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MINING.

In spite of all appeals to the contrary it would appear that the geological maps of Nova Scotia are to be published on the reduced scale. Sir Hector Langevin in answer to an enquiry stated that this was the case, and the matter now seems settled beyond appeal. The maps of Cape Breton have been published on the scale of one inch to the mile, and are thus valuable to prospectors and others, and the reduction of the Nova Scotia proper maps to a scale of three miles to an inch, besides producing an inartistic want of uniformity in the maps, makes the scale so small that their usefulness is largely minimized. When it is remembered that all the original maps were drawn to the large scale, and have had to be reduced at considerable expense, the folly of the change becomes doubly apparent. Some pig headed official has blundered, but rather than acknowledge his error is bound to perpetuate it to the great disadvantage of the mining public. There should be an investigation into the affairs of the Department of the Geological Survey.

OLDHAM.—Extensive improvements in the plant and machinery of the Oldham Gold Mining Company, including the first Pelton water wheel put in in the Province, new hoisting gear and new stamp mill, have now been completed under the supervision of Mr. J. E. Hardman, S. B., and work with the new plant has been started up. It is now one of the best equipped properties in the Province, and as the amount of ore ground opened up is very extensive, the future gold returns will be large, and tend very materially to increase the yearly gold yield of the Province. Mr. Hardman's acknowledged talent as a mining engineer has had full scope in the construction of the new works, and as a result the Oldham district will hereafter be singled out by mining men as the best example of the perfection to which gold mining and milling have attained. We hope in a future issue to be able to give more detailed information regarding this property.

The *Canadian Mining and Mechanical Review* for June has an excellent portrait and interesting biographical sketch of Mr. John Rutherford, of Stellarton, N. S., the first government inspector of mines for this province, and well known as one of our most prominent mining engineers.

The *Mining Review* is a credit to the Dominion, and in all respects but one deserves to rank with the best mining journals on this continent.

Its weak point is the spleen evident in its editorials, and its refusal to make the *amende honorable* when proved in the wrong. Want of deserved pecuniary support may account for this, and we trust a generous public will come to its aid, and liberal subscriptions restore its editor to good humor.

COXHEATH COPPER MINES, C. B.—My business called me the other day to a section of this country which is well known to travellers on account of the hospitality of its inhabitants and its picturesque scenery. Within an eye glance one can see fine farms, well tilled, surrounding a beautiful sheet of water known as Gillis' Lake. This lake is about a mile each way, and is sheltered on all sides by high lands which gently slope from its waters. The soil is fertile. The principle products are vegetables, potatoes, grains and Gillises. I arrived at the residence of J. J. Gillis, son of the late lamented James Gillis, Esq., where I passed a very pleasant night. There were several young gentlemen on the premises besides the occupants of the house. A motion was made by some one that we should take a "trip to the Copper Mines." The motion was unanimously carried. We harnessed our teams and drove to the remote mountain of Coxheath. One gentleman who took the lead drove at a pace which I considered to be rather fast for the good of our horses or for the benefit of our eyes, which were getting filled with the flying dust. We had not gone far ere it occurred to me that there was some other object ahead which the "leading man" would wish to call mine, and which was more attractive than a copper or brass mine. We had to ascend the side of a precipice formed partly by Nature, and partly by debris which was heaped there from the crusher. There were but few men working there that day, which gave us a better chance of seeing the work. I should be very well pleased at this moment if I could borrow the ability of some of your correspondents and thereby give a proper description of the gigantic machinery which has been, by some mysterious power, dragged and placed here. It must be that *Vulcan* and *Hercules* have lent a helping hand in the matter. There are immense masses of copper crushed to powder at this shaft. There are four or five buildings on the premises, and I am told that the manager intends to build a first-class dwelling house. We next proceeded some hundreds of yards up the mountain. On our way we had to cross a chasm which the workmen have spanned over by a temporary trestle. One's head could be none too level while crossing it. One of our young men declined to venture over it, but would rather "undergo" the "downs and ups" of the chasm underneath. Arriving at the place which they call the new shaft we found lots of copper ore which was taken up from a depth of some scores of feet. The copper ore seemed to us like lumps of gold glittering in the rocks. By all appearance Nature has placed a vast hidden treasure in this place. It is true it takes a big capital to work it up.—*Antigonish Casket*.

RAWDON.—The Central Rawdon Mining Co. are about opening a new lead, which at present looks very favorable. It is to be hoped that this Company will have their usual good luck.

There is talk of more Windsorians prospecting in the vicinity. The Withrow Mining Company have several men employed prospecting. Messrs. Keith and Rodden daily expect a new roller mill, the first ever introduced here, when they intend opening up the conglomerate ore, which was tested a few weeks ago, and proved of value. If this new process proves satisfactory others will probably follow.