

THE wages of South Kootenay, B.C., are said to aggregate \$120,000 a month.

J. FRASER, of Petrolia, Ont., has bought the Barnes wells, oil fields. The price paid was \$15,000.

A LARGE number of claims have been located in the Boundary Creek, B.C., district, within the past few weeks, and free milling gold ore has been found in several places.

A LARGE party is being equipped at Spokane to prospect on the Similkameen river and its tributaries in British Columbia. One prospector claims to have discovered a rich vein of gold ore there last summer.

A NUMBER of miners who have been thrown out of work by the shut down of No. 2 slope at the Joggins mines, N.S., have gone to Lethbridge, N.W.T., to work in the mines there. A large number of those affected by the shut down have also gone to Cape Breton to work.

THE Dominion Government has received word from the party sent out last year to prospect the coal oil fields of Athabasca. Throughout a section of country about 300 miles by 100 miles there is every indication of rich deposits of oil. The party made a boring about 100 miles north of Edmonton, getting a good flow of natural gas, and oil, it is expected, will soon be struck in quantities.

THE Inverness Coal Mining Co., a new competitor of the Dominion Coal Company have purchased large coal areas in the Pictou region. They are making arrangements for starting work there, hiring a superintendent, erecting coalsheds, building a tramway, buying machinery, and procuring a boring outfit. They will probably establish an agency in St. John.

A NEW industry has been started in Nova Scotia, the object of which is the refining and marketing of infusorial earth, which is found at the bottom of several lakes in Colchester and Cumberland counties, N.S. The refined product finds a ready market in the United States, where it is used in the manufacture of dynamite, steam packing, etc. The works of the company are being erected at Bass River, N.S.

THE work of the Oak Island Treasure Co. deserves to be classed among the romances of mining. This company was formed for the purpose of digging up the treasure supposed to have been concealed in Oak Island, Mahone Bay, N.S., by the noted Cap. Kidd. About \$10,000 was spent last year in excavating at a point where a mysterious tunnel exists, the mouth of which is closed at all times, except during low tides. The company are getting a 30 h.p. engine ready to renew work this season.

THE biggest asbestos boom in many years has just made its appearance in Quebec, and the mines at Coleraine and Thetford in the Eastern Townships, which have many of them been closed up during the last two years, are now resuming old-time activity. The Bell Company is putting in three new machines for crushing the ore and separating the fibre from the rock, and the Jeffrey mine has been purchased for \$150,000 by a company which is erecting a factory for making asbestos tissue, and weaving it into cloth for the manufacture of stage curtains and scenery, the skirts of variety actresses, etc.

A REPORT to the Montreal *Herald* from the Eastern Townships of Quebec, says: "Chrome iron is to be found almost everywhere in Wolfestown township. The Wolfestown range of mountains are said to be very rich in this valuable mineral. A. Blanchard, of Garthby, is now working a very rich mine, situated in these mountains, a few miles from Coleraine. A company has been formed who will buy Mr. Blanchard's rights and operate the mine on a large scale. Hugh Leonard, of Garthby, who some time ago shipped several hundred tons of chromic ore to Liverpool, has received large orders from England and Belgium. Orders from the United States are above the present output, and Mr. Leonard will be forced to double the number of his men."

AMERICAN capitalists are having tested one hundred tons of gold-bearing rock mined on the Consolidated Gold Mining Company's property, in Marmora, Ont. The vein is known to be rich in gold, but the ore is of so refractory a character that hitherto all attempts made on a large scale to separate the precious metal from its matrix have resulted in loss. That the gold was there, however, was conclusively demonstrated by the fact that parties who worked over the tailings by hand process averaged \$10 per day. In the present instance the rock will be taken to Malone, and there crushed and worked over by Mr. Lawson, M.E., who will put it through the chlorination process. This process was tried on these ores several years ago, but failed, it is now believed, because of unskillful work or carelessness as to important details. The result of this experiment will be watched with great interest.

A find is reported on the gold mining property at Pleasant Hill, Barrens, N.S.

THE Golden, B.C., smelter property and appliances are advertised for sale for a claim of \$8,108.20.

