

## MINING INFORMATION.

The blast furnace of the Pictou Charcoal Iron Company will not be fired until Parliament has met and some idea of the tariff on iron and steel can be learned.

Mr. C. D. Rand, of Vancouver, is reported to have put through a deal on the Para mineral claims on the north fork of Ten-Mile Creek, and close to the Brindle group, Slocan. It has a strong ledge, carrying galena.

During the week ended March 2nd, thirty-one mining claims were recorded at the New Westminster office, and eighty-one miners' licenses were issued. Most of the claims recorded were in Harrison Lake, Nicomen and Jarvis Inlet districts.

A local syndicate closed a deal on March 3rd, by cable, with a London syndicate for the sale of six claims in the Big Bend of the Columbia River in Ground Hog basin, near the Orphan Boy mine. The price was in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

Ore valued at \$130,000 has been sent to the smelter from the Bonanza King, Slocan. Development work on the Lone Star is being pushed ahead steadily for the Hansard Mining Company. Since November the tunnel has been driven in 287 feet.

In the statement of gold production in Nova Scotia, copied by us from the *Industrial Advocate*, the Richardson mine at Isaac's Harbor was credited with crushing 18,572 tons of quartz for the year, and securing but 1,316 ounces of gold out of that quantity. While the statement of the quantity of quartz milled is correct, the gold produced should be 2,396 ounces.

The Jenckes Machine Company, of Sherbrooke, which built the immense air compressor for the Le Roi mines, received a telegram from the superintendent of the mine in Rossland, saying that the machine worked satisfactorily in every way. The whole machinery weighs about 240,000 lbs, and was shipped in six full car loads to the Le Roi Mining Co., at Rossland, B.C., going forward over the Northern Pacific road in one solid train.

A special despatch from Sandon to the *Nelson Miner*, Feb. 27th, says that W. W. Warner, of Spokane, has leased the Ajax claim adjoining the Noble Five and near the Last Chance. The ore is gray copper and is said to run from 200 to 500 ounces in silver. The tunnel in the Phoenix on the north fork of Carpenter Creek has been driven 158 feet and the ore chute has widened out so that it is 16 inches in the widest places. There are ten tons of ore on the dump and a stoping ground of 75 feet to the surface. The Cordelia, on the north fork of Carpenter Creek, shipped a carload of ore to the Nelson smelter this week, which will average \$150 in silver and gold.

The British Columbia ore exported for first two months of 1896 was: from Slocan via Kaslo, 4,900½ tons; Slocan via Nakusp, 1,597½ tons; from Rossland via Northport, 3,013½ tons; Rossland via Nelson, 35½ tons. Total, 9,547½ tons, valued at \$736,096, or an average value of \$77.09 per ton. The produce of smelters shipped was: matte from the Hall mines, Nelson, 376 tons; matte from the Trail smelter, 1,359½ tons. Total value, \$661,079. The aggregate value of ore and matte exported was thus \$1,397,175. We obtain these interesting figures from the *Nelson Miner*, which adds that of the ore there went through the Nelson custom house \$561,679 worth, and through Revelstoke (Nakusp) \$174,417 worth.

On one day in early March, says the *Kaslo Kootenayan*, 24 bills of sale were recorded during office hours, considerations ranging all the way from a single dollar to \$12,000, which was the price paid for a property on Granite mountain in the White Grouse country. The same paper says that Robt. Cooper and Con. Fielding, two old-time prospectors and miners, with their dreams at last realized, spent Sunday in Kaslo en route for Spokane to finish up the minor details of the sale of the Arlington mine to Frank Watson. The property is a high grade silver lead ore, carrying native silver. It is situated on Springer Creek, about six miles from Slocan Lake. The price paid was \$50,000, \$5,000 cash, balance in thirty days.

In an article advocating the construction of smelters, that will obviate sending Canadian ores to the States for reduction, the *Nelson Miner* reminds us that the average value of ore shipped from the various camps last week of February, as shown by the sworn returns made to the Customs department, is \$77.77 per ton. "Careful estimates indicate that the value of the output for the current year will fall little short of \$10,000,000. The cost of transporting to the American smelters the tonnage that this amount represents would be over \$1,250,000. Fully one half of this quantity will be silver-lead ore, containing, on an average, 60 per cent. lead that would be dutiable, on an average, at \$21 per ton. Thus the total saving that Kootenay would experience in freight and duty for the annual output would be more than \$2,500,000."

