

MINING.

ANALYTICAL DEPARTMENT.—To meet long felt want THE CRITIC has made arrangements with a competent Analyst, who will determine the quality of all specimens sent to be tested. The fee charged will be from £1 to eight dollars, according to the difficulty and expense incurred by the analyst in making the analysis. The strictest secrecy will be observed, and the result of the analysis will only be known to the operator and the sender of the sample. Send samples by parcel-post or otherwise, with a fee of two dollars to "Analyst," care A. M. Fraser, Business Manager of THE CRITIC. Should a larger fee be required, the sender will be notified.

THE KEMPT GOLD MINING CO. LIMITED.—We gather from the report of the directors of the above company, which was submitted to the shareholders on the 24th January, 1887, the following facts:

That a gold bearing belt containing some eight leads had been discovered near the surface, and that rich spots had been opened on these that yielded some \$5,700 in gold to the proprietors. The belt containing these leads was some one hundred feet in width, but for a great depth from the surface no solid formation was reached, and the different leads were so irregular that it was difficult to follow them up. About the 15th of October last it was decided to sink a main shaft near the richest lead to a depth of one hundred feet, and the shaft on the "Boreo" lead, which had been sunk to a depth of thirty-three feet, was selected. This lead at the surface gave \$15 to the ton, but at thirty-three feet in depth the gold gave out and it had, for a time, being abandoned. Work was resumed, and for the first twenty feet sunk no gold was discovered, but when 50 feet from the surface had been reached occasional sights of gold were found, and at seventy-five feet the lead had become eleven inches thick and showed gold freely. At 80 feet a rich strike was made, the lead had increased in thickness to fifteen inches, and good pay ore was found. The shaft is now down eighty-seven feet, and the directors think that the prospects are encouraging, and that the mine will soon be on a paying basis. We have little doubt of the great value of the property, and would strongly advise the company to place the works in charge of a thoroughly competent mining engineer.

The *Hants Journal* suddenly awakens from what must have been a Rip Van Winkle sleep, and in its issue of Jan. 26th last, gushes as follows:

GOLD MINING IN HANTS COUNTY.

FEVERISH EXCITEMENT.

The question which has often been asked,—"Is gold to be found in Hants County?" is now in a fair way to be satisfactorily answered. Rich as is this County in its plaster, (the business in which has of late doubled and is assuming still greater proportions), its maugance, and its antimony mines yet to be opened up and operated, we are not surprised to find that gold of a rich quality is now to be added to the valuable products of Hants. "Where is it—has it been discovered?" we think we hear the reader exclaiming. Mr. Wm Murray, of Bath, Maine, who it is known has been prospecting in this Province for a year and over, and for several months in Hants, is the lucky discoverer.

Can it be possible that a journal published in Hants knows so little of the county as to print such arrant nonsense as the above? Has the astute editor never heard of the Mount Uniacke Gold District, which has been worked for years, nor of the Rawdon gold mines that are giving such large returns? We are almost dumb with astonishment. If the editor had only followed our previous advice and purchased one of Mackinlay's maps of Nova Scotia, he might have been spared such an unpardonable display of ignorance. The article, which is almost a column in length, refers to the discovery of gold at Ardoise Hill, which was reported in the last issue of THE CRITIC. We gather that three leads have been proved, all showing gold and that Mr. Murray and his associates have taken up some eighty-four acres.

Mr. James Grove has a large bed of fine red granite on his farm at Beaver Bank. A specimen polished was exhibited, and took a prize at the exhibition in Halifax in 1880. This rock is situated on Lake Thomas, (Long Lake), about 3 or 4 miles east of Windsor Junction, on the Intercolonial Railway.

LAKE CATCHA DISTRICT.—J. M. Reid brought in two bars gold weighing 355½ oz from 49½ tons quartz crushed, or over 7 oz. to the ton. The Oxford is proving a wonderful property and everything tends to show that the district is one of the best in the province. The gold is almost pure, averaging 996 fine.

It is reported that a two-inch lode has been opened on the Anderson property and that indications warrant the belief that it is good for 3 or 4 oz. to the ton.

During the month of December thirty tons of quartz were crushed at the McGuire mine at Whiteburn which yielded 85½ ounces of gold.—*Liverpool Advance*.

MALAGA LAKE GOLD MINE.—A number of men and a large quantity of provisions were sent to Malaga Barrens last week to work the claim owned by Messrs. Bartling, Wharton and others.—*I. B.*

CARLTON MINE.—Mr. Ross, manager of the Carlton Mine came from the crushing mill at Kemptville yesterday with a brick of gold weighing 100 ounces, taken from 50 tons of quartz sent up there from the Carlton mine to be crushed. This is the first cleaning up for this mine and they are now taking out some very rich quartz.—*Yarmouth Times*.

