

## ENGINE ROOM.

The boiler and engine are in position and almost ready to work. The former is 54 inches in diam. x 16 feet long, with 44 flues. It is provided with a separate steam dome, which insures dry steam, and a large mud drain underneath collects all the sediment, and is provided with a man hole, by which it can be cleaned whenever desired. A large heater utilizes the exhaust steam, and only hot water is fed to the boiler. A number of 4 Blake pumps provides fire protection, and a plunger pump supplies the boiler with water.

A Fmsor & Chalmers' Corliss engine, of the newest design, is to drive the machinery, and there is power sufficient to run a sixty stamp mill. The fly-wheel of the engine is 14 feet in diameter, and weighs 6½ tons, the shafting, etc., etc., is being rapidly put in position, and if no accidents happen, the mill will be running in about a month. When it is finished it will undoubtedly be the most complete in the Province.

One of the main shafts is about seventy-five feet from the mill, and is connected, by a most substantially constructed elevated tramway, with the upper story. Here the ore is received and passed over screens, the finer dropping into the ore bins and being at once fed to the stamps, while the coarse is conducted to the breaking floor, where a Blake breaker, 9x15 inches, and of from 40 to 50 tons capacity, per ten hours work, rapidly reduces it to the proper size. From the ore bins the ore descends by its own gravity to the automatic feeders, which supply the stamps with just the quantity of ore that is necessary.

Mr. Hamilton stated that he considered Nova Scotia one of the best mining countries that he had visited, and was, of course, delighted with the climate. Thanking him for his courtesy, we went up to the company's office, where, after a short delay, Captain Nichols was met.

The captain is a Cornishman, and one is not in his presence a minute without discovering that he is no ordinary man. Accustomed to the great mines of Cornwall, often extending away under the sea and down into the bowels of the earth, he is rather disposed to laugh at mining as it has been conducted in Mount Uniacke. He looks upon Nova Scotia as a great mining country, where the mines, for want of capital, have never been properly worked, and guided by his great experience, he is placing the properties in his control in a thoroughly workmanlike condition. Although only in the country a short time, he has accomplished a great deal, and every day sees some new labor-saving device introduced. Always on the alert to save the company's money, he has done away with day-work, under ground, and every miner is paid for the amount of work he performs, and if he loafs, does so at his own expense. Everything has been reduced to a perfect system, and considerable work has been done under ground, but pending the completion of the hoisting engine and gear, very little ore has been raised to the surface. The old crusher building has been converted into a pumping and hoisting house, and a new boiler, manufactured by the Truro foundry company, placed in position. Across the road, in a very neat building, is the new hoisting engine, also built by the Truro foundry company, and provided with several improvements made from drawings furnished by the captain, the most noticeable being the driver's lever. The engine is 50 horse-power, and is conveniently situated to hoist from two shafts, one 300 feet deep and the other slightly less. Wooden tubs for hoisting have been discarded, and wrought iron skips or tubs with hinged bottoms, which are ingeniously contrived to be self dumping, have been substituted. The Truro foundry did the work to the captain's entire satisfaction from drawings furnished by him. At the sides of the skips are guides, which are intended to run in a frame work, reaching to the bottom of the pits. In perpendicular shafts these guides are mere brackets riveted to the sides of the skips, but when there is an incline they are provided with wheels. The frame work over the pit, and up which the ore is elevated to the level of the top story of the mill, is nearly completed, and is very substantial, as is also the tramway. In fact, everything about the premises proves that the works are in charge of a thoroughly competent man.

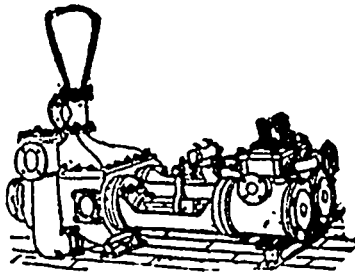
## EXTENT OF PROPERTY.

The company have purchased the McClure, Central Carruthers, Thompson and Maling properties, making in all some 500 acres. Twenty-two men are now employed below ground, and two or three new leads have been cut, that promise well. Captain Nichols has no doubt about the success of the enterprise, and success means that English capital will hereafter be easily obtainable in Nova Scotia enterprises.

It was nearly one p.m. before we had concluded our inspection, and, as we were anxious to take in the picnic, we parted rather unwillingly from the captain, and again taking our seats in Mr. Allen's waggon, were duly jolted into the station. From here a pleasant walk of half a mile brought us to the picnic grounds in time for dinner and the first speech. As our mission was mining and not politics, we must refrain from a description of the pleasures of the afternoon. Like all pleasures, they vanished in smoke, a smoke never to be forgotten, and for which we have to return our thanks to a host and hostess whose kind hospitality will long be remembered.

A fine lead of quartz showing gold was discovered by some workmen who were repairing a drain on the premises of Charles Anderson, Spring Garden Road. The merchant princes of the United States spend millions on their residences, but the merchant kings of Halifax are even more luxurious in their tastes, their mansions being provided with golden drains.

MAHONE BAY.—A very large lead of low grade ore has been discovered near Mahone Bay, where several leads had previously been discovered, and all that is required is capital to make this locality one of the gold producing districts of the Province.



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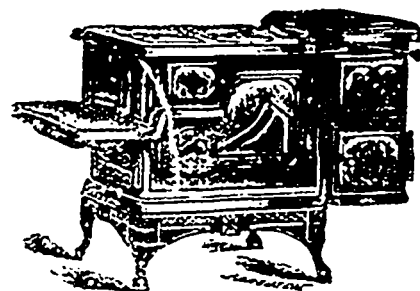
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