

## MINING.

Mineral samples sent to the Critic office, accompanied by a fee of one dollar, will be submitted to a thoroughly competent assayer for a preliminary examination and slight test recontents. The results will be communicated to senders of samples, and if full assays so deemed advisable, they will be notified and instructed as to amount of fees to be remitted.

CARIBOU.—Mr. Dixon, of the Dixon Mine, brought to town last week his usual monthly gold bar, weighing in this instance 75 ozs. gold.

MOOSE RIVER.—Mr. D. Touquoy, as a result of last month's clean-up at his mine, had twin 'babies' to show, weighing together 129 ozs.

ISAAC'S HARBOR.—The North Star Mine is proving a good investment for its shareholders. The last month's clean-up yielded a gold bar weighing 132 ozs gold. The average per ton of quartz was two ounces seven pennyweights.

MONTAGUE.—The work of putting up the iron stamp mill on the Symon-Kayo Mine goes on apace. The frame of the building is up and the roof finished and by the first week in April the stamps will be dropping. This is quick work and speaks volumes for the energetic management.

The work on the Nova Scotia Gold Mining Company's property is being thoroughly done under the able supervision of the Manager, Capt. Thomas, and good future results may be looked for.

The initial crushing on the Salisbury Company's property proved disappointing, the yield from some 140 tons being only about 30 ozs gold. From the quality of the ore crushed, however, no better results should have been anticipated.

The following letter which appeared in the *Chronicle* pays such a well deserved compliment to Mr. Findlay, clerk in the Mines Department, and also so correctly voices the opinion of the Mining community on the rental system that we reproduce it:—*Sir*,—In view of that aroma of suspicion which, rightly or wrongly, has been associated with the department of mines, in the minds of mining men, through a long course of years and under successive administrations, it is pleasing to be able to call attention to an occurrence of the most gratifying character. The facts, as they have been stated to me since coming to town, seem to be these: The titles to a very large block of gold areas, upon which a large amount of outside capital is now being expended, had been filed away in the archives of the company, and the fact had been overlooked that the twenty-one years term of the leases had well nigh expired. It seems that in the ordinary course of his duties Mr. Findlay, one of the clerks in the department became cognizant of this, and supposing that the owners were aware of it took no action, until on the last day during which the titles could be saved he met a party interested and gave the information, which resulted in the saving of the titles and the prevention of a scandal which would have wrought untold mischief to our mining interests. It may be asked why I, who am not personally interested, should intervene in a matter of this kind. The answer is that it is a matter which most nearly affects every one who holds a mining lease or has business with the department of mines. Had Mr. Findlay, instead of giving the information to the proper authorities, disposed of it for a consideration to some one of the horde of sharks which continually infest the department of mines to prey upon legitimate enterprise, the result would have been a law suit and a scandal, from the affects of which our gold industry would not have recovered for many years to come. While this might be a strong argument only with speculators who have mines to sell, there is also a view of this occurrence which affects those who hold mines for the legitimate purpose of development and work. The clerks of the department are neither a wealthy nor over-paid class and while the assurance of a duty performed should be in any case a sufficient recompense, the fact that such conduct is suitably rewarded would be a great assistance in the future to resist similar temptations, and a great safeguard to others whose interests may at any future time be in like jeopardy. My principal reason therefore, for calling attention to this matter is to express the hope that the department will not needlessly place any obstacles in the way of Mr. Findlay's acceptance of whatever honorarium the gratitude of the parties he so effectually served may prompt them to tender him, and which could easily be a considerable sum and yet only a small percentage of what they would have been willing to pay the next day to restore the status quo. I am aware that exception may be taken to the publication of this letter, on the ground that to direct attention to such an occurrence is itself calculated to throw discredit upon our mining titles. This is capable of effectual answer, and although I have already sufficiently trespassed, should, I think, be answered in this connection. There was a time when I thought that a fee simple and irrevocable title to our gold mines was the great desideratum, and in conjunction with the prominent gold mining men of that day I endeavored to assimilate our titles as nearly as our circumstances would permit with the patents of the West. The history of litigation in the West in respect to that very class of titles has very materially modified our views; and I among others have come to the conclusion that the leasehold title, guaranteed by the department, offered in Nova Scotia, with the provisions for rental, surrender and continuance, possibly furnishes the simplest, safest and best gold mining title in the world to-day.

Yours truly,

J. H. TOWNSEND.

The Richmond mine, about three miles from Port Hawkesburg, which

was idle for the past 24 years, is to be worked this summer. Mr. Wither will be here this week with a diamond drill to locate a site for another shaft. A large building for boarding and an engine house is under construction, and will be ready shortly.

