

unproductive pursuits, yet the product for 1867, for eight months only, considerably exceeds that for the whole of the previous year, and if the same rate be sustained until December, Sherbrooke will contribute over eight thousand ounces to the general total.

Thirty-eight ounces of gold were obtained from alluvial soil in this district at different periods during the years 1863 and 1864, but if any has been discovered since, the discovery has not been reported.

The maximum yield is no safe indication of a generally rich distribution; but where occasional extraordinary yields do occur they prove at least the existence of paying deposits. The maximum for Sherbrooke for each successive year reads thus :—

	oz.	dwt.	grs.
1862	13	8	20
1863	146	8	19
1864	23	10	9
1865	5	0	20
1866	16	6	16
1867	13	2	4

so that this district has the distinction of having returned *the* maximum for the Province.

The parcel of quartz which gave this large yield was raised from the Hewitt claim on the famous "Blue Lode," and passed through the crusher on the 17th June, 1863. Hitherto Oldham was supposed to have given the largest special yield of any district, a quarter of a ton of quartz crushed there having produced at the rate of 116 oz., 2 dwts., 21 grains per British ton; but the writer, during his present visit to Sherbrooke, in looking over the books of the Deputy-Commissioner has had his attention directed to the original entry, corroborated by oath, of the crushing above referred to. A correction has therefore to be made in the returns of the chief officer, and in subsequent editions of the statistical chart.

The average yield of gold per ton of quartz has been continuously high in Sherbrooke, and as improved processes for extracting and saving gold are discovered is likely to become