The mines I have seen in the Province appear unusually free of water, except such as is derived from surface where the numerous pits and cuttings form attractive reservoirs and I have reason to think that if the shafts were puddled with clay well tamped behind the lagging, very little water would be found below.

Considering the minute proportion of gold to the bulk of rock, too much care cannot be given to avoiding unnecessary handling of the ore, from which there must be loss in gold and expense. The rock as broken should fall into passes connecting with the level, when a truck after being filled carries it to the shaft, and is hoisted to surface on the cage and delivered by tramway to the Millhouse. When tipped, the ore is shot through a grizzle into the ore bins which supply the self feeders and the large lumps which fail to pass through are put into the stonebreaker. By this method, handling of quartz is reduced to a minimum.

Too often the first object of a manager is to make a good show on surface, and starts erecting substantial works before he has learnt the value of the mine, this is surely putting the cart before the horse, for surface works do not pay the dividends and it is far wiser to expend working capital *first* in development and proving what the mine contains, merely erecting such plant as is absolutely necessary to compete with the requirements of the developments, *before* launching out into handsome buildings and expensive machinery, a system which has brought many a good mine into liquidation.

Ample working capital is most essential, and I do not consider Nova Scotian mines as a rule have had a fair chance. What could have been accomplished in other countries if they had had only the few hundred pounds available, that has been the history of this Province? They would have anticipated failure and I consider very great credit is due to the mining men here to have done so much with the small means at their command.

Again, owing to the fact that many of the mines have been opened by men with small Capital, the profits have been distributed without building up a reserve fund for developing new ground when the rich ore they worked yielded smaller returns, and in consequence many mines that have yielded handsome profits in the past, are now closed down from want of funds, to open out rich ore lying below. With ample working capital the mines can be worked not only on a larger scale but drawing ore from a dozen different points, the temporary falling off in yield at one or two places does not materially affect the return.

With the experience of Indian Mines, having a working capital of at least $100.000, and those of the Transvaal where half a million dollars is far from an uncommon working capital for machinery and mine development, the small system of working in this Province, cannot be considered a fair comparison and yet I am convinced, from my own personal experience, that Nova Scotian mines will amply repay the outlay of large capital provided it is judiciously expended, I mean in bona fide development and not for show on surface.

The quartz occurs principally as bedded veins in a country formation of Talcose or Argillaceous Slate and dense quartzite tilted almost on edge, and the leads are likely to continue gold bearing to great depth, in fact, as deep as the slates. It is however, probable that the sulphurets will increase as greater depth is reached. And as considerable gold is associated with these sulphurets of iron, copper, arsenic, lead