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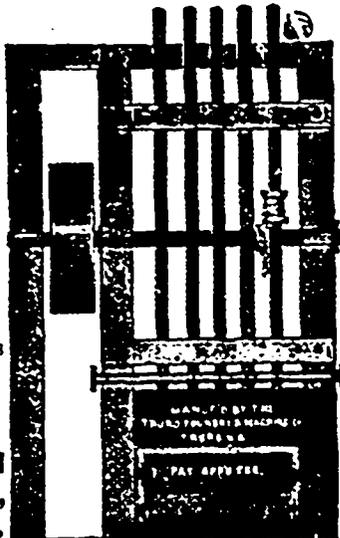
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MINING.

(From Our New York Special Correspondent.)

The *Mail, Express and Evening Telegram* of New York, on the authority of the *Critico*, quote the returns from the "Withrow Mine" for Aug. as being 164½ ozs. gold from 30 tons quartz crushed, and from the "Dufferin Mine," Salmon River, for the same month as being 219 ozs. gold from 800 tons quartz crushed. These returns have evidently called the attention of would-be investors in Nova Scotia properties to the opportunities offered, and with returns for the first six months of this year at over 13,600 ozs., it is fair to assume that the returns for the next six months will place the total yield in large excess of any previous year. We notice in the financial columns of a leading daily an "ad" reading, "Wanted, to purchase property and plant in good gold bearing district in Nova Scotia, will pay in cash for same or buy on interest." That applicant should soon be suited!! The press of New York is again devoting quite a deal of space to the question of the annexation of the Lower Provinces to the United States, and even at Washington it occupies quite a prominent place in the topics of the day. A Federal office holder of some prominence, who has recently returned from a vacation spent in Nova Scotia, expresses his astonishment at the strength of the friendly feeling up there for the United States. He claims that the better class of business men are eager for Commercial Union between the two countries, and that the working people are enthusiastic admirers of the American Republic. In proof he cites the incident that during the Summer Carnival at Halifax, the display of American flags was as great almost as in a city on this side of the line. They waved from housetops and were carried in processions he says, and thousands of little flags were sold by the local merchants to customers of all classes. Even the American Consul is quoted as stating that he has had to buy two or three new large flags for the Consulate during the past few years, so common is it to borrow these emblems for ornamenting public and private festivities. I'm afraid some of the genial spirits of the club must have had the "distinguished Federal" in tow, and took care that, unlike the decorations, his spirits did not "flag." The following is the "wind up" expressed in his views: "It is interesting to observe that the party which is most heartily friendly to the 'United States' is the Liberal or free-trade party, while the Conservative protectionists frown down every proposal looking to a closer union with us."—P.

GOLD RIVER.—Mr. McPhee has been prospecting the Touquoy area, Gold River, and has already unearthed some rich boulders.

MARGARET'S BAY.—A crusher has been put up on the gold property near Margaret's Bay, but we have not yet heard what success is attending the operation.

The development of the iron deposits in Pictou County, says an exchange, promises to be an immense industry in the near future. There are two companies about commencing work up the East River, some 18 miles from New Glasgow. One is an American and the other provincial and has a large capital, a representative of the latter concern being now in the old country on business in connection with the project. The American company has surveyed a road from their works to New Glasgow, some 18½ miles. They claim forty square miles of iron and coal property. It is their intention to erect blast furnaces only, the ore being converted by this purpose into iron. The company claim abundance of coal in their area, which they intend to mine for their own use. The works in connection with the blast furnaces will cost about \$200,000. Should a subsidy be granted, the company say they will extend the line to the sea coast, passing through Guysboro, an agricultural district, but which has no railroad within its borders. The company also mean business, and the sanguine ones say that they will be first to begin work. It is the intention of this company to erect blast and smelting works. The iron works in New Glasgow will take a part of the output of the latter. The part of the country in which the mines are located will likely become a second Pittsburg, and the mines near New Glasgow are weaving rose-colored pictures of the day when that city, Stellarton and Truro will be one city, and the leading business and industrial centre of Nova Scotia.

The discovery of gold at Prince's Lodge has caused great activity among prospectors in that locality, and the back country is now being searched for leads. At Carney's Lake, Hammonds Plains, and to the north and east of the Lodge, leads have been discovered, but whether they are gold bearing has not yet to be proved.

A despatch from Port Hawkesbury states that Hon. Wm. B. Hallifax, accompanied by Mr. K. F. Young and Mr. Counsellor Young of Boston, and interested in the company known as the "Boston and Breton Coal Company," arrived there Friday afternoon last, and on Saturday examining their claim at the basin of River Inhabitants. They are well satisfied with the locality and also with the samples of coal, which are of very superior quality. They intend commencing operations at once and will likely be well under way before winter sets in. K. F. Young is the Treasurer of the Company.

The shareholders of the British Columbia Smelting Company had a meeting on Monday, and possibly they might have been in a more cheerful mood had they been in possession of a piece of information which was introduced into the City Council by one of the aldermen:—"The