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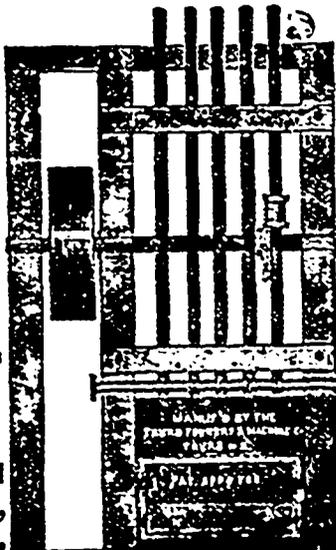
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## MINING.

There is great lack of information in the United States, even in the Hub, regarding the resources and capacities of the Maritime Provinces of Canada. Just now a discussion has been going on in the journals of Boston regarding the utilization in Massachusetts of some of the ores of Nova Scotia. If that Province would have a carefully prepared condensed and complete description of its resources in iron, manganese, and gold, prepared by the inspector of mines, Mr. E. Gilpin, who is well-known among the scientific public, published in the *Boston Herald* and paid for as an advertisement, the effect might be of incalculable benefit to that Province. Should this much be undertaken by a politician it will be of no value; it is absolutely necessary that it should have the guarantee of its accuracy in the signature of E. Gilpin or some equally well-known scientist.—*St. John Gazette*. A special correspondent of the *Boston Herald* has lately been investigating our mineral resources and as a result that widely read daily will publish some valuable information in regard to our mines and minerals.

The following, coming as it does from the great protective state of Pennsylvania, is most significant: "A manufacturing company from Dalton, Ga., underbid all other companies for a contract to furnish the iron to build 4,300 feet of fence on a new bridge at Boston. The fact is significant as showing the factor which the South is becoming in the iron trade. It also serves to more forcibly impress upon the iron men of Massachusetts the necessity, if they would remain in the field, of free ore and free coal. In 1880, New England produced 170,000 tons of rolled iron and steel; in 1887, only 102,000 tons, a falling off of 40 per cent. From 1880 to 1887, 50 per cent. of the rolling mills of Maine died, 20 per cent. in Connecticut, 50 per cent. in Rhode Island and 36 per cent. in Massachusetts. The time is rapidly approaching when the loudest demand from any part of the country for free raw material will come from New England. In fact, it may be said to be here now, as regards wool, coal and iron ore, and even pig metal."—*Pittsburg Post*.

Edison's latest invention is a patent ore separator, which is expected to revolutionize iron ore mining. The present mode of separating the ore from the earth and rock is an expensive one. The working of the new invention is explained in this way: The rock containing the ore, after passing through the crusher and being broken into pieces, is conveyed in small buckets into a large hopper. From here it sifts in a thin stream down an incline, passing within a few inches of a powerful magnet. This latter is so heavily charged as to draw the iron ore from its course into one channel, permitting the rock and other foreign elements contained in the ore to pass through a runway to the refuse pile. The invention being patented there is no secret about its working. Mr. Edison is accompanied by a number of New York capitalists. There is every reason to believe that the invention will prove a success.

**OIL IN INDIA.**—Petroleum is much more widely spread than has generally been supposed. The chief sources of present supply are the Pennsylvania oil fields, and those of Baku, in Russia, on the western shore of the Caspian sea. The product is enormous; but the use of mineral oil is now so widespread that even the vast quantities produced find markets in various parts of the world. Mr. Charles Marvin, of Kent, England, has just published a pamphlet to show that very important oil fields exist in British territory. Those of Ontario are of comparatively little importance; and those in Northwestern Canada, though undoubtedly valuable, are unknown to Mr. Marvin. That gentleman, however, describes oil wells which have been worked for more than a century on the Irawady river in Burmah. In 1795 Colonel Symes described these wells, and reported the yield to be about 90,000 tons annually. In 1835 Captain Hannay said it amounted to about 93,000 tons annually. The government restrictions were so great, however, that in late years the export trade has not exceeded 10,000 to 12,000 tons. Mr. Marvin believes that if the wells were sunk to proper depths, and if the field were properly exploited, the district would compare with Pennsylvania or Baku. On the coast of Burmah near Aracan, and on the islands near that place, oil is also found, and considerable quantities have been raised, though proper wells have never been sunk. In Assam, between the Bramapootra and the Irawady rivers, are oil fields of unknown richness; and the valley of the Indus on the western frontier of India contains two oil fields. One of these is on the left bank of the Indus, between Rawul Pindi and Peshawar. It is intersected by a railway. West of the Indus and north of the railway to Quettah is still another. If these various fields are properly worked Mr. Marvin thinks the British Empire will produce more mineral oil than all the rest of the world.

Queens County gold mining items from the *Gold Hunter*:

**WHITEBURN.**—It has been some time since we have heard from Whiteburn, but it still lives.

The Graves mine is doing well under the management of the new manager, Mr. Edward Whidden, who is a practical miner, and is well spoken of wherever he has worked. The different leads now being worked look well, which speaks prosperity for the company.

J. L. Graves Esq., is now here. We understand his stay will be short. We are always glad to see him, and sorry to have him go away so soon.

The McGuire Mine is now running full blast. Manager McLeod is still at his post, and everything is looking all right on that property.

Quite a number of prospectors are at work in this locality, and are meeting with good success. This is what Whiteburn needs to make it the best gold district in Nova Scotia.

The Whiteburn Base Ball Team is looking forward for a good day 1887.