

## MINING.

The Crow's Nest and Cochran Gold Mines in Guysboro County are, in the opinion of experts, considered valuable properties. The present facilities for working these mines are poor, and we understand, that unless new machinery be purchased, and the ore which is of low grade, worked in large quantities, no handsome returns can be expected. The lode in the first mine named is remarkably wide, and in the hands of skillful miners, with capital at their back, could be made to pay well.

One hundred tons of quartz, which was taken out from the old Reeves mine, Yarmouth, has been sent to the Cochran mine to be crushed. It is expected that a good return will be made.

We hear that the Coxheath copper mine, Cape Breton, which good judges believe to be worth many millions, is, before long, to be energetically developed. The Eastern Development Co. may well be congratulated on their prospects of making "a pile."

Work at the Spring Hill Mine coal mines continues brisk, but the reports from other sections of the Province are far from encouraging. The outlook for our coal miners for the coming winter is exceedingly blue, and unless large orders are received, the miners will have to live upon prospective earnings. With coal in abundance, and an unlimited supply of iron, it does seem hard to have this important industry languish. Some day, Nova Scotia will be a great manufacturing country. Its untold mineral wealth is a certain guarantee of this, but whether or not the present generation are to derive any direct benefit from the immense stores of mineral wealth which nature has lavished upon us, is a question more easily asked than answered.

Mr. R. Belloni was recently interviewed by an enterprising representative of the North Sydney *Herald*. According to Mr. Belloni, about \$8,000,000 has been invested in the collieries of Cape Breton and in the building of railways, wharves, etc., for shipping purposes. Several of the mines have, in their palmy days, paid handsome dividends to their owners, Little Glace Bay having, upon more than one occasion, declared a dividend of 40 per cent. Mr. Belloni strongly recommends the amalgamation of the several Cape Breton Companies, or failing this, that an arrangement be entered to pool the sales; this, he believes, would be advantageous to all concerned. Reciprocity would, Mr. Belloni thinks, increase the sale of Nova Scotian coal. The present output is about 1,200,000 tons per annum, while the known capabilities of the mines indicates that an output of 3,000,000 tons per year could be accomplished without difficulty.

The Chignecto mine has, says the *Post*, been offered for sale by the Steel Company for \$40,000. It cost, with improvements, about \$100,000. The slate in the coal detracts from its serviceableness for smelting purposes. About 20 men are employed at present at the works.

The heaviest single lift on any mine pump in America is probably at the Acadia coal mines, Pictou, which is under the management of H. S. Poole. The mine is opened by a slope 2,400 feet long; vertical depth 1,000 feet, or 435 pounds per square inch pressure on the pump.

The New York *Engineering and Mining Journal*, in its last issue, has the following:—"The recent visit of the Mining Engineers to Nova Scotia served to dispel many erroneous impressions. Not a few were surprised to find that Nova Scotia has a known coal area of 700 square miles or nearly twice the area of the Pennsylvania anthracite fields, and that some of the Nova Scotia fields have a greater thickness of workable coal than probably exists anywhere else in the world. The coal, too, is of good quality, though, when not washed, the slack and coke contain generally very large percentages of ash and of sulphur.

The iron ore deposit of Londonderry is one of the finest in the world, and greatly surprised many experts."

On the Trans Caucasian Railway the locomotives use, for the most part, no other fuel but oil, and hundreds of engines have recently been adapted to the consumption of oil on the lines of South-east Russia.

In various parts of Russia there are altogether not less than 1,000 stationary engines fed with oil alone, and the number is yearly increasing.

In the Caspian Sea there are hundreds of steamers burning nothing but oil, and some of them have been running by the aid of liquid fuel for the last fifteen years.

A rich find was discovered three miles north of Sparta, a few days ago, by Mrs. Ainsworth, the wife of a well-known miner there. The pay strip has been uncovered for two hundred feet, and is fifteen inches wide. Beyond stripping no development has been made. Gen. Tarnatt examined the discovery, and reports that he was unable to secure a piece of rock, inside of the fifteen inches, that did not contain free gold that could be plainly seen with the naked eye.—*Baker City Tribune*.

The gold yield of Victoria, Australia, is declining, having amounted to only 185,037½ ounces for the quarter ended June 30th, 1885, as against 192,438½ ounces for the previous quarter, and less than in the corresponding quarter of any year since 1876.

Gorman geologists estimate that the dead sea will be a mass of solid salt a thousand years hence.

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