

The large extent of mining territory of known, and in part some of it yet unknown value, that these Provinces still hold, intersected as it is by lines of railway, and the benefit of it to be derived from the active development of that wealth to the country at large, but more especially to the settlements in and around the various mining locations, renders the enactment of a better system of mining laws and inspection a necessity which cannot longer be delayed.

[By an amendment passed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, 10th December, 1885, it is ordered under the provisions of section 124, of the Act 43-44 Vict., Chap. 12, (Quebec General Mining Act of 1880), that in all future sales of lots of land in the Province of Quebec, for mining purposes, the following prices be exacted:—

For phosphate lands, five dollars (\$5) per acre, as at present.

For iron and ochre, two dollars (\$2) per acre.

For all other mining lands including gold, silver, asbestos, lead, mica, graphite, plumbago, copper and generally all mines other than iron and ochre, five dollars (\$5) per acre.]—Editor.

PHOSPHATE.

The Latest Quotations.

MINERAL PHOSPHATES—Some transactions have already taken place in Canadian at about last year's prices, but Raisers are not prepared to do further business at present without an advance for the best qualities. Ground Canadian is also enquired for, but sellers are indisposed to contract until the season for shipment draws nearer. South Carolina Phosphates.—There is no new phase to report; a large contract from a new deposit of land has been made at \$d. for delivery to a safe port in U. K., and sundry ballast parcels have realized from 7½d. to \$d. according to port of discharge. The new Somme Phosphate continues to turn out satisfactorily, and is being eagerly sought after by both Home and Continental Manufacturers to such a degree that we have had to decline any but small trial orders for prompt shipment. Belgian.—A large contract in low class material has been made to close a liquidation account, otherwise the business transacted has been at late prices, which still remain temptingly cheap for this useful material. A new make of 45 to 50 per cent. and 50 to 55 per cent. both with a guaranteed maximum of 2 per cent. Iron and Alumina, is being offered which may supersede the old ferruginous quality. Cambridge and Bedford Coprolites are unchanged, and quoted at 43s. f.o.r., or Ground at 50s. in Buyer's bags, or 52s. in lent bags, f.o.r., the latter at 26s., f.o.r., or 31s. 6d., f.o.b., Thames.

Township of Loughboro'.

Mr. J. Sloan, of Perth, is prospecting on the Pardy Bros. lots. Operations will be begun as soon as the snow is off the ground.

Satisfactory reports have been received from Messrs. Smith & Lacey's deposit in the same township.

During the present existing depression in the phosphate market but a few hands are employed at the Foxton property, in the Township of Loughboro'. The present depth of the shaft is about 70 feet, and drifting is being pursued in a north-easterly direction from the bottom on a capital vein of pure ore. The indications are most encouraging.

Buckingham District.

The Du Lievre Company are making improvements at the basin below Buckingham. They anticipate a brisk business in the spring.

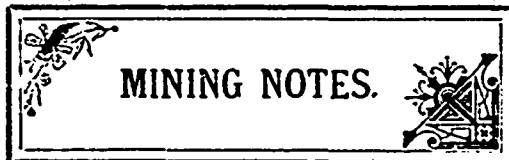
The construction of the new tram line at the Little Rapids mine is nearing completion. This line, which is already graded, runs from the workings on the summit of the hill to the wharf at the river side. The transportation of the ore by this means will be accomplished in a couple of month's time.

The output from this property during the past month was about 115 tons of high grade ore. Mr. George Smith, the superintendent of the mine, states that he can mine ore in pit No. 2, for a considerable less price than from the bottom of the shaft where last month's product was raised. He says that with 50 to 70 men he can lay the ore at the river's bank for about \$5.00 per ton and not work off vein II.

The property is now thoroughly equipped with first class plant of the most modern and approved pattern, and the quality of the ore is of a very high grade. "Dr T. Sterry Hunt has said that from present appearances, in my opinion, no property on the Lievre offers better or surer prospects for extensive and remunerative operations than does this mine."

South Carolina.

2,775 men were employed last year in mining phosphate in South Carolina.



Nova Scotia.

The yield of gold at the Oxford mines for the month of February was 341 ozs. from 78 tons.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Acadian Coal Company will take place at New York, on Wednesday, 23rd instant.

Work has been resumed in the 100 feet shaft at the Cowan Gold Mining Company property, Yarmouth Co. A milling of about 10,000 lbs. of dirt taken from the new discovery is reported to have given about 3 ozs. of gold.

The shales of the Georges River Mining and Manufacturing Company, a West Virginia corporation which holds a Government lease of one square mile of mining area at Georges River, near North Sydney, Cape Breton, are at present on the New York market. The veins that have been discovered on the property are:—First, vein of grey magnetic iron 20 feet wide at surface. Second, vein of silver and other metals 20 feet wide and carrying ten ounces of silver at surface. Third, vein of iron pyrites, copper and other metals, samples of which taken from cut about 15 feet deep, carry about 10 per cent. of copper, besides other minerals, and strong indications of silver and gold.

The strike of the Picton coal miners which, it was reported, had been settled, unfortunately still continues, and Halifax is at present suffering from a coal famine that is particularly hard on the poor, who have been unable to lay in enough coal to last through the spring. We have not examined into the cause of the strike, and so are unable to pronounce upon its merits, but, for the sake of the Halifax poor, we hope that it may be brought to a speedy termination. Cargoes of coal are now being received from Baltimore. Dealers in Sydney coal have evidently been taken by surprise, and will hardly let another season go over without greatly increasing their winter supply. The completion of the railroad to Sydney will put an end to all possibility of our coal merchants being caught in this way again.—*Critic*.

At the North Brookfield mine, Queen's County, the work of development is being vigorously pursued. Four shafts have been sunk, one to the depth of 80 feet, and cross levels have been run for at least 300 feet.

Reduced rates for transportation over the Inter-Colonial are wanted by the iron miners in this province. At present the cost of transportation from Nova Scotia to Ontario is about equal to the cost from England to the same market; so that the protection given by the National Policy to Nova Scotia iron mines is lessened by the extra cost of transportation from the mines to the market.

New Brunswick.

The gold mining areas at Eagle Lake, Salmon River, owned and operated by Messrs. Hattie & Ross, have been bonded to English capitalists.

Quebec.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the Intercolonial Coal Mining Company was held at Montreal on Wednesday, 2nd March. The following were elected directors of the company for the ensuing year:—Messrs. Gilbert Scott, H. A. Budden, James P. Cleghorn, Robert Anderson, Alexander Gunn, Peter Redpath, W. M. Ramsay, Henry J. Tiffin and H. S. Macdougall. At a subsequent meeting of the board Messrs. Gilbert Scott and H. A. Budden were re-elected president and vice-president, respectively, and Mr. W. J. Nelson was re-appointed secretary-treasurer of the company.

Ontario.

The annual general meeting of the British and Canadian Mica and Mining Company (Limited), was held in their offices at Ottawa on the 17th ult. The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—President, B. A. Buxton, Esq., of London, England; Vice-President, C. W. Spencer, Esq., Montreal; Secretary-Treasurer, W. A. Allan, Esq., Ottawa.

The various reports presented showed that the property was in a most flourishing condition, and that the output of mica from the mine and the demand for it, both in Canada and in the United States, during the past season, had been eminently satisfactory. The demand for the product had more than trebled since the last meeting of the company.

Increased facilities, including new steam power for the breaking up of the ground, have been added to the property, and among other machinery a couple of Ingersoll drills, worked by compressed air, are kept constantly in opera-