

The discovery near Nictaux, Annapolis County, made some months ago has led to the discovery of several other quartz veins showing free gold.

A stamp-mill is to be established at the McGuire gold mine at Whitburn, Pictou County, and owners of adjoining areas have consented to co-operate in defraying the cost of its erection and equipment.

Mr. James Fraser is making a determined effort to have the mining laws of the province amended. As they stand at present, they are in some respects inconsistent, although generally liberal and equitable.

The Pleasant River gold mine has been sold to a Duluth firm for \$19,000. The property has been fairly developed and promises well. The main shaft is down 35 feet, and some of the quartz now being taken out, carries 2 oz. in gold to the ton.

Recent operations by the Kempe Gold Mining Company at their mine at Little Lake, near Kempeville, have disclosed a remarkably rich lead. This has had the effect of establishing the value of Yarmouth County gold mines and the shareholders of the Kempe Company are much encouraged.

In the Oldham district there are 40 gold-bearing leads, and the output, up to the present time, has been about 2,500 oz. For many years, gold-mining in Oldham was carried on in a primitive style, trenches being made to the depth of 20 feet, which, after the quartz was taken out, were allowed to fill with water.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

There is every prospect that activity will be seen during the coming summer at the Manzanese mines in this province, notably in Albert County.

Development work will in all probability be started shortly on some important leads of stibnite discovered last autumn. Samples of the ore were assayed in New York, and found to carry 65 per cent. of antimony.

A sample of quartz from a three inch lead recently discovered near Sackville, Westmoreland County, has been analyzed in New York, and found to contain 5 oz. of gold to the ton. Experts believe that the lead increases in width below the surface.

QUEBEC.

An average of 65 men have been employed at the "Emerald" mine, Ottawa County, during the winter, and by the time navigation opens there will be upwards of 3,000 tons of phosphate ready for shipping.

The Phosphate of Lime Company have given employment to 120 men during the winter at their "High Rock" mine in Portland West, Ottawa County, and will have 3,200 tons of ore on hand for shipment when navigation opens.

Since the shipping season closed last autumn the Dominion Company have raised 3,000 tons of phosphate from their "North Star" mine in Portland West, Ottawa County, and have given employment to an average of 75 men.

We are informed that the Union Company have done good work during the winter at their mines in Portland West and have a large quantity of phosphate ready to go forward, but we have not received further particulars.

Great activity prevails at the Colcaine Asbestos Mines. The Anglo Canadian Asbestos Company have a large force at work and are putting in air-compressors, steam-pumps and drills, and other expensive machinery, with a view to equipping their mine for permanent and extensive working.

At the St. Onge Gold Mining Company's Mine, at St. George East, Beauce, work has progressed rapidly during the past month. A drift is being run from main shaft towards the centre of the old river bed. Much rich ground has been crossed by the drift and a quantity of coarse gold taken out. The objective point is now but a short distance from the end of the drift, and when reached it is confidently expected that marvellously rich ground will be found on bed rock.

ONTARIO.

(Thunder Bay District.)

Many specimens of rich ore from the east end of Silver Mountain have been forwarded by the mineral committee to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition.

Surveyor McDougall and party have returned from a new discovery which they have surveyed and Surveyor Russell is now engaged in laying out still another.

Work has been resumed on the east end of Silver Mountain and it is stated that silver is visible in the ore taken out and lying in the drift made by the Cleveland company.

It is currently reported that the Crown Point mine, a quarter of a mile north of the east end of Silver Mountain, has been sold to American capitalists who intend erecting a stamp-mill without delay.

The Peerless Mining Company, of Lake Linden, Michigan, affirm that they will soon begin to operate a claim located by their agents last year about 3 miles S. W. of the Porcupine mine.

The Algoma Mines Company have received estimates for crushing and concentrating machinery to be erected at their mines near Black Bay, about 35 miles east of Port Arthur, and will, it is thought, proceed with active mining and milling early in the spring.

Medicine Bluff, at the southwest end of Whitefish Lake, is described as a valuable location, 400 feet in height, slate capped with trap, and having veins carrying silver, gold, copper, iron, alum, etc. A tunnel some thirty feet in length has been driven into the hill to cut the vein about 250 feet below the summit.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

There are over 1,500 miners in the Granite creek, Colville and Similkameen districts, and it is expected that the number will reach 20,000 before the middle of summer.—*Yakimer Signal*.

Twenty odd white men and a number of Chinamen have started in to prepare for active mining on Scotch Creek. Reports from this camp are very favourable, and the Shuswap drift is progressing well.

The advisability of establishing a trail between Yale and Granite Creek mines is being seriously considered. It is claimed that a practical trail can be found from Yale to the mines that will not be more than half the length of the present route.

Miners have started in to work on Granite Creek and are getting good returns. Other creeks, viz., Slate, Cedar, Champion and Collins, are nearly all taken up and active preparations are going ahead for mining as soon as the ground is clear of snow.

The Tulameen river seems likely to be the principal mining ground during the coming season. The Chinese last year took out a large amount of gold; but the whites got in too late to allow of working their claims—they were, however, all well prospected.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Capitalists have taken up the Placentia mines and will work them to some extent in the near future.

A new and valuable discovery has been reported at Bell's Cove, where the copper mines have been comparatively idle of late.

The Brigus gold field has been favourably reported on by mining experts, and as auriferous quartz occurs in quantity in that region, it is expected that gold mining will be engaged in ere long.

At Little Bay copper mine, operations have been resumed under a new management. Two hundred men are now at work, and when spring opens, it is not improbable that 600 to 700 men will be employed.

Last summer Newfoundland was visited by a number of mining engineers for the purpose of inspecting certain mineral deposits. They were favourably impressed with the prospects for the future of mining industries on the island.

UNITED STATES.

All of the iron mines in the vicinity of Hillarton, Lehigh Co., Pa., are in active operation.

The present outlook for ignot copper is favourable, there being very little spot coppers now on hand.

Dividends to the amount of \$1,152,450 were paid by United States mining companies in the month of January.

Of the 4,529,869 net tons of pig iron produced in the United States in 1885, Pennsylvania made 2,445,125 tons, or over 55 per cent. of the total.

The report of the Father de Smet mine, presented at the annual meeting, shows that 106,555 tons of ore, of an average value of \$3.57, were milled during 1885. The receipts were \$381,697.41; disbursements \$226,100.66, leaving annual profit of \$155,596.75.

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