GOLD DISCOVERY.—Mr. John McLeod, of Marquette, has discovered a rich gold lead at Stewart's Creek, in that region, and, we understand, is corresponding with certain Halifax and American capitalists for money to work the mine.—*N. S. Herald*.

NEW QUARRY.—Councillor George Battye, of Wallace, has associated with him, in the stone business, a gentleman of Boston and another of New York, and they intend to prosecute the business vigorously. They have purchased a quarry on the old Fulton property at Wallace Harbor and have a lot of men now cleaning and preparing for work next summer.—*Amherst Sentinel*.

COPPER.—England controls the price of copper in the markets of the world, although her own mines in Cornwall do not produce much over 100 tons of this metal a month. The statistics prove that she does an immense trade in copper. For the first nine months of last year England imported 84,592 tons of copper (metal) and exported 44,488 tons. The British production is only 900 tons. The English home consumption was 33,294 tons; imports into France, 9,339 tons; export of English copper to France, 5,442 tons; French consumption of copper imported direct 9,677 tons; French consumption of English copper and of copper imported direct, 15,119 tons; English consumption and French consumption of copper imported direct and from England, 48,413 tons; English consumption, English exports and French consumption of copper imported direct, 87,459 tons.

Board of Trade returns and statistics kept by James Lewis & Son, Liverpool, segregated some of these figures. The imports of ore amounted (in tons of fine copper), in the first nine months of 1886, to 10,718, of which 5,782 came from Chili and only 420 came from America. This shows we are working our ores at home more in this country than formerly. Last year in the same time we sent nearly four times as much ore. Of regulus, where Chili sent to England 10,718 tons, we sent from this country 10,246. Of bars and ingots, where Chili sent 18,583 tons we sent 4,434.

The apparent English consumption of foreign copper was 33,294 tons. The apparent French consumption was 15,119 tons, or not quite half that of England. The total consumption of the two great nations mentioned aggregated for the first nine months of last year 87,459 tons as against 100,000 tons in the same time last year.

On the first of this month the total visible supply of copper was 63,127 tons, of which 54,495 tons were in Liverpool, Swansea and London, and some little in France.

Chili has shipped to Liverpool and Swansea in the first ten months of last year 23,914 tons, and America has sent 12,533. The American arrivals in England and France for the past ten months are 16,094 tons, fine, against 29,264 tons during the same period of last year, a decrease of 13,170 tons, or nearly half.—*Mining and Scientific Press*.

SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS.—A writer alluding to the probable exhaustion of natural gas, says:—"A long period will elapse before the supply will fail. The contact of water with carboniferous formations of any class continually generates gaseous hydrocarbon which is to take the place of all other fuels. In the permeable state of the sedimentary rocks there is everywhere room for more or less of the development of this hydrocarbon. When these are pierced by excavation or drilling the escaping gas merely makes room for the generation of more. The force is very great, yet it is uniform and continuous, such as a constant force alone can create. In view of the vast bulk of the carbonaceous deposits, which occupies not less than 30,000 square miles of the surface of the western slope of the Alleghenies and have a depth or thickness of 1,000 to 2,500 feet, it does not appear probable that this alternate form of carbon, as it may be designated, is likely to fail in its normal course of supply for a long period of years to come."

We do not know how it is in the country, but in Halifax the elections have developed a supply of natural gas that is apparently inexhaustible.

A mica mine has been opened on a farm near Kaukauna, Wis. There has been a strong demand for silver from France of late. Fifty twenty-ton ore cars are running from Butte to Anaconda daily. From 1800 to 1862 Columbia produced in gold and silver \$216,000,000. The bullion in the Bank of England decreased £340,000 during the past week.

Enormous deposits of manganese ore have been discovered in the north of Chili.

Twelve thousand acres of mineral land in Jackson County, Ala., are to be developed.

In November, the famous Drum Lummon mine, Montana, produced \$190,000 in gold.

Deposits of large quantities of plumbago, or black lead, are reported in the Verdigo hills, Nevada.

The silver bullion shipments from Butte, M. T., aggregated nearly half a million dollars per month.

The product of the Lexington mine, M. T., for October was—silver, \$60,750; gold \$6,025; total, \$66,775.

The product of the Moulton mine, M. T., for October was—gold, \$2,578; silver, \$53,023; total \$55,601.

The 120 stamps at the Drum Lummon hammered \$189,100 out of those phenomenal ores, high and low grade, last month.

Placer mines in Arizona are yielding from \$2 to \$5 per day. The separating of the gold from the gravel is being done in rockers.

There were produced in the territory of Montana for the year 1886 \$4,409,400 in gold, and \$11,513,059 in silver, a total of \$15,922,459.

The product of the Ontario mine for the month of November was 133 bars of bullion, 81,917 68 fine ounces; ore sales, nine lots, \$73,917.11, a total for the month of \$155,913.79.