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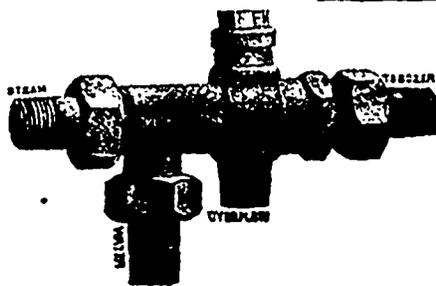
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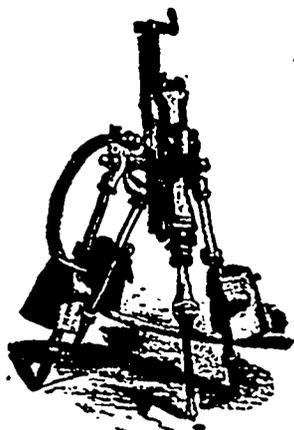
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 for 20 years steward of the Halifax Hotel,
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MINING.

The iron deposits of this Province are known to be of great extent and of the best quality, but until the past year little has been done to develop them. The Londonderry iron mines were for some years the only ones operated, but now two companies with large capital stocks are vigorously at work in Pictou County, and in the end we may enjoy some of the wonderful prosperity which has visited Birmingham, Alabama, since the opening up of its iron mines. In Pictou County there are the same great natural advantages of coal and iron in close proximity, but in the matter of climate and nearness to shipping ports the superior advantages of our iron deposits are beyond comparison. To show what iron and coal have done for Birmingham we reproduce the following article from *The Financial and Mining Record* of New York:—

"Birmingham was founded about eighteen years ago, when it was a plantation at the junction or crossways of two railroads. As recently as 1855 the population did not exceed 3,000 souls. Now the population numbers at least 45,000 with a realty valuation of \$40,000,000. There are twenty-five furnaces in the district with a daily output of 2,500 tons of pig metal. The coke ovens numbering 2,500 supply that species of fuel, and there is a daily output from the adjacent mines of about 12,000 tons of bituminous coal. The region has an excellent railway system, with a good city and suburban service also.

The town of Bessemer, which is included in the Birmingham district, is ten miles southwest of that city, and has a population of 4,500 souls. It is hardly more than two years old and has one charcoal and four coke furnaces, with an annual product of 175,000 tons, a rolling mill with a daily capacity of 100 tons, extensive fire brick works and many other industries. It has fine hotels and business blocks, water works, electric light plant and excellent railroad facilities. Coal, iron ore and limestone abound in the vicinity, and are available at small cost, thus insuring the most economical production of iron.

Ensley, another of the outlying adjuncts of Birmingham and seven miles distant, is the seat of the four great furnaces.

Anniston, 100 miles from Atlanta and 60 from Birmingham, is an industrial centre of great beauty of situation and of marked enterprise. Here the first charcoal furnace was not built until 1872. At present the invested capital in various productive enterprises may be placed at \$16,000,000 with a population of about 10,000. Here, too, are the features of a modern city. There are four charcoal furnaces with a capacity of 50,000 tons in and contiguous to the city; two coke furnaces with a capacity of 100,000 tons; large pipe works, car works, cotton mill and manifold minor industries.

Sheffield is on the opposite side of the Tennessee from Florence, and since where corn and cotton were growing five years ago. To-day there are five blast furnaces in blast, or soon to be blown, with stove foundry, machine and flouring mill and sundry other establishments. There are many handsome blocks and residences."

In the list of gold returns for August there was a mistake in crediting the Whiteburn Gold Mining Co.'s Mill, Whiteburn Gold District, with 102 ounces gold from 131 tons quartz crushed. This should have been 101 1/2 ounces gold from 31 tons crushed by the McGuire Mill in the same district. The correct return for the Whiteburn Gold Mining Co.'s Mill is 134 3/4 ozs. gold from 116 tons quartz crushed.

The Annand Mill in the Montague District has since made the following returns:—

	Tons.	Oz. Gold.
August.....	80	71
September.....	30	173 1/2

It is reported that there is considerable excitement at 15 Mile Brook over recent discoveries there.

A NEW COAL MINE.—Last fall some parties in Truro and elsewhere set up their minds there was coal in paying quantities on a branch of the New River, about 8 or 9 miles from that town, and took up a right of search. George Ross, of Truro, Dr. J. C. McDougall, of Oxford, E. A. Charters, of Sussex, and David Grant, of Pugwash River, then proceeded to provisionally organize a company to be known as the Colchester Coal Mining Company (Limited) to develop the same. The company was organized with a capital of \$50,000, and of this a certain number of shares were sold at a 25 per cent discount from par value to raise necessary funds to proceed with the work.

The number of shares set aside for this purpose having been sold, the ample funds to go on with the work of development, active prospecting was commenced in July last and has been carried on quietly since. The results have been such as to justify the company in taking out leases from the government and laying off their territory in accordance with the mining law, and it has now shown up three seams of coal—one between 4 and 5 ft., one 3 ft., and another something over 2 ft. in thickness, of splendid, highly marketable coal, free from stone, slate, or sulphur.

The condition of the veins are all that can be required, and it has been pronounced by good judges to be all right.

The company feel very much gratified with their prospects, and propose to go on developing the same as fully as their means will permit. They are themselves fully certain as to its value a slope is now being put down 100 ft on main seam and prospecting is prosecuted on other seams. The outlook is very promising.

As soon as the matter is a little further advanced, so as to fully prove the property, \$20,000 of the treasury stock will be offered for sale at par.