

MINING.

The strike at Spring Hill is over, having lasted only two days.

The returns for the month of May, so far as they have come forward, show that the gold mining operations of this Province occupy an important place among the leading industries.

Returns from Rawdon show that Mr. McNaughton, has obtained 188 oz. of gold from 130 tons of quartz. At Lake Catcha, Oxford, 99 oz. were obtained from 284 tons.

The maximum yield of gold, as returned to the Mines Office, was in 1867, when it reached nearly 28,000 oz; it then gradually fell off to a little over 9,000 oz, in 1874. From that year there has been a steady advance, and last year it reached over 16,000 oz, and from present appearances the yield this year will exceed any previous year.

We hear that several gold-mining leases are soon to be taken in Victoria County.

The red hematite iron ore crops up at three distinct points in Cape Breton—at East Bay, at Big Pond, and at Whycoconah and vicinity.

Mr. Baker of the Montague Mines, for the benefit and convenience of the mining people in that vicinity, will run an express twice a day from the mines to this city. We have no doubt many strangers will take advantage of this and visit these now famous mines.

They have made another rich strike at Montague the past week, a little "clearing up" of \$7,500.

Capt. Hale has not yet returned from New York. The Capt. will find on his return that his boys have turned out a good brick.

The managers of our gold-mines are in good heart of late. It looks as though we will have a boom in gold-mining this summer.

We have unquestionably some of the richest gold mines in the world.

Mr. Tourquoit, Mr. McDonald, and Mr. McNaughton have been in town within the past few days, all with little yellow bricks in their pockets.

Though the gold-mines of Nova Scotia do not yield so largely as those of some other countries, yet they will probably pay the miner a larger profit on capital invested than almost any other gold-mines in the world. Many of the mines which are being worked are within an hour's walk of a railroad or stage-coach road, by which the necessary apparatus for all mining purposes can be placed at the mines with comparatively small expense. Now that rail-cars are running almost the whole length of the province, through a gold-belt about 400 miles long by from twenty to fifty wide, we may rest assured that gold-mining will be a permanent and paying business.

Though hitherto worked under great disadvantages, many of the mines have placed their owners in easy circumstances. The removal of these disadvantages, together with the improved methods of mining and separating the gold, will add to the profits of the mines some forty or fifty per cent.

There are now twenty coal mines in active operation in this Province. Seventeen of these are in Cape Breton. Several of the best coal properties of the Province remain unworked awaiting capital. We cannot but think that the royalty upon coal tends to retard a fuller development of this important Provincial industry.

Mr. Sharp, manager of concentrating works of this county, will do more to fully illustrate the value of our gold-mining properties, than a hundred men scratching like so many fowls here and there over the entire belt of gold-bearing quartz in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Tourquoit goes to Gold River to open a new district.

Mr. Diseway knows the prospects at Chezzetcook, for well-paying mining operations.

We have a number of well-defined iron areas in this Province situated principally in the Eastern part. Those in Cape Breton owned by Mr. Brookman and others, are perhaps, the most advantageously situated for paying developments. We had hoped the late schemes would lead to the opening up and operating of these valuable areas. Cape Breton would soon become the mining center of the Dominion.

Miners and mine-managers are again invited to visit our office. They are welcome to the use of our exchanges.

Messrs. Austen Brothers of this city are giving special attention to mining supplies.

The shipments of coal from Stellarton last week amounted to 7,056 tons. The shipments so far this year are considerably short of last year's.

Work at the Albion Mines is also dull and many are leaving that locality.

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