"That's why we are willing to buy. If there is no more ore in your mine than I can see, we shall make a bad bargain in paying you the value of that visible ore for the property." When the owner retorted that if he was to get no more for his mine than he could see in it he had better keep it and work it himself, Mr. Hearst would bid him do so. "Wo" he would say, "are not hankering after your mine. We think well enough of it to give you cash down the money which you can probably take out of it in three or four years' work. We look to the invisible supply for our profits." Of course, Mr. Hearst was not, in late years, a seeker after and purchaser of mere "prospects." He was a "mine" buyer. The rule he followed, as indicated above, is the one new adopted by all conservative mire buyers. While that rule can be followed in buying mines, it cannot be followed in buying prospects. Often the prospect has little or no ore visible. This is not because a ledge is not visible, but because the ledge has not been exposed below the surface. Therefore, the value of the ground is in a great inessure speculative, and its owners have some justification in asking a price above the apparent value. There are hundreds of such prospects in the country, and intending buyers should be willing to discount an inviable ore supply. At the same time owners should not expect "mine" prices for "prospects."

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The gold mining outlook is steadily improving, and preparations for a vigorious prosecution of the business in all mining camps are now well under way. Finds and rumors of finds of great value are reported and denied, and at present it is almost impossible to give reliable information on several matters that have reached our ears. One great drawback in gold mining is the unchanitable way that miners and other interested parties persist in running down properties in which they are not interested. The sist in running down proporties in which they are not interested. evil is a growing one and does great harm with no possibility of resulting good. In many cases a love of gossip is the moving cause and no harm is intended, but envy and jealousy also play their part, and when parties deliberately and with malice aforethought seek to injure a property they should be brought to book. One or two examples made of these similarers would have a wholesome effect, and some one should move in the matter.

STEWIACKE VALLEY .- The work of developing the conglomerates near Brookfield is now being judiciously prosecuted, and before long the value of the district should be definitely ascertained.

ISAAC'S HARBOR .- The last clean-up on the North Star property resulted in a good-sized gold brick, on which there was a handsome net profit over and above the working expenses. There was an explosion of dynamite at the works which happily was unattended with less of life or injury to the miners, though how they escaped is a mysery. The machinery also escaped damage, although the shaft house was weeked, and so work at the mine was not impeded. How the accident occurred is not definitely settled, but it seems to be the old story of thawing out frozen dynamite.

MOOSELANDS -Good reports continue to arrive in regard to the work on the Mooselands Mining Co.'s property, the latest being that a large and rich lead has been found.

The Joseph Kaye and Win. Symonds's gold crusher, together with about 30 acres of Lind, situate on Lake Loon Brook, at Montague gold district. were taken possession of Monday by the Sheriff and handed over to the plaintiffs in the cause, C. F. Fraser, Lewis P. Fairbanks, et al, plaintiff, and Joseph Kaye and Wm. Skerry, defendints, judgment having been given last December by Judge Townsend, ordering possession to be given of the premises by the defendants to the plaintiffs. There is now to be a reference to ascertain the mesne profits to be accounted for and paid over to the plaintills. Proceedings commenced in 1870.

"In the East Brook," writes Mr. Hugh Fletcher, "which flows into Stewiscke River from the south, about eight miles above the station, a seam of coal, apparently not exceeding eighteen inches in thickness of mixed coal and carbonaccous shale, was lately opened. A horing sunk about 80 feet at Johnston Brook, not far distant, is said to have cut black gypsum, and the coal is probably about the same horizon as that of Kennetcook. The celebrated scythestone of Birch Hill, a fine gray sandstone, with sharp grains of silica, is found in the same neighborhood. Coal was also reported to occur at Selma, but the report seems to have avisen from the presence of thin bands of dark groy shale, marked with fossil plants, among thick bods of grey flinty sandstone, which forms barrens in the neighborhood. At the request of Mr. Robert II. Fraser, Superintendent of the Nova Scotia Central railway, a visit was paid on the 20th of October to borings made in search of coal at Sps Springs, Annapolis county. One hole had been sunk 100 feet, but nowhere in the neighborhood were rocks seen in which coal could reasonably be expected to occur."

An accident happened in the Sydney mines, whereby a man named Jesso, belonging to Bras d'Or, lost his life, being killed instantly by a fall of coal. His brother-in law, a man named Meredith, who was working with him, was injured, but not seriously.

Letters from Rev. W. A. Mazon, Georgetown, P. E. I.

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