The first company organized in Nova Scotia to invest in the British Columbia gold fields is asking incorporation as "The Mari-

time Mining and Development Co., Ltd." George Campbell, barrister, of Truro, N.S., is president: Hon. T. R. Black, Amherst, Hon. L. E. Baker, Yarmouth, vice-presidents; D. C. Blair, Esq., Truro, is secretary-treasurer; and the directors comprise the following gentlemen: Israel Longworth, Q.C., J. K. Blair, Hon. Senator McKay, G. O. Fulton, of Truro, N.S., C. A. Meissner, Acadia Mines, and W. A. Black, M.P.P., Halifax. The managing director is George H. Campbell, of Winnipeg. The company will exploit three properties near the town of Rossland, which are believed to be valuable. They also have obtained options on several prospects in the Rainy River region, Ontario.

## ABOUT DRY GOODS.

"Spring Hat Sales" are being held this week by Toronto retail merchants.

Settlements of raw silk in Yokohama for the current season from July 1st to February 4th last were 28,600 piculs, against 42,210 piculs for the corresponding period of the preceding season. Stock of raw silk in Yokohama on February 4, 1897, was 16,230 piculs, against 19,790 piculs at the same date in 1896.

The retirement from business of Robert Walker & Sons will leave a blank in the dry goods annals of Toronto. The firm is an old one: for half a century "The Golden Lion" was a trade sign on King street, and for half that time the stone lion of the house has looked from his height of four stories over the gradually improving street. The premises are spacious and handsome, but are likely to undergo changes to suit the altered conditions of trade. Meanwhile Walker & Co.'s stock, amounting to nearly \$170,000, has been purchased by W. A. Murray & Co., and will be sold by them at the Golden Lion.

"Where are you going to, my pretty maid?"

"Going to the dry goods store," she said.

"What are you going for, my pretty maid?"

"I'm only going shopping, good sir," she said.

"And what will you buy there, my pretty maid?"

"Why, nothing! I'm shopping, good sir," she said.

—*Printers' Ink.*

In reference to the smart demand for flowers for millinery purposes noted in our last issue, the Paris correspondent of the *Economist* writes: "Flower makers have been and still are very busy. At many of the smaller houses it has been found difficult to procure sufficient experienced hands for the execution of orders. Skilled labor is always rare, and in this business it takes three years of apprenticeship for a young woman to master the rudiments of the art. Skillfulness can only be obtained by long practice, and even then it is often confined to a special line. Some of the best workers are those who restrict themselves to one or two kinds of flowers."

The following Canadian dry goods merchants are reported by the *Drapers' Record*, Feb. 20th, London, Eng., as having arrived in the United Kingdom: Mr. F. W. G. Brock (Messrs. Brock & Paterson, St. John, N.B.), Mr. W. R. Burgess (New York), Mr. C. E. Gault (Montreal), Mr. F. Brerham (St. John's, N.F.), Mr. R. C. Ayre (St. John's, N.F.), Mr. R. Knowling (St. John's, N.F.), Mr. R. J. Young (London, Ontario), Mr. W. B. Freeman (Messrs. Macpherson & Freeman (Halifax, N.S.), Mr. W. Cummings (Messrs. Cummings, Son & Co., Truro, N.S.) Mr. J. C. Mahon (Halifax, N.S.), Mr. George H. Moore (Messrs. Foster, Pender & Co., Toronto), and William Bryce (Toronto).

## FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Advices just received from Smyrna state that the last shipment of Sultana raisins for the season to America has been made.

The reduction in freight rates between the North-West Territories and Manitoba has given an impetus to the dairy and produce interests of the North-West.

The negotiations now on foot for a consolidation of Kentucky distillers of bourbon whiskey are the subject of considerable discussion in American liquor trade circles.

Omaha retail grocers have resolved to decline in future to execute orders turned in to them by introducers of new goods, as they found that a large proportion of such are refused on being tendered, and they have voted the system a nuisance.

Official figures of the 1896 wine crop of France show a total production of over a million gallons, valued approximately at \$234,800,000. The exact figures are 1,179,364,960 gallons, an increase over 1895 of 468,066,880 gallons, and over the average of the last ten years of 273,410,990 gallons.

The Danish bark "Tercera," Captain Holm, was the first of the British Columbia 1896 salmon fleet to reach Liverpool. She left the