

gold is then melted and poured into molds, and is ready for market in the form of gold bars.

We also visited the celebrated Rose Mine. This is carried on by an American company, and everything is much more systematic; the buildings are neater. The crusher was not at work, but a large quantity of quartz was piled up ready to be crushed. This mine had been cleaned out, that is, the rubbish had been removed to show the bed of a fine vein of quartz, as several of the owners of this mine had appointed to meet here on this day. We forget the names of all the gentlemen, but there was the Professor, Captain, Doctor, Colonel, Major, etc., etc. We all put on mining dresses; some descended one shaft, and others at another. The Professor and your humble servant descended one that was 90 feet deep. The crevice or opening in the rock was nearly perpendicular, and almost as flat and smooth as a wall the whole distance down. We never had seen such a long, straight seam in any stone. The rock had been taken out by the miners to enable them to work the vein lying at the bottom of the shaft. All the stone had a bluish cast except the gold-bearing rock; this was a bluish white, nearly resembling marble in appearance. We were each furnished with a wax candle. We entered the shaft, got into the ladder, and commenced our descent, carrying the candle between two middle fingers, thus enabling us to hang on to the ladder. As we descended dampness and cold almost chilled our hands, but down, down, down we went, from ladder to ladder, hung one on the other, straight up and down. I tell you I was glad when I reached the bottom, but when I got off the ladder my feet were in water. There was a very fine quartz rock which we walked, or rather crawled, along by the side of. I might almost say waded, for the water was rushing over the quartz rock. By holding our candle close to the rock we could see specks of gold. One piece was nearly as large as a five-cent piece.

We were satisfied. We did not admire the water or the dampness, and requested of the Professor and our guides that we should ascend. We were soon on the ladder, and had as the descent was the ascent was worse. We started up with right good will, but we found it such hard work that we had to stop to rest several times. The rest consisted of hanging on this perpendicular series of ladders. I was afraid my hands would cramp. There was no other choice but to hang on or fall down; but we succeeded in reaching the top.

No, thank you! You may dig the gold out in wheelbarrow loads if you can get it, but for our part we are quite satisfied. We have had all the gold mining we want, that is, under the earth. There are plenty who will risk life and health. People get used to the different occupations they follow.

The latter mine has yielded many thousands of profit to its owners since we were there, and we hear the present showing is still more profitable. Many people have gone into mining in this and other localities, and lost all they had; a few have become independently rich. One man's success is spread willingly by everybody, but dead men tell no tales, and a person may just about as well be dead as dead broke for all the world cares about him. What pleasure or profit is there for an editor, a reader or a speaker to recount the misfortunes of individuals? To our readers we would say, let miners follow the mining business, but you follow the plow, and your average of success will be far in excess of the average miner's, in this or any other country.

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The coal shipments from Pictou, N. S., in one week amounted to 7,564 tons. The shipments for the season to date are 225,668 tons.

#### Canada and the English Press.

The agricultural resources of Canada have become a subject of daily discussion in the English papers. The products of this new country that have been imported into England have shown them what they may expect when the Dominion territories will be opened up and brought under cultivation in a few years. A correspondent of Bell's Weekly Messenger has written to that paper a report of the Toronto Agricultural Exhibition, from which we take a few notes:—

There was a number of very high class beasts, one of which, a white four-year-old steer, exhibited by a Mr. Russell, of Pickering, will, I expect, puzzle our feeders in England to beat at our next fruit and field show. It is said to turn the scale at 2554 pounds, and is full of quality.

The sheep were probably the finest exhibit ever made at the annual Toronto Exhibitions, and indeed would reflect credit upon many districts in the old country. Of course, no opinion can be ventured as to the kind of sheep best suited for the Dominion, as so much depends upon climate and locality here as in Great Britain. Probably the Cotswold have more than maintained their position; but the Leicesters, Lincolns, South-downs, and Shropshire Downs were well represented in their respective classes. Canadians are very astute in the matter of breeding. Hon. J. H. Pope, during his recent visit to England with Sir J. Macdonald and Sir C. Tupper, purchased a draft of the finest Cheviot sheep that could be met with. By this means he intends to improve the breed of sheep in the vicinity of his home in the Eastern townships of the Province of Quebec. It is the custom here to use Shropshire Down rams to cross with Cheviot ewes, in order to produce the highly-prized mutton so successfully raised in the North; but having no such groundwork to commence upon, it is confidently expected that an importation like this, by Mr. Pope, will, by crossing with the already fairly-bred Canadian ewes, produce a lean and juicy class of mutton calculated to meet the demands of a first class London trade. The fault with Canadian sheep has hitherto been, that they have "dressed" a larger proportion of fat than is desirable.

