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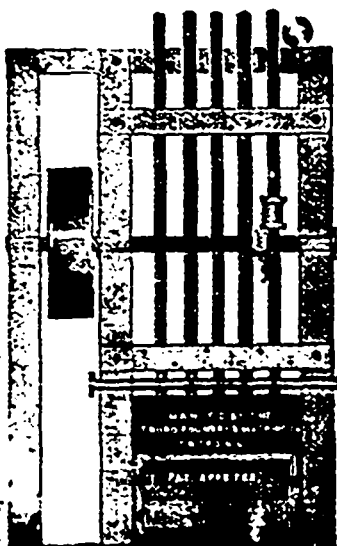
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## MINING.

The attacks made upon the Commissioner of Mines in the Minors Arbitration matter are so evidently of partisan origin that there is little necessity to refute them. In justice to a very able official we will however state that the delay complained of was solely occasioned by the absence of certain necessary papers, which the miners or their representatives had neglected to file, and that the Commissioner was entirely blameless in the matter.

Harlan Fulton, George Fielding, barrister, and other owners of the extensive iron pyrites deposits on Hunting Island, have bonded their property to a leading firm of solicitors of this city (presumably for an expert who visited the property last year) for a period of six months from the 29th of May last. Hunting Island is one of the so called Mingan group, and lies a little east of Clear Water Point, on what is known as the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The facilities for shipping the ore are unsurpassed, a fine harbor called Betchwan being near by. The title is perfect, being direct from the Government of Quebec, the leases running for a period of 63 years, with a royalty of only 2 cents per ton. When it is stated that the deposit yields 52 per cent. of sulphur with traces of gold and silver, some idea of its value may be formed. The purchasers who had sought the possession of the property without the solicitation of the owners have paid a substantial deposit and evidently mean business. The owners of the property, fully convinced of the great mineral wealth of the locality, have also secured a license giving them exclusive first rights over all the minerals in the islands from Clear Water Point to Blanc Sablon by the Straits of Belle Isle. This seems a princely concession, and should result in a large fortune to all interested.

The deposit of red marble at Walton, Hauts Co., has attracted the attention of New York architects, who are on the lookout for a new building stone, and capitalists in the latter city are anxious to develop the quarry. One prominent man is desirous of securing it, and is prepared at once to bore the deposit to a suitable depth, to test whether the color continues the same throughout. Samples of the marble may be seen in the office of Mr. William McNab, on Prince Street. The marble takes a brilliant polish and a more beautiful building material could not be desired.

The stone quarries at Wallace are doing a thriving business and are supplying large quantities of material for the railway Bridge at the Grand Narrows, Bras d'Or Lake.

Mr. John S. Macathur, technical manager of the Cassels Gold Extracting Co., Ltd., of Glasgow, Scotland, has been paying this Province a visit, to see if there are any refractory gold and silver ore deposits of sufficient extent and value to warrant the establishment of works here for their treatment. Their process is a very simple one compared with the chlorination process, no roasting being necessary, and there being other advantages, notably in the large per centage of gold and silver saved, economy in working and quick time, only about six hours being required for the treatment of each charge of ore. The process is mainly a leaching or distilling one with cyanides as the active agent in disintegrating the ore and precipitating the gold and silver. It is only applicable to refractory ores, free milling ores being more economically treated with quicksilver. In Yarmouth, (at Cranberry Head), in Queens County, and in other sections of the Province there are deposits of refractory ores, and interested parties would do well to communicate with Mr. Macathur. He has just been visiting the mines in the Western States, and is now on his way home. The Cassels Company have works in Australia and New Zealand, in addition to their Glasgow works, and their process is about being put into operation in South Africa and the United States.

YARMOUTH COUNTY.—*To the Editor of the Critic:*

Gold mining has not been carried on very vigorously the past six months. The Carlton mine was run by Mr. Morrison during the winter months and turned out very well, the ore going an ounce to the ton. At Kemptville Mr. Nash, who bonded the Reeves mine, has rebuilt the five stamp crushing mill and has been running the mine and mill since the first of March with four men, they have taken out sufficient ore to keep the mill running most of the time, the value up to the first of June being about seventeen hundred dollars. This month they will increase the amount as the ore is much richer in the other lead. Nothing has been done this spring at the Cowan and Ryerson mines, as both are in the market for sale. Lately several American speculators have been looking them over, and no doubt they will be bonded in a few weeks. The Cowan mine and plant is in good order, and can be started in a few days without much expense. The Ryerson mine has only been partly prospected; one large six foot lead was opened two years ago milling eight dollars per ton, and the rich swamp lead was also opened. With very little more work this property would no doubt be found to be one of the best in the county.

At Chegogin Mr. Huntington has done some work at Chegogin Point, the large leads there, the ore looks well but none of it has been milled. Some parties from New York have been up looking at it, and may make a purchase.

A Pictou paper says:—The discovery of anthracite at Cheticamp is authenticated by Capt. LeMaistre of the Beaver. The Capt. says that the coal is hard and bright, closely resembling the Lehigh article. A productive anthracite mine would be a bonanza to Cape Breton and the province generally.