

may seem something like exaggeration, and yet we believe it is quite correct to say that, considering the extent of the gold producing area, the quantity of quartz mined, and the number of men employed, Nova Scotian gold fields, wrought imperfectly as they have been, are the most productive in the world. The rate of development has been slow, but now most of the difficulties seem to have been got over. Practical men are coming into the field, skill and capital are being applied more and more freely, and the result, we have no doubt, will be a great addition to the wealth and population of our sister province. In 1866 the yield of gold in Nova Scotia was 25,454 ounces, and it appears that for the present year not less than 30,000 ounces will have been turned out. This would give about \$600,000 already, almost one-half of the value of the yearly yield of coal in the same country. Since 1862, about 120,000 ounces of gold, or four tons and a half, have been secured, amounting in value to nearly two millions and a half of dollars, and all this simply as a beginning.

"From a book entitled 'Gold-fields in Nova Scotia,' very recently published in Halifax, (if it indeed it be published yet, for our Nova Scotian contemporary the *Halifax Evening Express*, prints extracts from advanced, sheets), we learn that in Sherbrooke district, the average yield to each of the miners engaged, was, in 1862, \$561.95, while in 1867, that average had risen to \$1669.20.

"There has been as much as one hundred and seventeen ounces of gold got from a ton of quartz, while the average yield over all has been one ounce and three grains.

"This is far above what either California or Australia can show.

"We are glad that capital and skill are being applied so extensively in Nova Scotia to the development of such sources of national wealth, and also, that the same thing can be increasingly said of our own Province and our own gold fields. Speculation in this, as in everything else, may be carried to foolish lengths; but now that it is an unquestionable fact that there is gold in paying quantities both in Nova Scotia and Ontario, to specify no others, it would be a reflection upon the spirit and enterprise of the people of the Dominion, if no effort commensurate with its importance, should be made to turn this fact to profitable account.

"We shall always be glad to give publicity to everything which tells of the advancement of Nova Scotia in the development of her large and valuable natural resources; and that without the slightest eye to her becoming in this way, a more valuable subject for the supposed plundering propensities of us cormorants of Ontario."—*Globe*, 27th December, 1867.

STATISTICS: AVERAGE YIELD PER MAN.

The profitableness of any pursuit can only be estimated from the average earnings of all engaged in it; and, although in order strictly to follow out the rule, in its application to Gold Mining, it would be necessary to include the officers: the proportion to each miner is not an uncommon, or an unsafe method of average.