

the plaintiff out an honest man than he claims to be. The defendants' witness, Hanlon, who was the plaintiff's distiller, swears that he does not believe that the plaintiff defrauded the Government to the extent which the latter claims to have done, and that it was impossible for so much whiskey to have been taken away from the distillery at night and stored around the country without arousing his (Hanlon's) suspicions. The issue is, gentlemen of the jury, Has Wyllie sworn falsely in support of the claim against this Insurance Company? If he has, you will find for the defendants; if he has not, you will find for the plaintiff.

Verdict rendered for defendants.

Lindsay, April 4.—This afternoon, about 3:30, a destructive fire broke out in a frame house, owned and occupied by A. Lacourse, barrister, of this town, which was totally consumed. The furniture was partially saved: uninsured. The building was insured in the Western for \$700. The origin of the fire is unknown.

GOLD MINING IN NOVA SCOTIA.

The following is from the official report of the chief commissioner of mines for 1870. The net revenue exceeds that of the previous year by the sum of \$4,616.76, there being an increase of revenue of \$2,966.09; and a decrease of expenditure of \$1,650.67. This may appear to some to be but a small addition, but when it is known that there has been an increase of \$10,456.74 royalty on coal, and \$1,183.40 royalty on gold, it shows a much more healthy state of the mining interest than in 1869. The accounts that show a decrease are: Rents and prospecting licenses for gold, and licenses to search and work for coal, which are yet much too large, as they are mostly kept up by speculators, and by parties holding mines that are not now at work. There are many reasons for this, but the principal one is, the mode of forming companies. The company is formed; the stock 100,000 shares, at \$1 per share. These are sold for a few cents, and when a call is made the money is not forthcoming, and the property has to be sold to pay the debts. Speculating has also been very detrimental to the mining interests, as now there are a number of paying mines (judging from returns) that are not working, from the want of means to put up necessary machinery, etc., there having been so many worthless properties sold that capitalists are afraid to have anything to do with them. I do not expect, neither do I wish to see a return of the mania of 1867 and 1868; what I expect, and what I wish, is to see a steady increase of royalty, and the rents and licenses only sufficient to keep up legitimate mining. Any more is prejudicial to the mining interest of the Province, which interest, as the cost of treatment is reduced, and better modes of mining and amalgamating introduced, must grow to be a very large and important one. It has been said by one well qualified to judge that, "taking into consideration the mode of mining and amalgamating pursued in this Province, the wonder is not that the mines are in a depressed state, but that any are at work, and it is only from their extraordinary richness that there are any at work." The above remarks more particularly apply to gold mining. As for the coal mines, there are a number so well equipped that they would be a credit to any country, and could now supply any demand that will likely be made on them for some years.

Stornont.

The District, although shewing an increase over that of the returns of last year, has not come up to what was expected.

The United Mining Association, "limited," has done the largest business, and is likely to prove a success. Their crusher is driven by water-power, and has 15 stamps, and is capable of crush-

ing a large quantity of quartz. It commenced work in July, but from a scarcity of water, the amount of work done was small until the Fall rains. This will not again occur, as the mill is supplied from a large lake by a canal cut during the summer. The returns by this company are, 1,360 tons crushed, yielding 453 ozs. 19 dwts. 9 grs. There has been a new mine opened at Johnston's Brook, at the head of Country Harbour, which promises exceedingly well.

Wine Harbor.

In this District there has been a large reduction in the number of men employed as compared with last year. Two mines only have been at work to any extent, namely, the Eldorado and the Gladstone. The yield of gold is, however, larger, and has left a considerable margin of profit. There have been 2,356 tons of quartz crushed, yielding 914 ozs., 15 dwts., 14 grs. Of this was returned from the Eldorado 1,727 tons, yielding 733 ozs., 6 dwts., 14 grs.; and from the Gladstone 496 tons, yielding 171 ozs., 15 dwts., 07 grs. It is a matter of regret that this District continues in such a depressed state. It would, perhaps, be hard to say that mismanagement is the sole cause, but a change of Managers by one of the above companies resulted in a profit of about \$1,000 per month.

Sherbrooke.

This District shows an increase of 1,588 ozs. over that obtained last year, with 72 tons less quartz crushed; the rate per man has also increased, viz., from \$765.76 to \$840.63 per annum. There has been 11,428 tons quartz crushed, yielding 7,134 ozs. 4 dwts. gold. A large part of this has been from four companies, viz.:

	Tons.	Ozs.	Dwts.	Grs.
Dominion.....	3,630	1,465	02	12
Palmerston.....	2,018	776	03	00
Wellington.....	2,698	2,162	10	02
New York & Sherbrooke.....	1,837	1,811	19	04

There are, besides these, a number doing a smaller business, some of them quite profitable, viz., Messrs. Snow, Cleverdon, John McDaniel, Warren, Twist, Hamilton and others. From the commencement of Gold mining in this Province, Sherbrooke has been prosperous.

