

1888—**SPRING**—1888.

We are now receiving and passing into Stock our purchases for the approaching season.

Staple Department.

CLOSE PRICES—RELIABLE MAKES.

Dress Goods and Mantle Department.

Newest Fabrics—Increased Assortment.

Hosiery and Glove Department.

Immense Variety—Solid Value.

Millinery Department.

Our preparations in this Department are on a more extended scale than usual, and worthy the attention of all dealers in this class of Goods.

SMITH BROS.,
Wholesale Dry Goods and Millinery,
Granville and Duke Sts., Halifax, N. S.

COALS.

FOR ONE MONTH

We will sell the undermentioned Coals
at the following

LOW PRICES.

Sydney Coal at \$5.75 per Chaldron.

Victoria Coal at \$5.25 “

S. CUNARD & CO.

NORTH END DEPOT, O'NEIL'S WHARF.

SOUTH END DEPOT, DOMINION WHARF.

MINING.

NOVA SCOTIA GOLD-MINERS' ASSOCIATION.—There was a small attendance of mining men at the meeting of the above Association on Saturday last, only seven being present. These were Hon. L. L. Wadsworth, J. E. Haidman, J. M. Reid, George Stewart, C. E. Willis, J. G. Stomshorn, and B. C. Wilson. Mr. Wadsworth called the meeting to order, and there was an informal discussion as to the advisability of proceeding with the organization. It was finally decided that owing to the want of the active support of the mining community, as has been manifested by the small attendance at the meetings, and also by the fact that only about a dozen names had been signed to the roll, that the formation of the Association had better be indefinitely postponed. We sincerely regret that this conclusion had to be arrived at, but under the circumstances there was nothing else to be done. Several of our leading mining men have been indefatigable in their labor to bring about a successful organization, and had drafted a constitution and bye laws, which narrowed the membership down, so that only those most entitled, i.e., mining engineers, mine managers, and superintendents, were eligible for membership, but owing to petty causes and the fear, entirely groundless, that some members of the organization might reap special advantages, the scheme fell through.

We understand that a secret society was eventually formed by some of all of those members present, but as our representative had left the meeting at an early stage of the proceedings, we are unable to give full information.

“More than half a million dollars' worth of gold was dug out of our mines last year, and there has been more than \$8,000,000 worth extracted during the last twenty-five years, which is about all the time that the mines have been worked.”

That, says the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, was the reply given by F. W. Christie, one of the mining engineers in the employ of the Nova Scotia Government, when asked, on his recent visit to this city, about the extent of the Nova Scotia gold mines.

“Gold was not discovered there,” he continued, “until 1858, and for the first few years the discoveries did not amount to much. It was at that time thought that because of the abundance of coal in the Province, there could be no extensive gold deposits in their proximity. But valuable leads have since been struck within comparatively short distance of the coal mines. In fact, gold has been found through the entire length of the Province, a distance of more than 300 miles. It is almost entirely in quartz leads. From time to time there have been washings of greater or less extent discovered, chiefly in river sands, and at many places a diligent laborer can still wash out a dollar a day or more, with a very rude appliance. But all those washings have come from rich leads, which it is at once the object of the prospector to find by tracing back the drift of the wash. We have no auriferous deposits, properly speaking, as they have on the Australian gold fields, where the beds of old streams, fairly full of gold, have been struck at a distance beneath the surface, which was indicative of volcanic action.”

Mr. Christie is a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and we are safe in saying that the Province does not contain a man better qualified to report upon our gold-mines. He has had years of actual experience, and would-be investors would consult their best interests by consulting Mr. Christie before purchasing.

Mr. T. N. Baker, of Montague, is now manufacturing slot-punched Russia Iron Screens, with lip evenly turned, which are pronounced by leading mining men to be the best and cheapest screens for the purpose that have yet been turned out. Mr. Baker is well known in this Province and abroad as one of our practical mining men. Years of actual experience in mining and milling ores, accompanied with a close observation, have given him a perfect knowledge of crushing and amalgamating. He is, in fact, a leading authority on these points, and for the benefit of the mining community, we publish below his statement of the advantages his screens have over those of other makes, and especially over wire screens:—

- 1st. The slot-punched Iron Screens, with lip evenly turned, are the best and cheapest by 100 per cent.
- 2nd. They may be closed from 40 to 80 mesh.
- 3rd. Will not choke with proper feeding.
- 4th. No gold can reach the plates unamalgamated if the mercury is fed in quantity and frequency to suit the quality of the ore.
- 5th. A larger proportion of the gold remains in the battery than if wire screens were used.
- 6th. They can be closed as often as required, without detriment to the screen.
- 7th. The slots being perfectly uniform, no coarse grains of ore can escape.
- 8th. Large pieces of ore coming in contact with the screen do not have a tendency to enlarge the openings, as is the case with wire screens.
- 9th. When not in use they do not become charged with rust as the wire ones do.
- 10th. One of his makes will outlast and outwear five of the Chicago screens. When they become slightly worn they are easily made as good as new by placing them upon a hard-wood plank and tapping the lip slightly with a small hammer made for the purpose.

Experienced mill men who have tried the Baker screens, pronounce them the best made in America, and state that they will do better work and last four times as long as wire screens.

Mr. Baker got his idea of the screen from the article manufactured by Messrs. MacDonald & Co., Brass Founders, &c., of Halifax, but has made