

mer was a nuisance, was now of great advantage, as it enabled the miner to wash the gold, which could not be done at the surface, at that season. One of the miners washed a pan when I was in the shaft, and gave me for a quarter of a dollar a very pretty specimen of gold which it contained. The men specially McCrae appeared well content with their fortune, and I have no doubt that they had good reason to be so, as a very large quantity of gold found its way to Quebec, and I am convinced if Government had at this time made an arrangement with Mr. De Lery, and opened up the field to healthy competition on terms similar to those adopted by the Nova Scotia Government, that such action would have been attended with the like satisfactory results. Their not having done so led to numerous vexatious and expensive suits at law, in which all parties gained a loss, and all mining operations were for a time put a stop to.

Before leaving the mine, I purchased from one of the miners, 9oz. of gold at \$18 per oz., and from another 6oz., at \$17.50 per oz., being of the total value of \$267. Mr. Douglas, who was with me, also purchased a few ounces. I purchased the gold on this occasion for an experiment, as I intended to send it on to the Assay Office, New York, in order to test its value.