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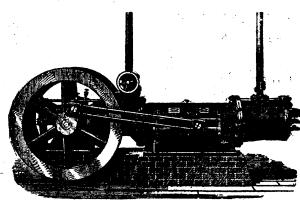
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1894-OTTAWA, APRIL-1894.

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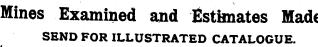
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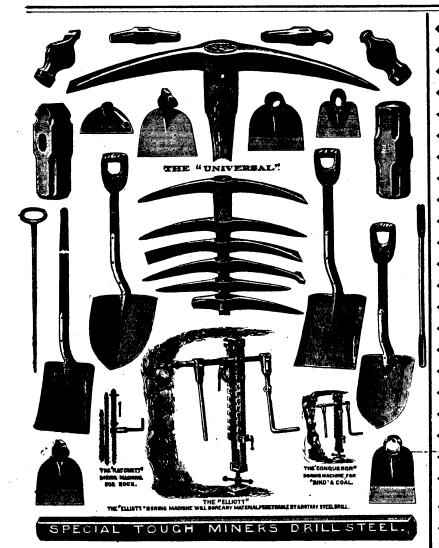
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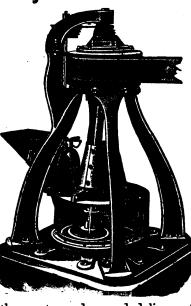
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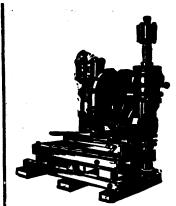
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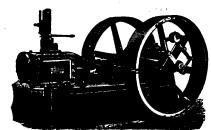
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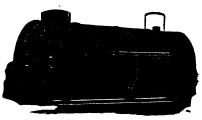
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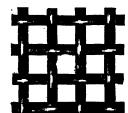
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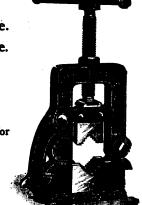
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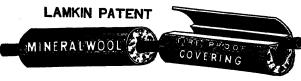
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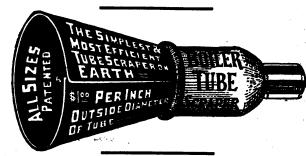
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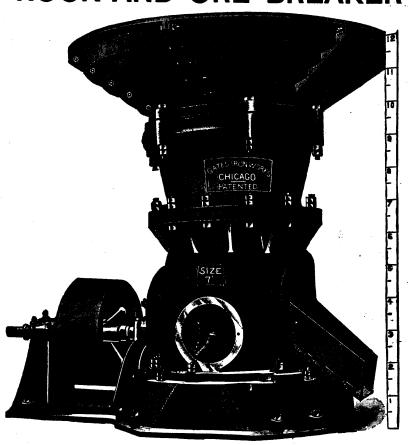
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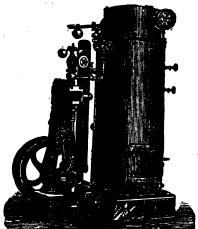
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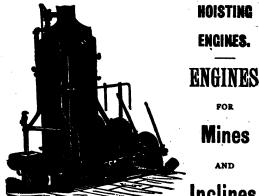
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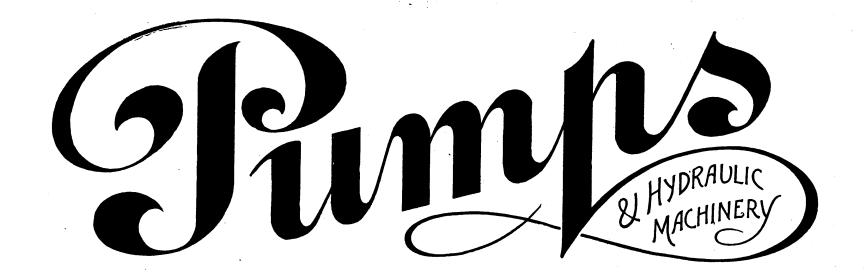
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Vol. XIII.

APRIL, 1894.

No. 4

### The Heavy Metal Trade Under the New Tariff.

A careful examination of the changes that have been made in the heavy metal schedule of the tariff shows that the principle pursued by the Government has been to give a reasonable amount of protection to natural or established industries, and at the same time to reduce to a merely nominal or revenue basis the duties on such articles as are not at present manufactured in the country, or can only be made here under very adverse conditions.

The careful investigations made by the Finance Minister and some of his colleagues, during the past summer, and the interviews they have had with all classes of manufacturers and consumers, have been productive of good results, for the Finance Minister has shown an intimate knowledge of the conditions of this business in its various branches of manufactory and importing.

