

machinery of the rolling mill producing them. Thus, we have in this country, mills which on the blooming train roll down sixteen to eighteen inch ingots to four inch blooms, the bloom being really the product of the first rolling on what is called the blooming train. The majority of mills, however, do not break down or bloom in the first rolling to much less than six or seven inches square, the billet train rolling them down to four inches or less. You see therefore that a 4 x 4 piece of steel may be the Bloom of one works and yet the same sizes may be the Billet of another establishment. Where the two are brought together under one classification in one paragraph and intended to cover the general merchantable article of unfinished steel intended to be re-rolled, a very much wider range of sizes is to be expected. We would place the minimum at one and a quarter inches square, and would certainly increase the length to ten feet, instead of five. Your dimensions on Slabs seem to us also to be too restricted. We would make them at least twenty-four inches combined measurement, with thickness not less than one-half inch and length not less than twelve nor greater than one hundred inches. Recent rolling mill practice has very largely changed the range in sizes, as you may observe, and has made it a good deal easier for the works re-rolling purchased steel to get nearer to the dimensions of their finished product."

### EN PASSANT.

Mr. George W. Stuart, Truro, the subject of our portrait this month, has been a prominent figure in Nova Scotia gold mining for more than twenty years. A Nova Scotian by birth and education, he came to the front with the discovery of the Rose Lodge at Montagu in 1879. In 1880 he also prospected in the Salmon River district and located the celebrated Dufferin gold mine. The story of the discovery of this property read like a page of fiction and has been told already in these columns, (see also *Canadian Mining Manual*, 1893). The success of the Dufferin mine, in its protracted litigation as to title, and in its early years of productive working was largely due to the ability of Mr. Stuart. His unremitting efforts during the progress of the suits ultimately told upon his health, and he was compelled in 1883, to go to Mexico for a rest. Gentle, modest, and of a warm impulsive nature, George Stuart has cut out for himself a standing in the esteem of the gold mining community of Nova Scotia that is excelled by none. His merits as a mining engineer are untiring energy, keen perception, good executive ability and economy in workings and plant. Mr. Stuart has several interests in gold mining properties in the province, and occupies the position of Manager to the Caribon Gold Mining Co., Ltd.

We are pleased to observe the *Stellarton Journal* giving prominence to a flat contradiction of the eadlish and untruthful story that the recent trouble at the Joggins colliery was largely

due to the new manager's unpopularity with the men. Mr. Archibald is a capable, experienced manager, and a gentleman who, though with us but a few months, has earned the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact.

The annual gathering of the members of the Royal Society of Canada, has just been held in Ottawa, and the proceedings remind us that this remarkably exclusive body bleeds the Dominion treasury every year to the extent of \$10,000. This seems a big price for the country to pay for an annual volume of dry-as-dust, doubtless of value in its way, but comparatively insignificant in its practical service to the country. We say comparatively, for we have in our mind's eye certain mining organizations which are accomplishing good work in promoting the development of the resources of the Dominion to whom the tenth portion of this truly royal grant would be a boon—but then, as everybody knows, all mining men are millionaires, and they do pay their annual subscription, which the royal pundits don't. One cannot refrain from reproducing in this connection the graphic picture given in *Nature* by Prof. Tilden, of the productive performances of these organizations. Referring to his experience with the work of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, he writes: "As a sectional secretary I have read papers (other people's) at three o'clock in the afternoon to an audience consisting of a vice-president, impatient to follow the president to lunch, two reporters who were not listening, and my wife making signals of distress from a back bench." As a sectional president I have sat at the same hour, luteless and weary, while a paper which seemed as long and discursive as the story of the Ancient Mariner, was droned forth by the author to an audience of about three persons fidgeting like the belated wedding guest. I wonder whether this sort of thing is supposed to be of any use to anybody?"

Mr. J. B. Tyrell is reported to be moving heaven and earth, metaphorically speaking, to renew those heroic exploits in the "barren land" of which we have all heard so much from stud-headed newspaper interviews and platform discourses. Perhaps it wouldn't be a bad scheme to send him back to the wilds of Chesterfield Inlet, if only to recover the instruments and equipment which he abandoned in his frantic rush from "starvation" (sic). At his own expense, however, as we hardly think the Government can afford to cripple the real work for which the Survey exists by another lavish expenditure, a fraction of which, if spent where it ought to be in investigating the geology and mining occurrences of our new mining fields, would be of benefit to the country.

The Geological Survey was never meant to father budding explorers thirsting for notoriety.

Talking of the Geological Survey reminds us that the Museum has been enriched by a very fine series of photographs of our nickel phos-

phate and asbestos mines. Also that Mr. Coatsworth, M.P., has asked the Government to produce a return showing: 1st, what number of its reports have been gratuitously distributed each year? 2nd, what number have been sold each year, and what amount has been realized from such sales? 3rd, what number of these reports for each year, now remain in the Department for sale, and at what price they are held. All of which should produce a discussion that will be interesting.

The Copper Creek Mining Company has authorized an expenditure of an additional \$10,000 for further development work on its property at Point Mamaine, Ont. The location covers about 11,000 acres, and has been well tested by the diamond drill. A shaft now down 300 feet will be continued, and other work will be done during the season, which, it is hoped, will further demonstrate the extent and value of the veins already cut. The work is under the superintendence of Captain Tom Tretheway an old experienced miner in the Lake Superior country.

This is what the *Marchion Miner* says about mining experts: "We have been asked for a definition of an 'expert.' The contract is a big one in the face of the varied species rife on this field. But if anyone wants an idea of mining experts, let him send a messenger to this office, and we will supply him with at least ten mining experts an hour—an inexhaustible supply. But for the definition. Experts are men who write lying reports to mislead the public, and the expert that fails to secure his bit when his pocket of lies are handed in, is not very smart in finance, however proficient he may be at whoppers!"

The proposed exhibition of Canadian minerals by the Dominion Government at the Antwerp exhibition has been abandoned.

Prof. A. P. Coleman, of the school of Practical Science, Toronto, lecturer in assaying and metallurgy, has, we understand, been delegated by the Ontario Government to conduct a course of lectures in the North Shore region, for the benefit of the prospectors and miners of Nipissing, Thunder Bay and Rainy River districts. The class will be opened about the first of June, and the professor will show the prospectors the simpler methods of testing and identifying the different species of ore. Each prospector will be expected to provide himself with a blow-pipe at a cost of \$3.

The Hamilton Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., now building a furnace at Hamilton, Ont., has, we understand, contracted with the Philadelphia Engineering Company of Philadelphia, for the construction of the machinery and plant. The contract price is stated to be \$360,000.

The Dominion Coal and Coke Co., Ltd., which has been mining on a limited scale at Estevan,