

pits of a few feet in depth, now the sinking of shafts was commenced with considerable success, and another great advantage was derived from this, whereas all operations of necessity had ceased on the commencement of winter, now the miners were enabled to work during winter with comfort and advantage.

THE GILBERT.

I took occasion to visit the mines on the *Gilbert* in March, 1865. It so happened that the day before our visit an attempt had been made to eject some of the miners from one of the claims, and when we drove up at noon the men who were at dinner came swarming out of the boarding house, like bees out of a hive, when they are intruded on; they appeared also to be much in the same tempers, as it was evident they mistook us for myrmidons of the law, but as I had been introduced to one of them in Quebec, who soon recognized me, we met a very cordial reception, and were taken down one of the shafts, a little over twenty feet in depth, where though the day was intensely cold above, there was no frost, the temperature being quite pleasant, and the water which in sum-