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CLASS D.

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At 2 o'clock, p.m.

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LIST OF PRIZES.

1 Real Estate worth	2,000	\$ 2,000
1 Real Estate worth	2,000	2,000
10 Building Lots in Montreal	200	2,000
15 Bedroom or Drawing rooms		
Suites to choice	200	3,000
20 do do do	100	2,000
100 Gold Watches	20	2,000
1000 Silver Watches	20	20,000
1000 do do	10	10,000

2147 lots worth.....\$50,000

TICKETS \$1.00.

SECOND SERIES

PRIZES VALUE \$10,000.00
Principal Lot—1 Real Estate worth \$1,000.00

LIST OF PRIZES.

1 Real Estate worth	\$ 1,000	1,000
100 Gold Chains worth	40	4,000
1000 Toilet Sets worth	5	5,000

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TICKETS 25 Cents.

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Gold Mining Properties Examined, Reported on, and Titles Searched

Information for Investors in Nova Scotia Gold Mines. Estimates obtained for Air Drills and Air Compressors for Mines and Quarries, and Steam Drills for Railroad Contracts

Reference—Commissioner of Mines for Nova Scotia Address Letter or Telegram, BEDFORD STATION, HALIFAX CO., NOVA SCOTIA

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

ASSAY AND SMELTING OFFICE.

I am very much pleased to find that the suggestions, crude though they were, about a Mint and Assay Department in the City of Halifax, have awakened a very lively interest among the gold miners of the Province.

I have been favored, since the publication of my previous letter, by criticisms and suggestions from gentlemen much better qualified to deal with the question than I am. In order that the subject may not be lost sight of it is well that there should be some definite proposal before the mining public. The establishment of a Canadian Mint is a large question, and means a large expenditure, which the Dominion Government may not see their way clear to make at present. It will do no harm, however, to have the question of Halifax, as to being the right location, kept well to the fore, in case the matter should assume a practical phase. The question of the hour is, to what extent can the Dominion Government reasonably be asked to go, in the direction of affording immediate relief to the Nova Scotia gold mines?

In submitting the following proposal, in answer to this query, I wish it to be understood that I am not airing my own views, but am simply using as a medium of placing before the mining public ideas which are much more valuable than my own; and that the object of the present communication is to invite discussion, so that when we ultimately go to the Government through our representatives, we may go with a practical and well-digested scheme. The proposal, as now submitted, is this. To add to the Office of Dominion Analyst at Halifax a complete and efficient Assay and Smelting Department, the cost of running which would be paid in part from the charge for smelting and assaying. For the Dominion Government to provide for the purchase of such gold and silver bars as may be offered, being the product of our own mines, the price paid being the assay value of the bars, less the fee for melting and fining, and possibly, until the establishment of a Mint in Canada, less the cost of transport to a market.

The gold-producer would then have the same option here that he has when he can personally take his product to the sub-Treasury at New York, of taking back his bar with a certificate of weight, fineness, and value, or paying the fees in cash, or of disposing of his bar, and receiving instead a gold cheque for the amount of its value, less the fees.

I am not very anxious for notoriety, but in matters of this kind someone must take the initiative, and I propose, as soon as a consensus of opinion to what is really desirable can be obtained, to put the matter in the form of a requisition to the Dominion Government, to be circulated in the various mining centres. An opportunity will be had of discussing the question at a meeting of gold miners, to be held in the incoming month, and apart from this, I trust that all persons interested, who can suggest any desirable modification of the scheme, will favor me with their views at an early date, either personally or through the press.

J. H. TOWNSEND

MINING.

DEEP MINING FOR GOLD IN NOVA SCOTIA.—The following paragraph, which we clip from an exchange, shows that in the early days of the discovery in Australia, it was supposed that the gold deposits would continue in depth:—

"The gold mines of Australia continue to be very productive. Now they are more than 2,000 feet in depth, and many will be sunk even deeper than that in the near future. This is contrary to the predictions of mining experts, who said many years ago that no gold would ever be found in Australia at a depth greater than one hundred feet." The italics are set as we wish to emphasize the fact that experts at one time proclaimed that gold in Australia would not be found at a greater depth than one hundred feet. This should open the eyes of our gold miners to the necessity of deep mining. So far the deepest shaft sunk is in the Sherbrooke gold district which we believe was continued down to 750 feet. Many properties seen have been abandoned at a depth of from 250 to 300 feet, the average gold in this Province evidently being convinced that there is no use in looking for gold at greater depth. Until shafts have been actually sunk to a depth of 1,000 or 1,500 feet, there is no certainty but that gold does exist at these depths, but the actions of our miners raise the presumption that they, practical men, do not consider that it does, and as a result our gold fields have lost favor with large capitalists on the ground that they are only low deposits. Any one who has been in New York or Boston will bear out in this assertion, and must also have discovered that unsuccessful managers, (unsuccessful in too many instances through their own extravagance and incompetency), are the loudest in condemning our gold fields and on the same grounds. While a doubt exists on this point, we can hardly expect to see the best mining men, or the largest capitalists, turn their attention this way. Very practical men, who are always ready for operations when the pay streak gives out, make plenty of money by running the loads down to a few hundred feet, but, with one or two exceptions, it is hardly a gold property now worked in Nova Scotia that is worth being dignified with the name—mine. The capital with which parties are working a so-called gold mine in this Province is ridiculously small, when compared with the capital that would be put up elsewhere. If promising leads do not yield almost immediate returns, the property is abandoned, and the mine might have proved a most valuable mine by systematic development, and all future time condemned as barren.

In the West, it is a common thing to sink for a thousand or more feet before ore is struck, but capital wisely invested in this way generally, after a long run, yields the largest returns. Some of our most experienced managers are convinced that the gold so far worked in Nova Scotia is the outcropping of rich stores below. They claim, with every show