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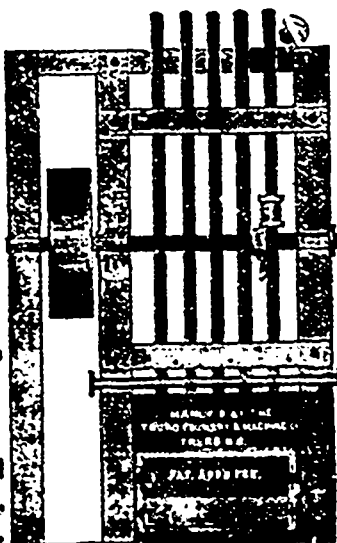
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MINING.

The gold mining outlook of the Province never was so bright as at present, and the cause of the prosperous condition of the industry is easily accounted for. When gold was first discovered there was a wild rush to the gold fields, money was most injudiciously expended by men who knew nothing about mining; and as an inevitable result, many of the mining ventures proved complete failures. Not all of them, by any means, as the Lawsons, the McClures, the Snows, and many others, accumulated large fortunes with the primitive machinery at their disposal, and a reference to the Mines Reports will show that from the commencement the yield of gold in proportion to the money invested and the labor performed, has been larger in Nova Scotia than in any other part of the world. But in spite of this, the fact remains that the large companies from abroad, first operating in the Province, met with very poor success. Reckless managers were appointed, who squandered the funds on surface plant and machinery, and spent most of their time in fishing and shooting. As a result the end was disaster, and in the London market the gold mines of this Province were damaged to an extent hard to realize when the true cause of failure is known. In fact to this day there is very little use in applying to London for money to work our mines, and we are practically cut off from the world's great centre of capital. This is not an unmixed evil, as London company promoters and London capitalists, at least many of them, seem to care more to make their thousands in floating a mine than in working it successfully. Nothing but a bonanza mine can stand the attacks of these princes of hoodlums and have anything left for the shareholders, and as we do not claim this as a bonanza country the chances of any of our gold mines turning out profitable investments when floated in London are indeed slim. The present growth of the industry is a healthy one, largely free from speculation in its wilder forms, and has been brought about by judicious investments of comparatively small capitals in the hands of practical miners, many of them Nova Scotians who have served a long apprenticeship in the actual working of our gold leads. These men know exactly how to go to work, do not see the necessity for thousands of dollars of capital, but with the small sums at their disposal, carefully feel their way, and when the development of the mine warrants it, put up small crushing plants and are soon pounding out gold enough to pay working expenses. It often happens that a few months work repays all the outlay and yields a handsome profit besides. In this careful manner most of our paying gold mines have been developed, and the steady returns have drawn to the Province numbers of practical mining engineers and miners from the States who have not been slow in discovering that our gold mines are most profitable investments, and have so reported to capitalists in this country. The result is that to-day many mines are being purchased at far figures, and judicious business men stand ready to snap up any good properties that may offer. The industry is still in its infancy, but the field is a large one and such rapid progress is now being made that we are safe in predicting that a very few years will prove to the world that Nova Scotia gold mines are of incalculable value.

(From Our New York Special Correspondent.)

The following appeared in the New York Evening Telegram of the 3d inst., and has attracted quite a deal of attention and curiosity to know if the sale is genuine, and the property worth the amount paid, as the price—one hundred thousand dollars—is a pretty good round sum:—"We Buy Halifax Gold Mine.—Halifax, N. S., Sept. 3.—The Northup gold mine at Rawdon has been sold to an American syndicate. The price paid is said to be \$100,000." On referring to the "Report of the Department of Mines of Nova Scotia for the year 1888," "The Northup-Dimock Company of Central Rawdon, presumably the same property referred to in the despatch, began milling in August, and up to the end of the year had returned 835 ozs. from 37 tons of quartz, etc." This is pretty good for a starter, but can it be kept up anything like that proportion? Who the parties are who have gone into the syndicate has not leaked out as yet, but it is hoped that justice will be done the property, and the scheme not made one of the "stock jobbing order," as has been too frequently done by those who have had charge of Nova Scotia properties. It is rumored that a Company is being formed to work the "Mill Village" property, situated, I think, in Lunenburg County. Some developments have already been made, the ore running 5 ounces to the ton. If this is verified by tests now being made, the probabilities are that a fully equipped plant will soon be stirring up that section of the Province. The parties interested, so says report, "will run it on business principles, and not list the stock." Probably not, as long as it pays well as private enterprise.

Yours,

PRICE'S LODGE.—The excitement over the discovery of gold at Birch Cove has been heightened by the claim of Mr. Gray, the owner of the freehold, that he was the discoverer of the district and that he had been "jumped" through the agency of the expert whom he had sent to inspect the property. The matter has now been amicably arranged through the transfer to Mr. Gray by Mr. Archibald of a third interest in the 30 acres. It is of course only a prospect, but already mining men are giving their opinions pro and con. It seems to be a fact that the ground has been prospected at different times and abandoned, but that is no reason why the present discovery should be condemned until some development work has been done. The advocates of the district claim that the rich Montague lead which are almost due east on the other side of the Basin crop up here, and that development will prove that a most important discovery has been made. To practically test the question Mr. Archibald will at once sink a shaft on one of the leads, which at the surface averages 12 inches wide and will