

MINING.

Mining matters in the Province have been quiet during the past week, and our correspondents in the various sections have nothing of note to report. Work at the Cowan and Reeves' Mines, Yarmouth Co., is being vigorously pushed. A large amount of quartz from the Cowan mine will be crushed in a few days. The mines in Northern Queens are being extensively prospected, and there are indications that that section of the Province may yet take the lead in gold mining.

A curious story is told as to the discovery of gold in Northern Queens. A widow named Mrs. Howe, well known in the Western portion of the Province, is said to have dreamt that gold was to be found in large quantities in a certain locality. Acting upon what she believed to be an inspiration, Mrs. H. went to the spot, accompanied by two men. The leads were found without difficulty, being exposed. The lady selected a large lead, but not finding that the quartz taken out contained free gold, as she had dreamt, she left the locality without further prospecting for it. Some time after, an Indian passing by the place where the shots had been put in, was led by curiosity to inspect the exposed quartz, and discovered that it contained many "sights," he reported his discovery to the first persons he met, and the recent gold fever in Northern Queens was the result.

Work at the Lunenburg mines has been brisk during the past few weeks, and it is thought that this section will show up well so soon as proper machinery shall have been purchased.

Montague, Oldham and Rawdon, are all doing well, and we understand the gold yield for November will be fully up to that of any month during the present year, which is saying a good deal.

Some exceptions have been taken to our remarks respecting the practice of holding mines to sell. We stated in previous issues, and we repeat, that holders of undeveloped mines have no right to expect fancy prices for their properties, unless they can give good and sufficient proof that purchasers will find value for their money. This by no means applies to properties now developed, and we cannot therefore understand why our correspondents should take exception to our remarks.

The gold belt in Nova Scotia is from eleven to fifteen miles wide. It extends from Yarmouth to Canso, but as yet has only been opened out in spots. Guysboro', Halifax, Hants, Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne and Yarmouth Counties, all contain paying gold mines, proving that the gold belt is rich throughout its entire length.

The rumour comes to us from Cape Breton that gold has been discovered on the Northern side of the Bras d'Or Lake. If the rumour proves correct, Cape Breton may add the precious metal to her long list of mineral resources.

The *Mining Review* of Chicago, which we regard as one of our most valuable exchanges, copies extensively the mining reports published in *The Critic*. It is through such channels that capitalists learn of the mineral resources of a country.

Mr. Foster, formerly of Berwick, but lately engaged in gold mining at Mount Uniacke, is now opening the leads of H. B. Webster's manganese mine, at White Rock. He says specimens so far got, are the finest he has ever seen. Mr. Foster is also negotiating for the purchase of the manganese mine on Ward street, lately worked by David D. Davidson.—*Western Chronicle*.

The oil spring, or whatever it may be, found a few days ago on Mr. Feshay's lot, in this town, continues to run. It looks seriously as though there was something issuing from the rocks besides pure water.—*Bridge-water Times*.

The gold dug from the mines in Thibet, writes a missionary, is so plentiful that it is used to cover the pinnacles of the pagodas, and is made into idols, chairs, couches and ornaments for the people.

A coal bed twenty feet thick has been found in Robertson County, Tex.

A valuable point mine has been discovered in Lishon, Mo. The earth is yellow, and has been pronounced by Prof. Stanley, of Bates College, to be a variety of sienna.

The gold mining property near Oxford, owned by Dr. Cogswell and others, is now under the management of S. J. Keyes & Co., and is likely to prove quite as valuable as the well-known Oxford mine. Quartz taken out from the first had yielded five ounces to the ton, and the other leads average from two to three ounces. Work is progressing favourably, ten to twelve men are constantly employed. The Goudge, Coleman, and Mill leads, with an angular, are said to be very rich.

Twenty-seven thousand dollars was the amount of money paid out last month for wages, etc., by the Cumberland Coal & Railway Company.

The total shipments of asbestos from Canada for the season of 1885 will aggregate 1,400 tons, or thereabouts, and the prices received for the various grades have been very encouraging to mine owners.

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