

money. John Murphy, now at Mooselands, was early on the spot. Leary and Barton opened some fine leads. Captain Archibald, of Salmon River mines, and hundreds of others tried the diggings when first opened. Most of them failed to "strike it rich," but a number of the men who commenced mining at Tangier, have continued at the business, and to day are known as our best miners. Although the district is still, undoubtedly, one of the best in the Province, the numerous failures have given it a set back, and the number of other good districts that have been discovered, have drawn capitalists away, until to-day, only one company, the Brunswick, is doing active mining work, the Essex having virtually shut down.

I will not vouch for the correctness of the details in regard to Captain Mason's discovery, as I have since heard several different stories, all but the only authentic one, but that Capt. Mason made the discovery there is no doubt.

After tea I was directed to the residence of F. A. Wiswell, the manager of the Essex Co., and called upon him. The road was lined with shaft houses and piles of refuse rocks, proving that a large amount of work had been done. The company own a large residence, and have purchased all the property owned by the Satemo Co. Mr. Wiswell was glad to see a representative of THE CRITIC, and gave me all the information at his command in regard to the Essex Co. He took charge of the works some time ago, and has replaced the stamp mills with two Wiswell crushers. He was to have had everything provided to introduce improvements in the treatment of the ore, but has been hampered in his ideas by the management, and the results that he expected to obtain made impossible by interference with his plans.

The mine had been let out on tribute for some time, and, as is usual in such cases, the tributors had worked out the rich spots, and left all the balance standing. This necessitated a great amount of work in placing the mine in good order, and has cost a considerable sum. At the present moment the mine is in fine working order, the mills have been running nicely, and the property is in good shape for making money. Evidently the only cause for shutting down lies in the fact that the company has become discouraged by the small returns.

The Nugget, Nigger and dozen of other famous leads are on the property, and Mr. Wiswell says that in all his mining experience he never saw a better mine. I passed a delightful evening with him, and was introduced to Mr. A. Atkins, his assistant, an English gentleman, who has had great experience in the mines in Australia. Most mining men have been great travellers, and generally prove the best of company. My host and his friend were no exception to the rule, and the time passed so swiftly in listening to their racy anecdotes, that it was very late when I returned to the hotel.

In the morning, Mr. Wiswell shewed me through the mill, which is a large three story building, with a plank roadway leading to the top story at such a slight incline that trams can haul the ore up to the rock breaker. The mill is complete in all its details, and is lighted throughout with electric lights. The boiler and engine-room are spacious and fitted with the best machinery, a small dynamo being connected with the engine and applying the electric light. Assay and retorting rooms, machine shops, battery-room—everything is most conveniently arranged—and it seems a pity that such a fine property should have to remain idle even for a day.

The Brunswick Mining Co.'s property lies about half a mile east of the Essex property, and Mr. Wiswell conducted me thither.

The property is worked by a New York Co., and Mr. C. E. Hayden is the President.

Patrick Coffee is manager, and was found at one of the shafts. He is a well-known minor, and the property in his hands is beginning to pay. The crushing gave 26 oz. from 40 tons of quartz taken from the Forrest lead, and 36 oz. from 35 tons of quartz from another lead. These two leads are the only ones now being worked. The mill, which consists of two five amp batteries, was at work, and we had a look through it. It does its work well, and Mr. Coffee says that very little gold escapes the batteries, and that does is generally caught on the splash plates.

The company own a district five areas in width, by about 3/4 mile in length. As I had to be back at the hotel by noon to meet with Corbin, who I agreed to drive me over to Sheet Harbor, I cut short my visit and hurried off. Mr. Corbin was waiting, so bolting down my dinner I got into a comfortable trap and we were off to Sheet Harbor—18 miles. The horse is a fast one, and we left the miles behind us in short order, reaching Sheet Harbor shortly after three. The road is passable, the scenery nearly repetition of the road from Musquodoboit, and Spry Bay is the principal place passed through. Partridges are very plentiful, and several coveys did rise until the horse was alongside of them, (of course we had no gun.)

At Sheet Harbor I visited the pulp mill, now managed by Mr. Esdalo, of Halifax, who showed me through and explained the process.

The works are, I understand, paying well, and so another industry has been put into successful operation. Space forbids me to more than mention my visit, but any person having the opportunity should not fail to go through the mill.

The M. A. Starr was just coming up the river, and I was enabled to secure a morning paper.

Sheet Harbor is noted for its lumber mills, of which there are two, one belonging to Wm. Chisholm, and one to Mr. Hart. It is charmingly situated, and two fine rivers, the East and the West, furnish abundant water power.

I was anxious to move on, and young Mr. Hall drove me through to Salmon River, within four miles of the celebrated Dufferin mines. Crossing the ferry at Sheet Harbor some three miles in distance was saved, and Whitman's at Salmon River reached at 5 p. m. It is twelve miles by the road, but less than ten over the ferry. For part of the way the road goes through very fine scenery, and Salmon River is a beautiful spot. Mr.

Whitman and I had met at Bridgewater, and he gave me a cordial welcome. He is proprietor of a large country store and a comfortable hotel near by and also "runs" a store at the Dufferin mines. Always up to his eyes in business, he still finds time to travel for the Amherst Boot & Shoe Co., and I can vouch for the fact that as a salesman, it would be hard to find his superior.

He is interested in gold mining, and, in company with some Halifax capitalists, is prospecting about a mile south of the Dufferin mine. He expects to find a good lead any day, and I sincerely hope he may.

I have just returned from a stroll up the road. A thick smoke obscures the moon, and throws a hazy light over the harbor. A vessel lying at anchor with sails set looks like a phantom ship; not a sound is to be heard, and a quiet restful feeling steals over me. It seems at the present moment that I would like to pass the balance of my days in this peaceful, beautiful haven, so I will say
ADIOS AMIGO.

ERRATUM — In report of Oxford Mine last week the yield of the mine was put "10,000 ounces or say \$20,000" This amount, of course, should have been \$200,000.

The following are the official returns for August so far as received at the Mines Office:—

| District. | Mill. | Tons Crushed. | Oz. Gold |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| East Rawdon | Rawdon | 300 | 211 1/2 |
| Brookfield | Brookfield | 90 | 92 1/2 |
| Kempt | Cowan | 1 | 23 |
| Lake Catcha | Oxford | 59 | 184 |
| Dar's Hill, Salmon River | Dufferin | 915 | 353 |
| Whiteburn | The McGuira | 36 | 170 |
| Tangier | The Brunswick Co.'s | 75 | 62 |
| Cariboo | Moose River G. M. Co.'s | 31 1/2 | 10 |

The following are the official returns for September so far as received at the Mines Office:—

| District. | Mill. | Tons Crushed. | Oz. Gold. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Wine Harbor | Victoria | 33 | 6 1/2 |
| East Rawdon | Rawdon | 390 | 197 1/2 |
| Lake Catcha | Oxford | 60 1/2 | 234 1/2 |
| Dar's Hill, Salmon River | Dufferin | 910 | 319 |
| Whiteburn | Cushing G. M. Co. | 10 | 21 1/2 |
| Strombuit | Tributers | 79 1/2 | 78 1/2 |

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