

GOLD-MINING IN CANADA.

(Correspondence of the N. Y. Times.)

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Year by year an attempt is made to bring into notice the gold-field on the Chaudiere River near Quebec, and year by year, as the nuggets found increase in size, the attempt more nearly attains success. At length a sort of gold fever has been induced, and from 300 to 500 men are now at work on the diggings, with the varying success which appears to attend gold-mining all the world over. Some men go up and find nothing; others make their \$50 per diem, — a good deal of the difference depending on the character of the claims taken up; more, perhaps, on the industry and perseverance of the miners. A fine lot of nuggets, weighing about nine pounds, were brought down from the diggings last week by one person, the largest weighing just ten ounces, and being valued at \$200. Specimens of quartz, with fine pieces of gold in it, are also shown; but no machinery for crushing has as yet been sent up to the spots where the quartz occurs.

The drift gold of the Chaudiere differs in appearance from that of Australia or California. There is none of what is often called "dust gold" here, but it is replaced by small pieces resembling shot of various sizes, pressed and crushed out of shape. The largest pieces have the same battered appearance, which, it strikes me, is possibly due to the action of ice. The gold is yellow rather than red, and very pure. I suppose \$50,000 worth has been got out this season. Within the past fortnight a company have built sluices and "dals" on the Gilbert river, a tributary of the Chaudiere, and we may therefore soon look for better results than have hitherto been obtained without appliances of this kind. Their success will probably determine whether there is or is not to be another gold excitement on a grand scale. My belief is that there is plenty of the precious metal, and in great nuggets too, and that ere long Canada will take a high rank as a gold-producing country.