

August, he took from another claim of only twenty-five feet frontage, five hundred and ninety-five dollars. He had seen or found nuggets worth from seventy-nine dollars up to three hundred dollars.

"John McCrea exhibited a nugget weighing twelve ounces fourteen pennyweights, besides a quantity of gold in rough nuggets, amounting to many ounces in weight.

"Your Committee, desirous of obtaining such evidence as would admit of a comparison being made with the Gold Fields of California and Australia, examined several witnesses who had been long engaged in mining operations in those countries; and the result warrants the Committee in expressing the opinion that the Canadian Gold Fields exhibit at least as fair indications as were in the first instance observable either in California or Australia; while, in certain cases, the actual average amount of gold obtained to the hand per day, quite equals the returns in those countries, except, of course, in the cases of extraordinarily rich strikes."

Within these last two years more active measures have also been taken for the development of the mineral resources of the district referred to. The country has been explored, and in some places carefully examined by scientific men and practical miners.

Deposits of gold have been found in the alluvial drifts in various places on the Chaudière river and its tributaries, the Gilbert, the Famine, the Du Loup, the Metgermette, the Des Plantes, and others. More recently, abundant quartz veins have been discovered, which have attracted capitalists from New York and Boston, and from distant parts of Canada. Several