	\$10,133 37	\$ 7,371 98	.....	\$ 2,761 39
Rents (Gold Lease Appl)...	1,622 00	1,926 00	304 00	.....
Gold Rentals	1,409 50	1,653 00	244 00	.....
" Royalty	8,360 49	8,199 42	.....	161 07
Licenses to Search Mnt. other than Gold and Silver.....	4,340 00	5,040 00	700 00	.....
" Work and Leases, do.	1,600 00	1,925 00	325 00	.....
Rentals, do.	2,400 00	3,030 00	630 00	.....
Iron Royalty.....	.....	180 50	180 50	.....
Coal	143,572 10	135,962 80	.....	7,609 30
Fees for Searches, Registration, etc.....	215 50	408 10	192 60	.....
	\$173,652 96	\$165,697 30	\$2,576 10	\$10,531 76

Memo showing the amounts received from the undernamed sources (in connection with the gold product) by the Dept. of Mines during years 1891 and 1892 from counties mentioned herewith.

	Prospecting Licenses. 1891.	1892.	Rents—Gold Leases. 1891.	1892.
Yarmouth	\$ 127 50	158 63	.....	.....
Cumberland	179 00	10 00	.....	.....
Victoria	351 01	341 77	48 00	91 00
Kings.....	575 00	2 00	.....	.....
Queens.....	1185 18	793 64	142 00	92 00
Guysboro	1259 89	1892 19	380 00	897 00
Hants.....	1457 01	419 74	196 00	154 00
Lunenburg	1534 62	870 31	128 00	136 00
Halifax.....	1541 73	2375 21	578 00	540 00
Colchester.....	1633 05	367 01	142 00	14 00
Other Counties.....	289 38	141 48	8 00	2 00
	\$10 133 37	\$7371 98	\$1 622	\$1 926

	Gold Rentals. 1891.	1892.	Royalty on Gold. 1891.	1892.
Colchester.....	\$202 50	\$ 116 00	\$ 6 39	.....
Lunenburg	195 00	176 00	9 87	\$ 1 53
Guysboro	236 50	313 00	527 42	1,073 23
Hants	206 50	324 50	1,239 72	1,157 41
Queens	189 00	175 50	2,195 69	1,281 77
Halifax.....	347 00	513 00	4,381 40	4,657 08
Yarmouth.....	33 00	27 00	.....	25 40
Other Counties .....	.....	8 50	.....	.....
	\$1,409 50	\$1,653 50	\$8,360 49	\$8,199 42

Memo. showing amounts received by the Department of Mines, Nova Scotia, during years 1891 and 1892, from various sources in connection with Minerals other than Gold and Silver in undernamed Counties.

	Licenses to search. 1891.	1892.	Licenses to work and leases. 1891.	1892.	Rentals. 1891.	1892.
Cape Breton	\$1,470 00	\$1,593 00	\$450 00	\$ 450 00	\$ 690 00	\$290 00
Cumberland.....	570 00	750 00	425 00	1,025 00	810 00	810 00
Pictou	470 00	780 00	375 00	75 00	370 00	750 00
Inverness	420 00	510 00	125 00	125 00	.....	.....
Antigonish.....	120 00	120 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Richmond.....	420 00	210 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Yarmouth .....	.....	60 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Counties	570 00	1,620 00	225 00	250 00	500 00	480 00
	\$1,340 00	\$5,040 00	\$1,600 00	\$1,925 00	\$2,400 00	\$3,030 00

COAL ROYALTIES.

	1891	1892
Cape Breton.....	\$74 406 88	\$37 994 68
Cumberland.....	43 042 17	20 696 54
Pictou	26 111 80	27 235 68
Other Counties	11 25	35 90
	\$143 572 10	\$135 962 80

IRON ROYALTY.

Received during 1892 from John Cameron, Esq., of East River, Pictou County, being the first royalty from iron received by the Dept. of Mines.....\$180 50

The continuation of the article on "The Occurrence of Manganese Ore in Veins" is crowded out of this issue.