THE Hall Mines Company, Nelson B.C., are about to build a tramway from the Silver King mine to the lake.

THE Kootenay, B.C., mines, Tip Top and Copper Jack, owned by P. Aspinwall, have been sold for \$75,000. The mines assay up to \$88 in gold.

Two new shafts have been sunk to a depth of 200 feet on the Weigand mine, Rainy River Lake Co., Ont., and as soon as sufficient development work is done, a mill will be erected.

A NEW oil and gas company has been organized at Tilbury, Ont., to test for oil and gas in Essex county. The new company is called the Peninsular Oil and Gas Co. and has a capital of \$20,000.

W. DE WALBRIDGE, president of the American Coal Company, and J. Mulholland, president of the St. George's Creek and Cumberland Railway Company, intend purchasing and working large coal fields in Nova Scotia.

THE production of nickel is making more satisfactory progress in the Province of Ontario than any other branch of the mining industry. The exports from Ontario, valued at \$388,000 in 1893, increased to \$808,000 in 1894.

THE Nova Scotia Steel Co. are making extensive preparations for working the hematite iron mines lately acquired by them at Conception Bay, Nfld., and expect to have some of the ore shipped to New Glasgow by about September.

THE Golden Lode Mining Co., at South Uniacke, N.S., are putting in a new duplex compound condensing pump of the Northey pattern. This pump is the first of its kind put in at the gold mines of Nova Scotia, and will deliver the water from a vertical depth of 400 feet.

A UNION meeting of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, the Ontario Mining Institute and the Quebec Mining Association has been arranged to be held in Quebec city during the week commencing June 28th. B. P. A. Bell, of Ottawa, is secretary.

A LARGE coal basin has been discovered at Black Brook, C.B. It extends over three miles, and lying along the eastern shore of Sydney harbor there are five and a half miles of area rich in coal and prolific with seams. One seam, a large one, contains coal of a kind not hitherto mined in Cape Breton.

THE Lookout Mining and Milling Company, with headquarters at Spokane, has been incorporated. The capital stock is \$250,000, with Messrs. Kumpe, Talbott, Lindsey, and Pfunder as trustees. The company will operate the Lookout mine in the Trail Creek district of B.C., and carry on a general mining business.

J. L. SIMMONS, a former Cœur d'Alene miner, has recently discovered on a piece of land adjoining the Welgand gold mine in Rainy River Lake county, Ont., the richest ore he ever saw. The mine, according to his report, fairly blazes with gold, and samples taken to Rainy Lake went, it is said, \$500 gold to the ton.

THE gold fields in West Algoma are extending in area. Ferdinand Hille, M.E., has returned from Lake Shebandowan with some wonderfully rich samples of gold quartz. He pronounces the veins large, well defined, and well mineralized, and claims that one in particular will yield five ounces per ton, of which four ounces are for milling.

THE assay returns from the White Elephant, discovered by Hall and McCormick, are likely to cause a stampede in the direction of Stony Creek. The ore went \$28 in gold and 70 ounces in silver to the ton. It is not more than four miles from Rossland to where this bonanza was struck, and several parties have already hit the trail in that direction. The rock which gave such astonishing results is ordinary enough looking white quartz with galena and iron through it. There is no free gold visible to the naked eye. There is a strong vein of it on the ground.—*Rosslund, B.C., Min.*

THE annual report of the British Columbia Minister of Mines states that the collieries in operation during the past year were the Nanaimo, Wellington and Union, the output amounting to 1,012,953 tons. The total coal exported in 1894 was 827,642 tons, and the home consumption 165,776 tons. In order to show the standing of British Columbia coal in the California market, the following returns are set forth:—British Columbia, 649,110 tons; Australia, 211,733 tons; English and Welsh, 157,562 tons; Scotch, 18,636 tons; Eastern, Cumberland, anthracite, 16,640 tons; Seattle, Franklin, Green River, 153,199 tons; Carbon Hill and South Prairie, 241,074 tons; Mount Diablo and Coos Bay, 65,263 tons; Japan, etc., 15,637 tons.