The duty and bounty on pig iron have been maintained at the previous rates of four dollars and two dollars per ton respectively. This has without doubt been due to the strong representations made by the pig iron manufacturers, that the industry is still very young and a much longer period than seven years is necessary to establish it on a firm and safe basis. The past two or three years have shown a great advance in this manufacture, for whereas in 1891 the quantity of iron produced was only 23,891 tons, it is anticipated that the year ending 30th June, 1894, will show an output of about 60,000 tons. It must also be remembered that the competition of American iron is at present of a most exceptional character. Prices are ruling in the United States that do not begin to give any profit to the manufacturer, while in a great many cases they are admitted to be below cost. There is not the slightest doubt that the native ores of Canada can be melted into pig iron as cheaply as those of any other country, and it is to be hoped that the development of this industry will receive a fresh impetus from the settlement of the tariff question for another period of years.

A bounty of two dollars per ton has also been granted on puddled iron and steel ingots made in this country. The effect of this will, we hope, be the re-opening of the puddling furnaces of the Londonderry Iron Co. which have been closed down, owing to the almost total substitution of scrap for puddled iron by the rolling mills. The question arises here, why should not the rolling mills make their own puddled iron, as is done in nearly every mill in Great Britain? At present there is very little outlet for the mill and forge iron produced by the Nova Scotia furnaces, the quality of which appears to be eminently suited for puddling purposes. This is a question which we think should be seriously considered by the rolling mills of this country in view of the increased and increasing duty on scrap iron.

The reduction to a uniform basis of the duties on manufactured iron and steel is a very satisfactory change. Indeed it is difficult to understand why these two metals, so much alike in quality, and now so nearly the same in price, were taxed at different rates of duty. Bar iron and steel, hoops and sheets, etc., thicker than No. 17 gauge are now dutiable at ten dollars per ton in place of thirteen dollars and twelve dollars as before. This is rather a serious drop in the bar iron duties, when it is taken in conjunction with the increase on their former raw material. viz., scrap iron, which is now dutiable at three dollars instead of two dollars as before, and will be increased to four dollars after 1st January, 1895. With puddled bars down however from nine dollars to five dollars, and a strong chance of their being made in the country, it is likely that some change will take place in their method of manufacture. Bar iron rolled entirely from scrap, unless this scrap is selected in the most careful manner, is never so uniform and reliable as that rolled from puddled bar and scrap combined, and the complaint that ordinary Canadian iron was not always satisfactory for imported work, had a very large element of truth in it. We fancy also that makers will prefer the use of puddled bars as being much more convenient and satisfactory to handle and work. It is not likely however that much change will be made this year while the duty remains at three dollars, more especially as the ir-crease of duty has been more than counterbalanced by the low prices at which scrap is offered on account of its accumulation in the United States, much beyond their power of utilizing it in the present depressed state of business there.

The tendency is now more and more for mild steel to take the place of iron, and it is in this direction that we look for a large development in the near future. The bounty which has been established for the next five years will, we think produce good results in this department. It should enable the Nova Scotia Steel and Forge Co. to supply the demand that must now spring up from the rolling mills for blooms and billets. In our opinion that company never had such a chance as now of showing what they can do in this direction.

#### EN PASSANT.

At a special meeting of the Council of the General Mining Association of the Province of Quebec, held at Sherbrooke on 12th instant, it was unanimously decided to abandon the June meeting at Quebec and accept the courteous invitation of the Dominion Coal Co., Ltd., the General Mining Association, Ltd. and the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, to hold a united meeting at Sydney, Cape Breton, during the week commencing 7th July. Every effort, we understand, will be made to ensure a large attendance.

We are pleased to announce to our readers that we have made arrangements with Mr. W L. Blakemore, M.E., assistant manager of the Dominion Coal Co., Ltd., to furnish the REVIEW with a series of articles on the coal industries of Cape Breton. The series, which will begin with our next issue, will deal with: (1) Railway and shipping arrangements; (2) Surface equipment; (3) Methods of mining; (4) Hauling macninery; (5) Coal cutting apphances; (6) General development of Cape Breton mines.

Mr. A. M. Evans, M. E., lately in charge of the asbestos properties of the King Bros., at Black Lake, has accepted a position under the Dominion Coal Co., Ltd.,—we believe at their Gowrie mine, Cow Bay. Mr. Evans was one of the founders of the General Mining Association and the secretary of the hospitable Asbestos Club, from the members of both of which he leaves with heartiest good wishes.

