

"The thickness of its auriferous veins is perhaps less than those of California and some other countries; but they are, generally speaking, richer in visible gold than the average of those I have seen in any other part of the world. It must also be taken into consideration that Nova Scotia possesses many decided advantages over both California and Australia. Each of these countries is situated at a great distance from Europe, and can only be reached after a long and expensive passage, and, as a natural consequence, wages were for a long time exceedingly high, and provisions proportionately dear. Nova Scotia, on the contrary, is within an easy distance both from Europe and the United States of America, and possesses a considerable settled population of intelligent, industrious, and sober people, eminently adapted, after a little experience, to become steady and efficient miners. The whole of the gold-bearing portion of the Province also lies within a convenient distance from the coast, which abounds with magnificent harbors, affording ample security to shipping, whilst wood in large quantities is to be everywhere procured for all descriptions of mining uses, and an abundant supply of water is generally to be met with for the purposes of washing and amalgamation."

"There appears to be no reason for believing that gold mining will not become one of the most profitable and lasting industries of Nova Scotia."

Professor ALFRED R. C. SELWYN, F. R. S.,

*Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, &c., &c. (Notes and Observations on the Gold Fields of Quebec, 1871.)*

"The reason why two-thirds of the crushing power in Nova Scotia is standing idle seems at first sight somewhat inexplicable. It is evidently not the poverty of the quartz; neither is it, as I can vouch for personal observation, owing to any deficiency in the quantity which the veins, if properly worked, are calculated to produce, and we are, therefore, forced to conclude that it arises from the unskillful, wasteful, and improvident manner in which the business has ordinarily been conducted, creating general apathy, and utterly destroying the confidence of investors. Many instances could be given of yields far less per ton than the quantity now lost at every mill in Nova Scotia having sufficed, under careful management, to give a fair profit to the adventurers. These results are due to the practical and intelligent application of the lessons taught by experience, and if this experience is utilized, and as intelligently applied in Nova Scotia as it has been in Australia, there is no reason why equally satisfactory results should not be achieved."

Dr. T. L. PIMFORD, F. C. S. & C.,

*(On the Gold Ore of Nova Scotia, 1871.)*

"I am of opinion that a moderate amount of English capital and enterprise would soon make this colony one of the most successful gold regions on the globe."

Professor WARINGTON W. SMYTH, F. R. S.,

*(Before the Society of Arts, 25th May, 1870, when discussing "Gold Mining and its Prospects in Nova Scotia." By Professor H. Y. HISS.)*

"As an old dabbler in gold mines in various parts of the world, I can not help feeling much interested with regard to a colony so near the seaboard, and which appears to offer so many inducements to capitalists who embark in mining enterprise. It appeared quite clear that there was throughout a great part of this region a sufficiently large portion of gold extending throughout these quartzose deposits, whether beds or veins, to pay well for mining enterprise. Was it not possible, then, instead of 600 or 800 men, to employ 6000 or 8000, or even more, in raising gold, to the advantage of all concerned? Undoubtedly it ought to be so, for there was no doubt here there was a gold field such as was seldom to be met with. There ought to be machinery and appliances brought to bear upon these mines such as would ensure a very handsome return to capital invested in undertakings intended to last over a long series of years. This was a point of almost imperial importance, for it appeared that up to the present time the resources of the country had been developed to a pitifully small extent; and no doubt this was because the undertaking had been conducted by persons unprovided with money, or with that intelligent guidance which it might be presumed they would have had if the matter had been taken in hand by persons better provided with money, without a good supply of which nothing could be successfully carried on. In spite of previous causes of failure, it was evident that many of them would disappear the moment that large capitalists were prepared to go into the matter, because if large companies were formed in England they would of course employ agents familiar with the machinery and appliances requisite for successful mining, who would open workings upon a very different scale from anything that had yet been attempted."