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Mlining.

REVIEW OF MINING IN CANADA DURING

BY PROF. BELL.

GOLD .- The Nova Scotia speculative mania which commenced in 1867, and culminated in 1868, has suffered a collapse during the past year. During the excitement numbers of properties were sold, which could really claim no title to the name of "mine." In some cases these properties were abandoned as soon as examined—the examination having only taken place after the purchase had been completed. In others some work was attempted, but only to result in loss to the adventurers. Most of these doubtful enterprizes have been abandoned, and the field is now clear to the honest miner. There are at present about thirty mines being worked in the Province, all of which with few exceptions, are yielding fair profits. These profits might be very much increased if proper means were taken to save all the gold which the quartz contains. The mills in the Province are all of the same character, and worked according to the same method. The amalgamation takes place in the battery, the amalgam being caught in the copper plate in front of the battery. Some of the escaping mercury is recovered in the rifles and shaking tables, but no provision is made for concentrating the tailings and extracting the gold contained in the sulphurets. At Tangier, these tailings assayed, according to Prof. Silliman, \$15.20 per ton; at Waverley according to Mr. Perley, \$7 per ton, and at Montague, Professor Silliman, found the average to be \$16 per ton. A series of careful assays made by Mr. John Longmaid, an English engineer, proved that the tailings taken from the bank close to the Montagu mill contained \$37 per ton, and decreasing to-wards the furthest end of the heap, to \$2.80 per ton. A natural concentration had here taken place — the heavier portions consisting princi-pally of pyrities carrying gold, had settled close to the mill, while the lighter portions, poor in gold, were carried by the water to a greater dis-tance. If one half of the gold thus lost were saved by any of the well-known processes, it would, of itself, be sufficient to pay a good dividend upon the capital invested. Increased experience must bring about this improvement.

The following are the principal mines which have been worked during the past year:

Waverley District.—Prof. Hind was instructed by the local government to examine this and some other districts. His report of Waverley has been issued by the Government, accompanied by a geological map. It may serve in some measure, geological map. It may serve in some measure, as a guide to explorers, but the theory, which is the key to the map, cannot be accepted without further proof. Mr. Selwyn will probably put the matter in its true light by his proposed investigation into the geology of the gold fields during the approaching summer. Mr. Burkner has been doing considerable exploring work during the past the past year. Mr. Melntosh has summer, and has found what he supposes to be

the southern dip of the Tudor lead. The quartz varies in thickness from six inches to fifteen inches and has yielded \$17 per ton. The richness of the northern dip of this lode was remarkable. In one year he crushed 6,972 tons, which yielded 8,127 oz. 11 dwt.—an average of \$26 per ton. Fully one half of this was clear profit. Mr. De Wolfe, in the adjoining claims. has done but little mining Some work on tribute has served to keep the mill partially employed. The Boston and Nova Scotia, under the management of Mr. Clarke, is being skillfully and carefully worked. He has put down the deepest shaft in the Province, 370 feet. The Twelve stamp mill was fully employed, and work-Twelve stamp mill was fully employed, and working to a fair profit. The yield of gold from a fifteen inch lead is from \$8 to \$16 per ton.

Montagu. - This district has done better during Montagu.—This district has done better during the past year than any previous one. The average yield of gold has always been higher than that of any other district. 2.415 tons 17 cwt. yielded 4,060 oz. 5 dwt. 2 gr., or an average of \$33.75 per ton. The Albion Mine has been reopened by Mr. Walter Lawson. A new engine has been erected for pumping and hoisting; but having no crusher the quartz is crushed at the Montagu Mill. About forty men are employed, and the work being conneforty men are employed, and the work being economically done under the superintendence of the proprietor a good monthly profit results. The Montagu Mine is being worked under the management of Mr. W. H. Brown. The property being very extensive, and means limited, it has not been much explored. These ledges of values are ledges of the least o much explored. Three lodes of value were discovered during the last year, and are now being worked, while others of good promise have been opened, but await further development. A new opened but await further development. A new engine of 35 horse power has been erected on the Belt Lodge, connected with suitable pumps and hoisting gear. The last ten tons from a depth of 145 feet, yielded 23 oz. gold, or \$46 per ton. A new mill with 15 stamps is nearly completed. The machinery is all of the newest design, and is adapted to the concentration of the tailings and saving of all the gold. It will be the most complete mill in the Province, and the first to adopt the necessary improvements. Others will soon follow. The Montreal exploring Association has done nothing during the past year.

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Laurencetown.—The Westminster Mining Company, of London, purchased in May last the property formerly worked by Mr. Werner. The work has been laid out by Mr. Robinson, an engineer, sent out from England, and is being carried on by Mr. Frecheville. A vertical shaft is being sunk to intersect the lodes. It is an excellent piece of work: The mill has been remodelled, and has now two batteries of five stamps each, together with a work. The mill has been remodelled, and has now two batteries of five stamps each, together with a Blake's breaker. The prospects of the Company are very encouraging. The developments made by this vertical shaft will be watched with considerable interest by geologists, as they will tend to solve the question, whether these quartz lodes are veins formed by the folding of the strata or true interstratified beds deposited contemporaneously with the enclosing rocks. Mr. Strange, in exploring to the eastward of the Westminster Mine, discovered a large lode running nearly horizontal. The Montreal Exploring Association has done nothing during the past year with the large tract further east.