## THE CRAWFORD CRUSHING AND AMALGAMATING MILL.

*Editor Engineering and Mining Journal:*

SIR: Your correspondent "T," in your issue of March 4th, makes an attack on the Crawford mill which is now being tested at the Lustra Mining Company's works in Durango, Mex. This was so evidently untalented for and contrary to the facts, that the president of the Lustra Mining Company has written to this office the following letter, which we trust you will publish:

The Lustra Mining Company,  
El Oro, Durango, Mexico.

Pittsburgh, March 17th, 1893.

*The Mechanical Gold Extractor Company:*

"DEAR SIRS: We notice in the *Engineering and Mining Journal* of the 4th inst. a communication by "T," stating that he had heard of cases of the "absolute failure of the Crawford mill in treating pyritic gold ores," and cites our company giving the first experimental run made. This we think unfair to you, as we now know through some oversight the machines sent us were very defective in their construction, so much so, indeed, that it was with difficulty that we were enabled to make them hold the water and quick-silver.

"We still believe that with the mechanical defects remedied and further experiment, particularly as to quantity of water and regulation of feed, the mill will successfully treat our ores. We propose that the mill shall have a full and fair trial, and regret that any one should condemn it as a failure on a first trial and under such circumstances.

(Signed) LUSTRE MINING CO.,  
H. D. GAMBLE, President."

Permit us also to quote from a letter just received from the Powhatan Land and Mining Company: "We have no idea who could have inspired the article in the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, nor how anyone could have made any statement derogatory to our Crawford mill, for up to the present time we are all well satisfied with the mill."

This may not correct the base impression already created by "T's" letter, but it will to some extent give a quietus to it.

We shall also be glad if you will find room for the subjoined extract from an article which, unprompted by us, has recently appeared in a Salt Lake paper, and incidentally referring to the work which has been and is being done by the Crawford mill on refractory ore at Gold Camp in Kane Springs district.

"I now come to what may, perhaps, be of more general interest to the mining world than the Gold Hill mines, and that is to the work done by the Crawford quartz mill. So many contradictory reports had reached me about these mills that I was anxious to see for myself what they could really do on a refractory ore, such as this. That they can treat free milling ores on a laboratory scale I had already learned. The ores in this camp are not only refractory, but they carry such a high percentage of copper that treatment with cyanide is out of the question. The fact, then, that three of these Crawford mills, without concentrators or chemical adjunct of any kind, had been treating about 20 tons of ore daily since Sept., and saving nearly 30 per cent of the gold contained in some 2,500 tons of ore, speaks volumes for the extracting power of these new machines."

MECHANICAL GOLD EXTRACTOR COMPANY,  
N. O. ROSS, Secretary.

The Nova Scotia coal people, otherwise known as the Dominion Coal Company, are figuring on discharging coal at Boston for 75 cents per ton of freight, which might mean \$2.00 or \$2.25 coal in Boston, exclusive of the duty of 75 cents per ton. We will see what we will see, but we will certainly not see the duty taken off or reduced this year. Even with the duty repealed, the Dominion company will have a lively time of it anywhere in New England and will have to fight for whatever it gets.—*Engineering and Mining Journal*.

THE GENERAL MANAGER IN CAPE BRETON.—F. S. Pearson, Esq., of Boston, who is the general manager of the Dominion Coal company, arrived in Sydney on Saturday night accompanied by Mrs. Pearson. Mr. Pearson's present visit will be brief, as he is on his way to examine into the property recently acquired by the company. He will visit all the mines and also Louisburg, and decide upon any changes the company propose to bring about in their works. It is understood that he is favorable to making Victoria, in this harbor, the general shipping place for the mines. Nature has made Victoria a shipping place, and besides deep water and good anchorage, there is a natural breakwater behind which a hundred ocean steamers could find shelter at one time. Besides, coal shipping in any season could be carried on at Victoria at least nine months in the year, and some seasons throughout the whole year.—*N. Sydney Herald*.

CANADA.—The coal exported from Canada during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1892, amounted to 945,125 tons, valued at \$3,195,467, divided as follows: To Great Britain 22,920 tons, value \$53,101; to British Guiana 2,515 tons, value \$7,545; to British West Indies 7,081 tons, value \$18,511; to British Possessions Pacific Ocean 1,404 tons, value \$5,616; to Australia 1,102 tons, value \$37,170; to Hong Kong 9,915 tons, value \$37,170; to Newfoundland 99,972 tons, value \$202,607; to Belgium 400 tons, value