

ore of an average value of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. per ton. Mr. Dixon showed some very fine sights taken out the day of our visit; and certainly if samples count for anything the lead must be an exceedingly fine one. Mr. Dixon appears well pleased with his property; and it looks as though he had reason. Anyway the general opinion in the neighbourhood is, that he has the best little property in the district.

A PATRON SAINT.—The discovery of enormous nickel deposits in Ontario and the impetus given to mining through the great demand for that metal would seem to warrant the miners of the Dominion in adopting as their patron the bountiful St. (nickel) Nicholas, Promoters of mining companies require no patron saint, as old nick-el have them anyway.

A despatch to the *Herald* states that the output of the Springhill Mines for October was 52000 gross tons, the largest in the history of the mine. Of this amount some 50,000 tons were actually shipped. About 1,300 persons are steadily employed.

The Local Government have decided to send an exhibit of Nova Scotia minerals to the Jamaica Exhibition, and Mr. Gilpin, the Deputy Commissioner of Mines, has already communicated with a number of mine managers and others, requesting the forwarding of samples to the Department of Mines. Parties interested would do well to communicate with the Department.

In gold mining the great movement of the day seems to be in the conglomerates of Gay's River and the Stewiacke Valley. The value of the former district has been thoroughly proved, but it is the opinion of some well known experts that the Brookfield and other deposits up the Stewiacke Valley are of much greater extent, and destined to rival in value the greatest gold mines in the world. Of the enormous quantity of available ore there is no doubt, and that it may be quarried and milled at less than a dollar a ton is also assured, but until the conglomerates from all the sections have been more thoroughly tested, it would be premature to make any decided statement as to the quantity of gold that is likely to be obtained per ton. This question will soon be settled, and, we hope, to the satisfaction of those interested, as if their statements are confirmed this Province is bound to take a front rank as a gold producer.

WAVERLEY DISTRICT.—It is reported on seemingly reliable authority that the Gue and Wilson property at Waverley has been sold, and that Mr. J. E. Hardman, S. B., of Oldham, is in some way concerned, but the full facts are not yet available.

The Customs Department are making some unaccountable rulings under the Customs Act, admitting mining machinery not manufactured in the Dominion free of duty. Silvered copper plates for gold amalgamation are not manufactured here, and yet the duty is collected. At the instance of a Truro importer, who had to pay duty on such plates, and who ventilated his grievance in the *Canadian Mining Review*, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries has taken the matter up and brought it to the attention of the Privy Council for settlement. There seems to be a desire on the part of the Department to strain the concession against the importer whenever possible, a very unwise policy, and one we trust that Minister Tupper will succeed in having changed.

SALMON RIVER.—The Dufferin Mining Company return for October 103 ozs. gold, the product of 475 tons of quartz crushed.

We regret that the efforts of Sir John Thompson and Hon. Charles H. Tupper to induce a delegation of the British Iron and Steel Institute and the German Association of Smelters to visit this Province have resulted in failure, as we believe that great good would have resulted had they examined our steel and iron works and our coal and iron mines. Had the matter been taken up when first urged in *THE CRITIC* the result might have been different. As it is the Province of Ontario, which sent a special commissioner to New York to extend an invitation to the joint Associations, has reaped a decided advantage in having the ore deposits of that Province inspected by such an influential body of men.

QUEENS COUNTY.—At the North Brookfield Gold Mine prospects are as bright as ever. Besides the old leads, which are showing finely, a new one called the Nelson lead has lately been opened, which is now producing very fine ore. The last clean-up resulted in a brick of gold weighing over one hundred and fifteen ounces.

WHITEBURN.—The new mill is running smoothly at the Rossignol Mine, and the plates show the presence of gold in the quartz. "Plates looking well." The new mill at the Queens County Mine had steam up this week for the first time. The new mill at the Royal Mine commenced to run this week.

The clean-up at the Malaga Mining Co., Moilega, resulted in a brick weighing over one hundred and eighty ounces of gold. A fine property is the Malaga Mine.—*Gold Hunter.*

Mr. G. W. Lathrop, of Rochester, N. Y., a gentleman interested in the Parker Douglas Mine, is paying a visit to the Province. He is accompanied by Mr. Goodhue, and they have been looking at the Brookfield conglomerates with the intention of investing heavily, should their expert so advise. They are evidently much impressed with the prospects, and we trust to be soon able to chronicle the fact that they have taken hold of the properties.

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