Cochran Hill, although a part of the Sherbrooke District, lies about 8 miles northwardly from the mines at Sherbrooke. Although there has been some mining done during the year, it has not come up to what was expected, at the same time there is no doubt but that several of the lodes opened, if properly mined, would prove profitable.

Tangier

May now be considered one of the permanent gold-producing Districts. In the past year there has been crushed 2,753 tons of quartz, yielding 1,814 ozs. of gold, 2,605 of the above were from the mines owned by the Humber, Burlington and Strawberry Hill companies. The Humber company's works are at Old Tangier, about 12 miles north from the harbor of Tangier. There is on the works an 8-stamp crushing mill, driven by steam-power. The present crushing power is totally inadequate to reduce the rock now available. There is now completed an adit, driven from near the water level of the river into the hill, a distance of 450 feet, with a cross-tunnel that cuts the principal lodes at a depth of about 50 feet, thereby securing drainage for extensive workings. There has been crushed during the year 712 tons of quartz (yielding 386 ozs. 15 dwts. of gold), principally obtained from the adit and other permanent works. This mine is considered to be a very promising one, as the lodes are numerous; some are large, and some have proved rich. The greatest drawback to this mine is the difficulty of access, as the road from the harbor is a very poor one. The Burlington company's mine is situated at the harbor of Tangier, and was formerly owned by the New York and Nova Scotia company. The crusher is driven by steam-power, and has 8-stamps. It is now being enlarged to 16-stamps. The lodes worked are the

Nigger and Leary. There has been a large amount of dead work done in sinking and tunnelling, to concentrate the water to one point in each lode, so as to be economically pumped to the surface. Both lodes are now opened in such a manner that a large amount of quartz can be mined at a very small expense. There was crushed during the year 1,104 tons, yielding 548 ozs. 10 dwts. The Strawberry Hill Company's mine is situated at Strawberry Hill, near the head of Pope's Harbor; their crushing mill is driven by steam-power and has 10 stamps. The lodes worked are the Wallace, Forrest, Hill, Tunnel, and Dunbrack; there was crushed during the year 789 tons, yielding 838 ozs. This mine has hitherto been worked by a number of separate workings on the richest places; it is now proposed to work a lower grade of rock on a larger scale, and have the works more connected for draining and hoisting purposes; although greatly disturbed by faults, yet from the low price that a large quantity of a low grade of quartz can be obtained with the rich bands, there can hardly be a doubt that with judicious mining, this mine can be worked at good profit for many years. Mr. Andrew McG. Barton has a property adjoining the Strawberry Hill mine, on which there has been some prospecting and mining done; he has an 8 stamp mill driven by water-power.

Waverley.

In this District the only operations carried on are by the Lake Major and Rockland, under the superintendence of Thos. J. DeWolfe, Esq., and the American Hill and Waverley companies, under the superintendence of W. H. Clarke, Esq. Mr. Burkner has erected an engine and pump on the property under his superintendence; this is now about ready for work. The works have all been of a very limited character, the returns being only 2616 tons crushed, yielding 811 ozs., 03 dwts., 21 grs.; of this a large part was from the old dumps.

Oldham.

This District returns more gold in the past year than in any year previous, viz., 2644 tons of quartz crushed, yielding 2052 ozs. of gold. The mining in this District, with the exception of the Sterling and Oldham and Boston Companies, has been by individual efforts, although the most expensive, and was during the past year wonderfully successful. The Oldham and Boston have paid fair dividends. The Sterling, although a large sum of money was expended in a crusher, and opening up the works, has not as yet proved a success; this, I judge, was largely due to defect in amalgamating, as from a lode that had returned over an oz. to the ton before, and has returned since, 1½ ozs. to the ton, 358 tons were crushed that only gave 182 ozs., with a loss of 25 lbs. of quick-silver. From the Hall lode, which has been abandoned for some years, from the intervention of a fault, 106 ozs. 13 dwts. was obtained from 1½ tons of quartz. There is no doubt as to the richness of the Oldham District, but while the appliances put into the hands of amalgamators are such (and they do not know any better than to work with them) as that 25 lbs. of quick-silver can be lost in crushing 358 tons, and that not known until the operation is completed, we must expect failures. There are three crushers, two driven by water-power, and owned, one by Mr. Robt. G. Fraser, and the other by the Oldham Company; these are principally employed by the different small mines, of which, in this District, there are so many; the third is driven by steam-power, and is owned by the Sterling Company.

Renfrew.

The returns from this District, for the past year, are less than for any year since 1865, being 3243 tons crushed, yielding 1171 ozs., 18 dwts., 11 grs. There have been no extensive operations attempted. A number of small works are employed, and the old companies are working in a small way.