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MINING.

The adjourned meeting of the Gold Miners Association will be held at THE CRITIC Office, 161 Hollis Street, Halifax, on Tuesday the 6th day of December next, at 2.30 p.m., for the purpose of permanent organization.

A TRIP TO THE EASTERN GOLD DISTRICTS.

(Concluded.)

(From our Staff Correspondent.)

Attached to his dwelling, Mr. Hayward has a store, and just off of it a snug office, where we spent the evening, his time being pretty well taken up in receiving reports from foremen, settling accounts with the men, and drafting working plans of machinery to be ordered. The new 15 stamp mill has been ordered from the Truro Foundry and Machine Company, and will be put up as soon as a site has been determined upon. The largest owner in the Empress mine is Mr. North, the wealthy pork packer of Boston, who receives good dividends from the property, which he values very highly. Mr. Hayward has become interested in a patent railroad lubricant, which is going to revolutionize that business. He has taken hold of the matter with his usual vim, and is going to open a factory in the States. Bar Harbor, the noted summer resort in Maine, is his home, and he was at one time part owner of a very large hotel in that town, which he built and furnished in an incredibly short space of time. He is a valuable man in the development of our gold resources, and it is to be hoped that this Province is not to entirely lose his most beneficial services. He is comfortably situated at Renfrew, as his father and mother are both with him, and extend to all visitors a most cordial hospitality.

Refreshed by a sound night's sleep, I awoke to find that it was still raining heavily, with no prospects of fine weather. At noon Mr. Hayward ordered his horse out, and taking our seats in his comfortable covered buggy, which was liberally supplied with all appliances to ward off the rain, we drove slowly into Enfield in time to catch the train for Halifax. I had intended visiting the two celebrated gold mines at Rawdon, but as they were just about being transferred to the English purchasers, so well represented in this Province by Captain John Nicholls, M. E., I deferred my visit for the time. The Oldham District, where Mr. J. E. Hardman, M. E., by his perseverance and ability, has achieved such promising results, was only three miles from Enfield, but in my anxiety to reach home I also passed it by. The gold districts in Guysboro County, and at Montague and Waverley, in Halifax County, have still to be visited, and then all the important gold mines in this Province will have been visited and described by THE CRITIC's special representative. In my trip to the Eastern Gold Districts I have been careful to confine my statements to the facts, and in no case have I been guilty of exaggeration. Anyone may follow in my footsteps and see exactly what I have described. Nothing could prove more detrimental to the gold mining cause than an undue puffing of the condition of the industry. It is generally in the hands of able men, who, by careful management, are earning good dividends for their companies, or, in many instances, for the individual capitalists who own the mines. I was simply astonished at the extent of the business, the number of miners employed, the benefits to the country from the large sums paid out in wages, and the great value and superior quality of the machinery put up, the best of which is now manufactured in this Province. I had heard fabulous stories of the amount of gold that was lost in the tailings by the improper treatment of the ore, but in no case did I discover this to be the fact. The ore is generally free milling, and the percentage of loss, determined by frequent tests of the tailings and assays of the ore, was so small that it would not pay to put up the necessary concentrating machinery to save it. The gold mines are all so accessible, and it is so easy to gain full information in regard to them that only by a most inexcusable want of caution can purchasers be deceived. The majority of failures in the past have been caused by an insane desire to squander capital in putting up expensive mills before the quantity or quality of the ore had been determined. As a mining engineer of great ability and large experience put it, "where Nova Scotia Gold mines are fairly bought and well-wrought, there are no better mining investments in the world." Each district seems to have its peculiarities, and it is only by constant watchfulness that the managers are able to solve the riddle, but once solved, they know about where to look for the pay streaks in the veins, and when it is time to discontinue operations. There seems to be a very limited field for large stock companies expensively managed, but there are any number of properties which, if honestly and skillfully worked, would pay good dividends on a capital stock of say \$100,000, while many good properties might be purchased all the way from \$10,000 to \$60,000, and prove bargains at that. The Dufferin mine is a wonderful property, and I understand its owners have refused \$500,000 in cash for it. It is an exceptional mine in this Province, although the gold mining industry is still in its infancy, and there is no reason why dozens of Dufferin mines should not be discovered. The Oxford has proved a splendid investment for its American owners, and its manager, Mr. J. M. Reid, has already opened up so many new leads, all gold-bearing, that it will take years to exhaust the ore supply now ready for the miners.

At Beaver Dam, Cariboo and Moose River, mining operations are in the hands of thoroughly practical men, and as a result, all the properties being worked are paying handsomely. The Empress mine at Renfrew is a grand property, and would bear stocking for a large sum. Besides the developed mines, there are hundreds of good prospects in all the districts which could either be purchased outright for a small sum, or in which an interest would be given for the capital to develop. The mistake made by the owners of