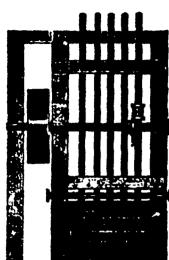
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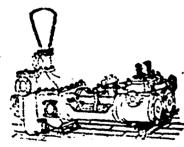
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MINING.

ANALYTICAL DEPARTMENT.—To meet a long felt want The Critic has made arrangements with a competent Analyst, who will determine the quality of all specimens sent to be tested. The fee charged will be from two to eight dollars, according to the difficulty and expense incurred by the analyst in making the analysis. The stricted secrety and observed, and the result of the analysis will only be known to the operator and the sender of the sample. Send samples by parcel-post or otherwise, with a fee of two dollars. "Analyst," care A. M. Fraser, Business Manager of The Critic. Should a larger fee be required, the sender will be notified.

Our remarks anent the mismanagement in the Mines Office have leve the principal topic of discussion amongst mining men, and on every hand our course has been highly commended. A mass of evidence, proving the truth of our strictures, has been laid before us, and we find that the discontent is general. We should be happy to hear from our numerous correspondents in regard to the matter; but the cause of the discontent is so apparent, the abuses complained of are so open, that we feel sure (now that the Commissioner of Mines has been notified) that reforms will be instituted, without the necessity of further agitation on our part. We print below a letter from a correspondent who agrees with us about the mismanagement, but exouerates one of the clerks referred to.

There is a dearth of mining news this week, but in this case, " no news is good news" Mine owners and miners are too busy to send in reports of their operations, and in fact the news from every mining camp proves, that by careful management, all the properties are making good returns. We are sorry to note that the mill belonging to Mr. Hudson and others, at Fitteen Mile Steam, has been burned, more especially as it is reported only partially insured. A despatch to the Morning Herald, conveying the barfacts, is all that has been received, and we hope to give further details in our next issue. The Hudson property has been steadily and probably worked for some time, and we trust that the loss of the mill may not seriously retard operations.

If our mining friends desire a literary treat, they should precure a copy of the Jubilee number of The Chitic. It is the most interesting paper over issued in the Maritime Provinces, and a reference to the adverpaper over issued in the Maritime Provinces, and a reference to the advertisement on page 16 of this number will show the list of contributors and the price. If you wish to prove to your friends in other lands the progress that is being made in Nova Scotia, be sure and send them a copy of the Jubileo number of The Critic.

FIFTEEN-MILE STREAM .- Dear Critic, - I regret to advise that the build ing containing the stamp mill, hoisting and pumping gear of James Hudson, at Fifteen-Mile Stream, was destroyed by fire on the 1st. The fire originated from sparks from the furnace lodging on the roof. The lose, at any time serious, is more so at this time of the year, as the building cannot be replaced before next spring.

The Egerton Co. have struck it rich on the Magilligan lead, and trust to make a good show for this month. The manager sent in 41 oz. 12 dwts, the result of ten days stamping for last month with thirteen men working. The greater part of the month was occupied in getting the pump into the

new shaft and squaring up the work.

Kindly bear with me while I make a few remarks in reference to the official in the Mines' office to whom you refer in your last, as I cannot agree with all you say. About the plans and the system of keeping returns, &c., you are quite correct, but I have always found him (the clerk) obliging and attentive, and I have had a large amount of business with the office. I have in my recollection an occasion, say six years ago, when I went into the office with a friend from Shorbrooke to have some leases prepared. While attending to us two parties came in and wished to see the plan of Montague, and work was dropped while the clerk went to get the plan, but he resumed with us as soon as he handed the parties the plan, and because he refused to leave us the second time those parties became quite indigmant. After our matter had been arranged I offered to propare the leases (4), and did so, but before being able to get through I dropped those and made two for another party, and when I resumed work on our own was sharply spoken to by a party waiting for some information for not attending to him. From that day forward I always sympathised with the clerk in question, as he has at times too much to do, and I have no doubt but that at the present time, with so many new discoveries and an imperfect system, that at times he is worried so as to ruffle his temper. Yours, etc., Sussemmen Suscanna

Does Gold Grow.--Years ago I wrote and published in a London magazine, says dosquin Miller, an article in which I undertook to prove that gold grows—grows the same as grain or potatoes, or anything else. I reckon I did my work crudely, not knowing about chemistry or even the ordinary terms of expression about such matters, and so my earnest and entirely correct sketch was torn all to pieces and laughed to scorn. Well, I have found positive proof of my general statement right here in the mountains by the Pacific Sea. Briefly and simply, I have found a piece of petrified wood with a little vein or thread of gold in it. How did that piece of gold get into this piece of wood! Was it placed there by a finger of God en the morning of creation, as men have claimed was the case with the gold found in the mountains? Nonsense: Gold grows: Certain conditions of air, or certain combinations of air and water, and whatever absorbed to a very large of constraint and water, and whatever the miscale way he required and then a rock a piece of quarty or particular and water, and water. chemicals may be required, and then a rock, a piece of quartz or petrified tree, for the gold to grow in, and there is your gold crop. Of course, gold We beg to say that we carry the largest and best assorted Stock in the Provinces; and parties requiring Lubricants will inform us of the kind of work it is to do, we will the least sign of growth. But it grows just as I asserted it did years ago: and here at last I hold in my hand such testimony as no man in this world will be man enough to question—a portion of a petrified tree with a threed of gold in it.—Journal of Commerce.