

MINING.

THE CRITIC sometime ago pointed out the excellent prospects before steady, well-educated young men who devote themselves to the study of mining engineering, geology, and kindred subjects. Each succeeding year shows the folly of those that imagined they had only to become lawyers and doctors in order to become at once distinguished and wealthy; each succeeding year shows that only the few blessed with remarkable talents can attain to eminence in these thronged professions. On the other hand, each succeeding year—one might say every week—brings forth some new and unexpected sign of our unparalleled mineral wealth, and we are constantly made to feel the disadvantage we labor under in not having in the country educated men thoroughly conversant with mining. *Verbum sat.*

CHESTER BASIN.—Your correspondent is indebted to Professor Coldwell of Acadia College for the following facts respecting the mines in Chester Basin. Mr. C. S. Mills has discovered a quartz lead 11 feet wide, situated half a mile from Gold River Bridge, or about a mile and a half from Chester Basin. Mr. Mills has opened up and proved the lead for 1200 feet, and has noticed the boulders indicating the lead for over two miles. The quartz is rich in gold, good water power is close at hand, and the prospects are that a second Salmon River has been struck.

BROAD COVE.—Near Broad Cove, C. B., there is a farm on which plumbago has been often turned up by the plough. The owner of the farm says that "there are lots of minerals around here, especially lead, but they're no good without we have a railway." A piece of ore, one inch square, taken from this farm weighs nine and a half ounces.

It is a pity that mining areas in Inverness Co., which are probably of the greatest value, are in some instances held by persons that do not pretend to be able to afford such expenditure as would conclusively show what their claims are worth.

James McKinnon Esq., Whyecocomah C. B. exhibits a number of specimens of copper ore which are as fine as any produced by the magnificent Bell's Cove mine, Nfld.

WHYECOCOMAH—A Quebec company has been negotiating for the purchase of the gold claims held by Messrs. Jacob Hart and William Kidston, on Indian Island, Whyecocomah Bay, C. B. The gold here is associated with a considerable percentage of silver and copper.

It is not generally known that the most promising deposits of copper yet discovered in this Province are now being opened at Whyecocomah, C. B. To the westward of Whyecocomah Village, and to the rear of it, Messrs. Sinclair, Jacob Hart, William Kidston, James McKinnon D. McKinnon, Dr. McIntosh, D. McMillan, Thomas Austin, have mining claims, most of which are known to contain valuable ores. Efforts are being made to ascertain the real value of a lead recently struck which seems very rich. In all these claims copper is found associated with more or less silver; but any practical miner would decide after an examination of the ores found in all the claims opened so far, that it is essentially copper, and very rich too. On some of the hills around Whyecocomah it is common to see rocks crumbled by the action of the weather quite green with verdigris.

ALASKA.—The New York Times and also the New York World have each sent an exploring party to Alaska, for the purpose of investigating the numerous resources of America's only colony, and writing up the same. The mineral wealth of Alaska is known to be great, but the Fur Trading Company have done their best to prevent the extent and variety of these resources becoming known.

The letter of our staff correspondent which appears in another column, will be found of general interest to all engaged in mining pursuits. It is quite evident from what our correspondent says that gold mining is destined to play an important part in the future of Lunenburg County.

SHERBROOKE.—Mr. E. R. Faribault, C. E., of the Geological Survey of Canada, assisted by M. H. McLeod and G. B. Faribault, is pleasantly camped on the Ecu-Secum River, 25 miles west of Sherbrooke. The party is completing the topographical surveys and geological investigations of the County of Gaysborough, which have been in progress for the last four summers. A geological map of the county, on the scale of one mile to an inch, accompanied with a report, will be ready for publication sometime next winter, both of which will certainly be of great value to prospectors in searching for new gold districts.

A few days ago the Calumet and Hecla Company sold in Chicago about 8,000,000 pounds of copper ore at 10c. per pound. As soon as this became known it created a great deal of astonishment in the outside world, as it showed a tumble of \$20.00 per ton, the established price having been 11c. per pound. The United States mines have been turning out about 80,000 tons of fine metal per year to meet which there is a yearly consumption of only 52,500 tons, leaving a surplus of 27,000 tons to be either exported or put into store. Even at 10c. per pound a good profit can be realized, as production only costs 7c. per pound, at the leading lake mines. Through the agency of a combination of miners, immense profits have been made on copper. It is thought that the monopoly has been effectually disintegrated by this latest move of the Calumet and Hecla Company which it is said was forced to make the above sale.

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