

ning on the 20th December, all the machinery including engine and boiler being manufactured in Truro, transported to the site and erected within that time.

The Molega Mining Co's mill under the superintendence of Alfred Wade, is constantly at work, and the new management has been giving general satisfaction to the shareholders.

The Minneapolis mine has been idle about two years, owing to litigation among the owners.

The Caledonia Co's ten stamp mill was totally destroyed by fire in the latter part of 1890, and has not yet been rebuilt.

The village of Molega is pleasantly located between Lakes Molega and Ponhook, and has the appearance of a thriving bustling place, having a daily mail and supporting four general stores, which seem to be doing a good business. The roads which two years since were execrable, are now much improved, especially the one leading to Caledonia Corner, some parts of which are not excelled by any in the province; thanks to the liberal road policy of the present government.

About one and a half miles from the village the celebrated Wild Cat River flows from Lake Molega to Ponhook Lake. In the spring of 1890 the Parker-Douglas and other companies conceived the idea of utilizing the water of this stream to drive their extensive mining machinery, proposing to transmit the power to their works by wire ropes, and under the superintendence of D. McDonald, of the Truro Foundry & Machine Co., the route was surveyed, stations located, etc., the volume of water at the time being capable of furnishing 1800 horse power, but the scheme has not yet been carried into execution.—G. J. M. in *Truro Daily News*.

UNLACKED DISTRICT.—The "West Lake" and "Queen" properties are both showing more gold, and the several owners are met with smiling countenances.

A new manager for the New Alpha Co. has arrived in camp, and it is expected soon to see this fine property turning out rich quartz again.

The manager of the Phoenix Co., Mr. Howe, was savagely attacked last week by two drunken miners, and was forced to shoot them both to save his life.

ECONOMY OF AN ELECTRIC MINING PLANT.—After briefly describing the Hercules mining machine, Mr. C. F. Scott, in a paper read before the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, draws a comparison between hand labor and machine labor for coal mining. In machine mining the stalls can be made much wider, because of the great rapidity of mining, so that the roof will stand a shorter time with fewer pillars. The immediate effect of the introduction of coal-cutting machinery is to reduce the cost of undercutting from 20d. to 5d. per ton of 1½ inch coal in the Pennsylvania district. Taking into account the other expenses, there is a saving of 25 per cent. Another advantage of machine mining is that perfect pillars are left and can be recovered, as there is no temptation to rot them. The reduction of the number of stalls for the same output, due to machinery, also causes a great saving in the timber, the number of roads and the tramways that have to be kept up. The saving of coal due to the introduction of machinery, is also very great; this arises from the small amount of slack and the larger coal produced by the smaller height and greater depth of undercutting, and also from the pillars not being crushed. An estimate is given of the saving in expense by using a plant of seven machines, run ten hours a day, and cutting 233 tons. The cost is £29 11s. 3d., made up as follows: Fuel, 9s. 7d.; wages, £2 10s.; deterioration of boiler, engine, electrical apparatus and wire, £1 6s.; cost of repairs, £1 8d.; cost of working £4 17s.; loading and blasting, £19 8s. The indirect saving is estimated at £2 19s. The cost of hand mining is £38 6s. 8d. The saving by the use of machines is therefore considerable in all directions.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR—UNITED STATES.—Summary of cost of Bituminous Coal (run of mine) in five establishments in the Dominion of Canada.—This summary is drawn from the preceding sub-tables A to H, though the figures of cost are there omitted and the notation made "not reported" simply to prevent identification of individual establishments. The establishments covered are numbers 147 to 151, inclusive, being all the bituminous coal mines in the Dominion of Canada from which reports were obtained. As may be seen, the period covered in each case is the Calendar year of 1889. By run of mine is meant all the coal mined of whatever size.

Elements of cost.	Tons of 2,000 pounds	
	Cost of \$93,032	Average cost of one.
Labor.....	\$751,730	\$0.842
Officials and clerks.....	22,456	.025
Timber.....	24,506	.027
Other supplies and repairs.....	78,629	.088
Taxes (a).....	55,248	.062
Total.....	932,569	1.044

SUMMARY OF COST OF THEORETICAL ELEMENTS IN THE ABOVE.

Three establishments gave the amount paid for insurance; the aggregates of these make the sum credited to this item below. For two of the agents of the department failed to obtain a statement. Three establishments gave the amount paid for interest; the aggregate of these make the sum below. Two reported that there was no expenditure for interest. All five establishments reported that nothing was charged to depreciation, and that nothing was paid as royalty to the owners of the soil. The aggregates entered in

the first column below are, of course, apportioned in the second column among the whole five establishments.

Insurance.....	\$ 2,091	\$0.002
Interest.....	17,608	.020
Depreciation of value of plant.....
Royalty paid to owners of the soil.....
Total.....	19,699	.022
a Including royalty paid to the state.		

Halo and Hearty.
The Englishman says he "drinks hail and it makes him all." The Canadian drinks Puttner's Emulsion and it makes him hearty.

I obtained a diploma at the HALIFAX BUSINESS COLLEGE during the winter of 1889, and feel amply repaid for the time and money spent there. I would recommend all who wish to acquire a knowledge of book-keeping to place themselves under Mr. Frame's instruction. They will find him a very efficient and painstaking teacher, and the course of study such as will give them a thorough knowledge of the subject.

G. W. COLE,

Bookkeeper at A. Robb & Sons, Amherst, N. B.

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