The pigs were, as usual, a grand class. In fact, to such a high pitch has this animal attained that it is deemed scarcely requisite to import high-bred stock from home. In fact, it is a moot question whether it would not be to the advantage of English breeders—more especially of those who have been pursuing a course of in-and-in breeding—to introduce Canadian and American-bred boars amongst their stock.

On a second examination of the horses, I found a very superior class of short-coupled Clydesdale stallions. Amongst the nag classes I observed a few very neat little stallions, which, I feel confident, will do very little good to the rapidly-developing export trade, because of the absence of size, the majority of them being little, if anything, over 15 hands. In conversation with Canadian breeders, I find that there were signs of dissatisfaction at the class of stock being got by Clydesdale sires in the Dominion. The Canadian farmer must have a sharp, quick-moving horse, and whilst this breed has left all its coarser characteristics behind it, it has certainly degenerated the hardy, active-moving little Canadian animal, which hitherto has been so much admired throughout the American continent. It was on all hands admitted that the horse for Canada is the good big Cleveland bay, which would give size without destroying quality. One great difficulty has had to be contended against at this show—the want of a catalogue during its first week. This defect arises from no fixed day being named for the entry of stock, and as this enables the exhibitor to suit his own time and himself, the public is thereby placed at a great disadvantage. This doubtless will be very soon rectified.

In England it is customary—as we well know—to have the reapers, mowers, &c., stationary; but I am sure that could the authorities of every one of our home exhibitions have seen the Canadian implements slightly raised from the ground, with bands attached to the wheels, and placed regularly in full working order by the engines, this system would at once be universally adopted. Of

the Toronto mower I mentioned in my last, I may state that I had a second opportunity of witnessing it at work, in company with several prominent English, Irish and Scotch agriculturists, who were so well pleased with it that they immediately gave orders for several machines, of which we shall doubtless hear much more after awhile. Earnestly would we direct the attention of our implement makers to it.

An extraordinary exhibit of grain, grasses, roots, vegetables, etc., brought from the Province of Manitoba, was placed in the central building, and attracted immense crowds of visitors. Potatoes, swedes, mangels, and especially kohlrabi, although secured some weeks before arriving at maturity, reflected much credit upon the country.

#### Soapstone, or Talc. Adulteration.

A mineral known as soapstone (it also goes by the name of "talc") is taken from beds in some sections of the U. S., principally at Gouverneur and Hallesborough, and after being piled up to dry, is ground, forming a substance about as heavy as flour, which it somewhat resembles in appearance, but is quite tasteless. The manufacturers realize a large profit—not less than \$10 per ton, when it is sold in the market for \$20, which is the usual price. No one seems to know the legitimate use of the substance, although it is used in the manufacture of paper, but it is said to be more as a filling to give weight than anything else; nevertheless, it has found numerous purchasers, and a recent writer says it may be looked for in any food articles which cost over 3 cents per pound; but the last place we would have expected to have found it is in butter, but the dealers in New York city, who handle large quantities of western butter, noticed of late the tubs which generally held from 50 to 52 pounds when full, now frequently contain from 56 to 58 lbs.; this increase of from 6 to 8 pounds on the same bulk was noticed only in the western packages. But the most experienced butter dealers could discover no foreign substance, and could in no way account for the mystery; but recently a prominent dealer in dairy produce, while on a western trip, discovered the fraud. A firm in Cincinnati, known as the "Cincinnati Facing Company," is engaged in the manufacture of powdered soapstone, which is claimed to have a ready market, supplying a legitimate demand; but it has now been discovered that the farmers, dairymen and butter-packers use it to adulterate butter. It greatly increases the weight, without affecting the bulk very much. And now soapstone, which costs 1c. per pound, is sold at the market price of butter, and consumers eat  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a lb. (2 oz.) with each pound of butter they consume.

The Americans who practice this fraud will, no doubt, realize a profit for some time; but it will doubtless have the effect of reducing the demand for their dairy produce, and will, no doubt, be very injurious to the trade with England, if adulterated butter is shipped there. This fraud has not, to our knowledge, made its appearance in Canada; but it is very probable it will, if there are not strict measures put in force to prevent it.

The trade in wood pulp for paper making is extending in Norway. The article is used on a large scale by paper makers in France and England. The woods fitted for reduction to pulp are abundant in all the Maritime Provinces. This might be an industry worth working up.

ENTOMOLOGY IN THE SCHOOLS.—At the meeting of the fruit convention held in Guelph recently, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—Moved by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Saunders, "that entomology and natural history should be taught in our schools as a basis of education." Mr. James Anderson, and several others, spoke to the motion, all being in favor of petitioning the Minister of Education to introduce entomology and natural history in our schools.