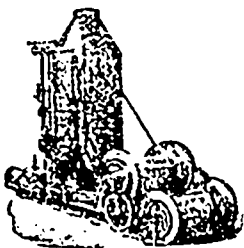




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## MINING.

We were recently shown the plan of a gold mine owned by Capt. B. Westhaver, at Wagamatkook, Cape Breton, and also samples of alluvial gold. From the description of the mine the chances are that it is a very rich one. It contains the bed of an ancient river which has long since changed its course, in the bottom of which an immense deposit of gold is supposed to lay. The territory on both sides is now taken up by American companies. And what makes the above mine of still greater importance is the fact, that from the mountainous character of the country, the American companies can only get access to their mines by using this as a base of operations. It seems to be the key to the whole situation.—*Progress.*

The mining outlook is steadily improving. In coal there is great activity, two properties, the Broad Cove and Ontario, having been purchased by parties in the United States, the price paid for the Ontario being stated to be \$80,000.

Both properties are good, the amount of coal embraced in the Ontario property being simply enormous, and the Broad Cove property being of probable equal value. In both cases the mines will be worked, largely increasing the coal output of the Province and furnishing employment to numbers of miners and others. In iron mining great progress is being made, the movement extending through all the iron districts from Annapolis, Colchester and Pictou to Cape Breton, where it is probable some important sales will be made this coming summer. Copper outside the Coxheath Mine, where very extensive works are well underway, has not made any progress, although valuable deposits are known to exist in Antigonish County and near Margaretsville, Annapolis County. The large lead and silver deposits of the North Stowiacke Valley are not being worked, and little or nothing is being done in manganese and antimony, although these ores abound in several localities.

Gold mining still remains in the same quiet condition as before reported, the old properties yielding regular profits and some large deals still hanging fire.

ORHAM.—Reports from two properties managed by Mr. Hardman (non official) are to the effect that the shaft now being sunk on the crown of the anticlinal on area 102 has reached a depth of ninety-five feet, where a previously undiscovered lead 67 inches in thickness has been discovered. It is well charged with gold and other minerals and gives every indication of proving very rich.

The Dunbrack lead is proving so rich that the miners now say that Mr. Hardman is "drawing on his bank" when the quartz from it is being taken down.

Mr. N. Logan, the manager of the Rhode Island Company, is pushing development work on the property lately acquired by the company and the prospects are unusually good.

Mr. Hamilton, the manager of the Concord Company, has been absent at his home in Boston for some weeks, but a letter recently received from him stated that he would return in three weeks and resume active mining operations.

The Local Government has notified the different coal companies that the royalty on all coal raised has been increased from seven and one half to ten cents per ton. This seems a most unwise move and one tending to discourage mining in this Province.

WHITEBURN ITEMS.—The property owned by Mr. Conant has again started work, and is showing up finely. Mike Kelly is now in charge. It is likely there will be good reports from this mine next summer.

The tributors on the Cole lead of the Whiteburn Mining Co's. Mine had a profitable month's work, and the mine yielded a good return. At the West Mine the outlook is very favorable. Under the careful management of Mr. F. B. Murchey this mine will no doubt pay a good dividend this month. A later report received just before going to press says the boys "struck it rich" this week.

Mr. G. J. Partington, Manager of the Whiteburn Co's. Mine, has gone to Halifax for a few days.

Messrs. Geo. Gammon and G. C. Smart have gone to the Lakes on a fishing excursion. We expect to receive a large basket of trout before next issue.

The Nova Scotia Gold Miners' Association held their annual meeting at the Halifax Hotel on Thursday week last in the afternoon, and terminated their proceedings with a dinner in the evening.

The most important measure discussed was the formation of a general mining association to be organized on the lines of the Quebec Association, as previously advocated in the CRITIC. The advisability of such an association was fully concurred in and steps will be taken to form a general association in which all mining interests will be represented.

Officers were elected as follows:

President, T. S. Harding, Truro; Vice-president, J. E. Hardman, Oldham; Secretary and treasurer, H. M. Wyldo, Executive committee, J. M. Reid, Oxford; B. C. Wilson, Waverley; G. W. Stuart, Truro; with the president and vice-president.

So few gold mining returns have so far been received at the Mines Office for the month of February that we shall delay publishing our usual list until later in the month.

We know that the department makes every effort to compel gold miners to make the regular monthly returns, but it is still the fact that only a very