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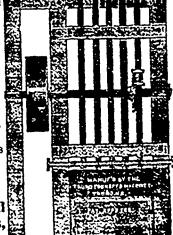
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MINING.

Mr. Gilpin in his report gives an interesting summary of the work done during the past year in the different mining districts and we continue in this issue to quote his remarks under the heading of "gold" :-

It is to be regretted that I have to note the dismantlement of the fine milling plant, built by Fraser and Chalmers, for Mount Uniacke, a few years ago. I understand that this mill was put up to work low grade ore ground. I am myself a believer in the future dependence of our gold mining on the low grade ores, but have never yet seen a low grade ore mining enterprise established on a firm and lasting basis, when the supply of ore was looked for in broken ground. If I might venture to put in words my idea of how a low grade ore property should be put on the market as a business speculation for investors, I would say that it should comprise a block of ground ample in size, that at least six separate and distinct tests of 250 tons each should be made over the property, and there would then be some guarantee of permanency, and a fair criterica of value. I believe, from my visits to. various districts, that there exists at many points large bodies of low grade ores, running from 2½ to 4 dwts. to the ton, which could be profitably handlcd. But such enterprises not presenting the allurements of the lotteries of rich veins, they should be carefully selected, and thoroughly tested before systematic work is commenced.

During the past season I have had the assistance of Mr. F. W. Christic in inspecting the western mines, and of Mr. Wm Madden, Jr., Deputy Inspector, who visited the principal mines east of Halifax. Mr. Christie

reports as follows on the Queen's County Mines:-

Gold mining has been vigorously prosecuted in the districts in the northern part of the county. Most of the work has been confined to regular mines in Brookfield, Malaga Barrens and Whiteburn districts. Prospecting, which is always interesting to the people of new districts, has been greatly hindered by the exceptionally wet season that has continued since the spring. Very few new discoveries have been reported. Despite some failures, mining business has materially improved, and has caused an improvement in general trade of the county. Considerable interest in these districts has been awakned by the enquiries of outside capitalists looking for mining investment. Good care is shown in the underground workings and in timbering, and although a great mony unskilled men are employed, very few accidents have oecurred.

Brookfield .- Work in this district was resumed after the discovery of the "I)unbrack" vein. This vein partakes of the character of a true fissure vein in intersecting the country rock instead of conforming to it, as the leads in this county do in general. The quartz or pay ore had a width in a good part of the mine of from twelve to fifteen inches, and some mouths gave returns of five (?) ounces per ton. The property was bought by the Philadelphia Mining Company, who have put up shaft houses and built a tramway to the Brookfield Company's mill, which they leased. Prospecting was gone

into to some extent, but was retarded by the very wet season.

Malaga Barrens — Business in this district has been very brisk during the past year. A large number of buildings of all kinds have been put up. The population of the mines has increased to nearly 400 people. A new road of six miles in length has been built from the mines to Chelsea Settlement in Lunenburg County, making the distance between the mines and Bridgewater about twenty miles. Another piece of road about a mile and a half in length connects the road to Cholsen with L. Belle, giving a shorter route to Liverprol and Port Medway. A small steamer has run on Ponhook Lake, from points on the lake to the mines, thus affording extra accomodation for passenger travel and freight traffic. The Malaga Company have been operating three mines on their properties, and twenty stamps in the crusher. Development work has been vigorously pushed in the three mines, and they are well equipped. The Parker Douglas Company have re-opened their property, and are mining on two veins showing abundance of good ore. The Company have built a crusher and a number of buildings for carrying on the business of the mines on their property. They have put in a plant for supplying compressed air to drills in sinking shafts and driving tunnels. They have also bought a large number of areas lying east of their first property, and purpose to work them during the coming season. The Minneapolis and Malaga Mining Company did a large amount of development work on the veins on their property, and built a 20 stamp mill, but on account of the unsatisfactory nature of the yields from their ore tests, they contemplate a stoppage of the work.

Reports of discoveries and prospecting were made from different parts of the county, as West Caledonia, Westfield, Lake Rosignol, Greenfield, Broad

River, &c. The returns show that there were 22,625 days' labor performed, 4,518 oz 14 dwts. 6 gis of gold extracted, and \$5,69400 paid for rights and royalties.

In Yarmouth County there is nothing new to report

In Lunenburg County prospecting was carried on extensively at soveral points, but not much active mining performed. There were a few lots crushed by the Millipsigate Company. In the fall a good deal of attention was directed towards the eastern end of this district.

In Hants County, the Rawdon United Mining Company made returns

up to August, principally from Loase 254, when their mill was destroyed by fire.

The Northrup-Dimock Company, of Central Rawdon, began milling in August, and up to the end of the year had returned 835 ounces from 375 tons of quartz, etc. The lead here runs across the strata, and considerable amounts of the surface rock are rich enough to warrant crushing.

At Mount Uniacke proper there was no work of any note performed during the year.

(To be Continued.)

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