

THE TOWN OF SPRING HILL.

Spring Hill owes its growth and present importance entirely to the development of the coal mining industries in its neighborhood. It is the junction of the road of the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company to Parrsboro', on the Basin of Minas. Ten years ago there were but a few farm houses, to-day it is a thriving village. There are two slopes, reaching a depth of something like a thousand feet, and a third was opened a year or two ago. Some 200,000 tons of coal are annually raised and shipped, a portion by the Intercolonial and a portion in vessels from Parrsboro'. Three seams are worked, having an average thickness of from 11 to 13 feet, the analysis being as follows:—Carbon, 78.51; hydrogen, 5.19; oxygen and nitrogen, 5.98; sulphur, 1.12; ash, 5.20. The coal used on the Intercolonial Railway is from this district. Near by is the celebrated Joggins section of the carboniferous series of rocks. In connection with these, Sir Charles Lyell, Bart., the eminent geologist, said, the finest example in the world, of a succession of fossil forests of the carboniferous period laid open to view on a natural section, is that seen on the lofty cliffs called the South Joggins, bordering the Chignecto Channel. There is a continuous exposed section ten miles in length. Sir Charles counted nineteen seams of coal, and he saw seventeen trees in an upright position, occurring at ten distinct levels, one above the other. The usual height of the trees was six to eight feet, but one trunk was twenty-five feet high. The action of the tides exposes new fossil trees from year to year and a continuous interest thus attaches to the locality, and the whole ground is classic to geological science.

Parrsboro', the terminus of the Spring Hill branch road is a place with rare attractions and one of the most eligible resorts in the Maritime Provinces, situated

"In the Acadian Land, on the shores of the Basin of Minas,"

the scenery in its vicinity ranges from the serenely beautiful to the impressively grand. Parrsboro' was settled by the American Loyalists, who, like their companions at the mouth of the St. John, named their settlement after General Parr. Large quantities of lumber from the mills in the surrounding country, and of coal from the Spring Hill mines, are shipped from this port. Opposite to Parrsboro' is the bold cliff of Cape Blomidon, the northern end of the barrier of trap rock, which skirts the western shore of Nova Scotia. Blomidon has been happily compared to the handle of a huge walking stick, the North Mountain being the stick, and the end of the carved handle being Cape Split. The population of Spring Hill is still fast increasing and now amounts to upwards of 2,000, and boasts of a most enterprising journal, the *Spring Hill News*.

W. E. Hefferman, Furniture Warehouse, Main Street.—The furniture emporium of Spring Hill is that of Mr. W. E. Hefferman, who has always on hand a choice selection of all varieties of furniture of the very best make. He has been identified with this business for many years, and for a long period carried on an establishment of this kind on Prince Street in Halifax; recognizing the growing importance of Spring Hill, and taking the tide at its flood, Mr. Hefferman removed here three years ago, and opened up a spacious store and warehouse in Hewson's Building, Main Street. Here is to be found a choice selection of general furniture, comprising chamber and parlor suites, chairs, tables, bedsteads, also beds and mattresses, woven wire beds, kitchen furniture, and in short everything necessary for the furnishing of a home. These goods are obtained from well known manufacturers at Berlin, Ont., and Halifax, and are nowhere surpassed for neatness of design, finish, and durability, while they are sold by Mr. Hefferman on terms to suit all; he also receives consignments from local firms. Intending house-keepers, or those wanting large or small quantities of furniture of any description, would do well to visit this establishment before purchasing elsewhere. Mr. Hefferman is a native of Nova Scotia, well known as an upright

man of business, and can offer inducements in terms and prices not readily duplicated.

Mrs. A. N. Chapman, Restaurant, Main Street.—Amongst the primary necessities of all large communities are well-kept restaurants, serviceable alike to the business man as well as to the travelling public. A very popular restaurant in Spring Hill and one deserving of all support and patronage is that of Mrs. A. N. Chapman, which was recently opened by this lady on Main Street, the premises being located next door to Mr. John Murray's store. Meals and lunches are served at all hours, and oysters of the best quality in all styles, the rates charged being most reasonable. Mrs. Chapman employs three assistants, but personally superintends all departments of her business, and a complete system of cleanliness and neatness pervades the whole establishment. The house is conducted on strictly temperance principles, all kinds of non-intoxicating beverages can be obtained, while Mrs. Chapman also deals in canned goods of every description, confectionery and cigars. Mrs. Chapman is a native of Nova Scotia and is a lady of thorough business habits, courteous and obliging to all.