

MINING—Continued.

In his speech at the opening of the Provincial Legislature, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor said: While the general condition of trade during the past year was far from satisfactory, gratifying and encouraging features were not wanting. A more than usually favorable season enabled our farmers to gather an abundant harvest, the output of our coal mines was but little less than that of the previous year, and the product of our gold mines was larger than for many years before.

In moving the reply in the address, Mr. McCoy said: It is a curious thing—and I would like to call the attention of the house to the fact—that the decrease in the sales of coal has been in the consumption in the province of Nova Scotia alone, while the amount consumed on the Intercolonial during the year has been no less than 152,590 tons, while the amount shipped to Quebec in excess of the previous year was 335,497 tons, it certainly must be very gratifying to the coal owners of this country to find a market in that province as well as in this province and in the United States. During the last year the gold fields of the province have increased very rapidly. When we think of the figures alone, that the miners of this country have taken out of the earth 21,500 ounces of gold of the value of \$16 an ounce—no less than \$344,000—it is a matter on which we congratulate every member of this house. We can only hope that this increase will continue and will be the means of bringing a much larger population into the province, which it so much requires.

Mr. Fraser in seconding the reply to the address, said: In reference to mines, it is gratifying to know that our coal miners have been in a measure successful, and it must be gratifying to the government to find their receipts from the mines nearly as large as ever before. But when we remember that the output has fallen off considerably there must have been a little squeezing to enable the government to get as much royalty as last year. My view would be to abolish the royalty, and if possible make that industry free as every other industry is free. Men embark their capital in it, but in every ton of coal they raise the government must have a certain sum. That trade, therefore, is not on an equality with the other trades of the province, but I hope to see the day when it will be placed upon an equality.

Referring to our gold mines I think the outlook for the future is hopeful. I have been personally interested in that branch of our industries, and I presume there are other gentlemen in the house who have also tried their luck in it. To me at least it has always proved fascinating. I have lately seen a discussion in some of our journals in which it was urged that the government should undertake to prove whether or not there is a second pay streak. It is a fact that on no lead as yet discovered in Nova Scotia has a second pay streak been found. The geologists and practical miners agree that in all probability it may exist and is to be found by sinking a shaft some hundreds of feet into the bowels of the earth. No company in the province is able to do that work, and therefore I believe it to be the duty of the government to facilitate it by granting to some company such aid as would enable them to sink such a shaft.

Mr. Bell said: The facts referred to by the honorable member for Shelburne with regard to what might be called our peculiarly local industries, our coal mines, our gold mines and our fisheries, were pleasing to listen to. I was particularly struck with the fact stated by him that, while our coal trade, so far as the home consumption is concerned, is not as prosperous as it has been, yet our trade with Quebec has largely increased. I felt that that honorable gentleman and the government of which he is a supporter would like, if they were situated otherwise, to congratulate the national policy on the good effect manifested in this respect, a good effect which, I presume, we owe to that national policy.

We agree with our contemporary THE CRITIC, in its opinion that an attempt should be made to prove whether deep mining would or would not pay. The cost would be considerable, but some risks must be taken, and if this second pay streak is found to exist, another great source of material wealth will be given our country. Gold mining is yearly developing in Nova Scotia, and judging by the discoveries made within the past year or two, appears yet to be only in its infancy.—*Bridgewater Monitor*.

An exhibit of coinage of gold, silver and copper, in the Republic of Mexico from the first of July, 1872, to the 30th of June, 1885, indicating approximately the precious metal product of the country for the years named, furnishes the following totals: Gold, \$7,930,540; silver, \$288,974,126; copper, \$226,110; grand total, \$295,140,776.

CARLTON.—Gold was discovered at Carleton, in this county, a few days ago, by Mr. James Durkee, on his property. Applications for licenses to work have already been made to the mines office in Halifax, among them one from Mr. Durkee for 40 acres.—*Yarmouth Times*.

MINERAL PRODUCTS.—The report of the United States Geological Survey shows that the mining industries of the United States are assuming giant proportions. Not less than \$800,000,000 is invested in mining enterprises as productive capital, and over 400,000,000 people are furnished employment, and the mining product of the United States for the year 1884 had a value of \$413,104,620.

The company working the Newfoundland mine in Colorado, are taking out some excellent ore. The last shipment to the stamp mill yielded fifty-two ounces of gold from ten cords of dirt.—*Chicago Mining Review*.

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Cash Capital, \$600,000.

Assets, \$8,417,038.21

Liabilities, 6,321,199.33

Surplus, \$2,095,838.88

Life Department.

No. of Policies written to date, 41,300

New Life Insurance written in

1885, \$5,645,200

Gain during year in amount in

force, \$2,477,400

Paid Life Policy - Holders to

date, \$3,290,175

Paid Life Policy - Holders in 1885, \$379,433

Accident Department.

No. Policies written to date, 1,185

No. written in 1885, 108

No. Claims paid to date, 137

No. paid in 1885, 17

Total Claims paid, \$8,145,151

Amount paid in 1885, \$885,012

GAINED IN ASSETS. GAINED IN SURPLUS

GAINED IN NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED

GAINED IN LIFE INSURANCE WRITTEN

GAINED IN AMOUNT OF LIFE INSURANCE

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