

## MINING.—Continued.

MR. EDITOR,—The Mines and Minerals of Nova Scotia are of little value, if it not properly developed and utilized. The gold fields in this country are extensive and rich, but mining for gold has been carried on in so imperfect a manner in most of the mines that results have been such as throw discredit on the enterprise generally; and the rush which had set in and drew men from all parts of the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America subsided, and the gold mining became, with few exceptions, almost a dead letter. The old districts were almost deserted until within the last two or three years. Oldham, one of the oldest mining places in the country, pursued operations in a limited way until within a year or so Mr. Hardman came there, bought up the crushers and mining areas, and is now successfully carrying on the business and being possessed of the modern appliances for mining and taking the gold from the rock, is now doing a profitable business. The Donaldsons and Reeves are working their property, one lead of which gives from 4 to 7 dwts, and is 15 inches wide; another lead of 4 feet wide gives 5 dwts.; another lead of 13 inches gives 9 dwts; another lead, from 8 to 16 ozs per ton. As it is with Oldham, so it is with most of the old districts. Montague, which lay unworked for years, is now under the management of Mr. Baker, and is now yielding richly.

Messrs. Lantz and Ernst, of Bridgewater, who have been spending a few weeks prospecting at Brookfield, in this county, have been successful in striking what is more than likely to prove a most valuable gold deposit. As a result of this operation, a belt of leads has been exposed, these leads varying in thickness from 4 inches to 2 feet. The specimens taken from them are remarkably rich, and experts pronounce the ore "very high grade." Brookfield, the scene of this late discovery, is within ten miles of Caledonia, which has become so well known of late, owing to the rich finds on the Hall and McGuire claims. The leads on these claims have been stripped, and worked to some extent, giving an excellent showing. A number of tons of quartz from several leads on the Hall claim were lately milled at the Millisiget crusher, near Bridgewater, and a result obtained exceeding even the most sanguine expectations of those interested, and proving, beyond doubt, that there is "big money" in Caledonia. It is said that "the best articles are done up in small parcels." Gold is one of the best articles; Queens, one of the smallest counties of our Province.

Ergo—Queens may yet turn out to be an Eldorado for gold hunters.  
QUEENS.

VILLENEUVE MICA MINE.—Recent reports from this mine are to the effect that it is producing a liberal quantity of excellent mica with but a small force of miners employed. Several experienced cutters are engaged, and find it impossible to keep pace with miners; consequently there is a large accumulation of crystals, (in the neighborhood of eight tons) awaiting the cutters to prepare them for market. A shipment of several hundred pounds of cut mica was made from the mine in October, which has been pronounced by the consignee to be of as good quality as any that has ever been mined in America—quite equal to that which he has received direct from the North Carolina mines.

The drift, or tunnel, which is being run into the micaceous lode has reached a distance of 80 feet, from the face of the mountain and has opened up a body of mica-bearing quartz in which well formed crystals are everywhere imbedded and are to be seen in vast numbers in all directions. This Villeneuve mine is certainly developing into a property of incalculable value; and ere long it will be capable of supplying almost the entire Canadian market, and it is not improbable that there will be a surplus to ship abroad.

WORK OF THE LONDON MINT.—The recently issued report of the Deputy-Master of the Mint, giving an account of the operations of that department for the year 1884, is a more than usually interesting document. From it we learn that the amount of gold coined during the year exceeded by more than a million the amount coined in 1883, while the silver coinage was but little in excess of the average. The coinage of bronze, however, was larger than in any year since 1875.

California, from 1849 to 1862, produced about \$700,000,000 in gold.

\$70,000 in gold, the result of 15 days' work at the Tradwell mine on Douglass Island, Alaska, was forwarded to Victoria, B. C., in September.

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Cape Collars, 2 Cents each.  
Cuffs, 3 Cents per pair.  
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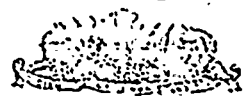
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HALIFAX, N. S., 14th Nov., 1885.

## NOTICE.

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Mails will close at this office, daily, as follows:—

For the Northern and Eastern Counties of  
Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, P.E. Island, New  
Brunswick, and the United States, at 6.45  
o'clock, a.m.

For the Upper Province and Second Mails  
for the United States, New Brunswick, and  
principal offices on the line of the Interco-  
lonial Railway at 1.50 o'clock, p.m.

Second Mails for Stellarton, New Glasgow  
and Pictou, at 1.50 o'clock, p.m.

Second Mails for Bedford, Shubenacadie  
and Truro, at 5 o'clock, p.m.

H. W. BLACKADAR,  
Postmaster.

## POST OFFICE.

HALIFAX, N. S., 25th Nov., 1885.

## NOTICE.

THE MAIL FOR THE  
UNITED KINGDOM

Per Canadian Packet from this Port, will  
close at this office every

SATURDAY,

at 12 o'clock, noon.

H. W. BLACKADAR, Postmaster.