In another place we publish a letter from Mr. I. B. Hammond. No injustice was intended, nor indeed we think done, to Mr. Hammond in our editorial comments of last issue on the meeting of the Ontario Mining Association, and we are quite ready to acquit him of any charge of dishonest dealing. Our remarks respecting the transaction in mining lands were, however, entirely founded upon the statements made in his own address. We understand Mr. Hammond's subject of complaint to be that while he was in New York in the latter part of 1890 "advertising and aegotiating the sale of a large and valuable mining property" in the Sudbury district the Government without warning withdrew the mining lands in that district from sale, and that although on his return immediately at the time of such withdrawal he tendered the purchase money in person for the property in question, it was refused, and he was unable to procure a title. The point of our comment was that Mr. Hammond had, according to his own admission, offered for sale a property which he did not own, which so far as his own account goes he had not indeed taken any action to acquire. Whether he was acting in his own behalf or in behalf of others, does not affect the point; apparently the negotiations were entirely in his own hands and he knew the position in which the title stood. If the money had been paid to the Government previous to the withdrawal of the lands in December, 1890, patent would have issued as a matter of course, even after the withdrawal took effect. If a portion of the purchase money had been paid and considerable expense incurred in surveying the lands or developing the mines thereon, payment would have been accepted under the provisions of the advertisement notifying the public of such withdrawal, and of the Act to amend the Mining Act passed in the session of 1891, and patent would have issued under the old Act which imposed neither royalty nor compulsory development. It was also provided in the Act that an actual explorer or prospector who had done certain development work might procure title under the old Act to a location not exceeding 160 acres. Had Mr. Hammond's case come under any one of these classes, he would have had no difficulty in securing a patent; that it did not is proof that few or none even of the ordinary preliminary steps had been taken to acquire title from the Crown.

Mr. Hammond would probably hesitate to offer for sale property which he knew to be another's, without the latter's knowledge and consent; but in mining districts and among mining brokers the lands of the Crown, that is of the public, are looked upon as fit subjects of speculation and negotiation before any ownership whatever in them has been acquired. Such a doctrine applied to private property would probably lead to unpleasant results, and we cannot but think that upon reflection Mr. Hammond will admit that it is open to objection so far as public property is concerned also.

From a correspondent who has lately been through the Sudbury district we learn that the Wahnapitae district is attracting considerable attention as a gold field. The quartz veins (if they are veins, which the Geological Survey questions) are small, rarely exceeding twelve to eighteen inches in width, but show free gold, some of the specimens being well dotted with visible specks or "sights" of the precious metal. A three-quarters' interest in one of the properties was sold to an Ottawa party last week for \$10,ooo. The mines in Algoma are reported as very quiet. The Vermillion remains absolutely closed, without even a caretaker on hand. The Ophir is reported as being run with a reduced force, and the Creighton has recently employed an expert to make a thorough examination, but his report is hot yet made public.

Now that the prospector is again in the field in Ontario, the question has been revived as to the necessity of having some public sampling works or metallurgical laboratory in the Province to which sample lots of a ton weight or more may be sent, and for which the correct metallurgical process may be determined. It has been suggested that the Government of Ontario take a leaf out of the book opened by Victoria and New South Wales in Australia, and British Columbia in Canada, and provide the funds whereby the

new mining school at Kingston may be equipped with machinery and laboratories for such purposes.

It is a fairly legitimate proposal, inasmuch as the Province will ultimately receive full value for its investment from the increased population and greatly increased taxable property that will result from a proper and healthy growth of its great mineral resources.

Mr. James Baird, whose portrait we publish elsewhere in this issue of the REVIEW, is one of those deep-chested, hearty Northmen of strong individuality, who so often make the most of unpromising surroundings, and ignoring difficulties that would dishearten less determined men, attain a measure of success. James Baird was born in Northumberland in 1840, and under his father, who had a small landsales colliery, he began work as a driver underground at the age of eleven. Later on he helped with his father's contracts, exploring and sinking, and when seventeen years of age he was accepted as a coal cutter. For a few years he varied the scene of his labors and familiarized himself with several modes of working coal in Northumbrian and Scottish collieries; the changes that he made from pit to pit were not always intentional, but were often necessitated by the strikes so rife in the labor world of that period. In 1863, hearing of the gold diggings of Nova Scotia, he decided to try his fortune in the New World, but in neither of the districts of Montagu or Waverley did he find the "strike" he then sought, so he looked again to coal and went to Cape Breton. At Sydney mines a labor strike for the seventh time directed his attention elsewhere, and the spring of 1866 found him exploring the south head of Cow Bay. His explorations led to that locality being bought up by a company, and he was appointed manager Later on, the Reciprocity Treaty with the 'States having lapsed, he became the company's lessee. In this position he played many parts, and in turn performed the duties of miner, engineer, wharf-builder, and shipper, thus adding to his varied experience. In the meantime he had paid England a visit and made a tour in the United States. Finally he left Cow Bay in 1883 to accept charge of the Chignecto mine, which he managed with credit for many years, though not without anxiety to himself, for he had frequently to contend with mine fires; in fact his first Sunday at Maccan was thus spent underground. On another occasion we expect to publish his experience in dealing with spontaneous combustion in pits. On the transfer of the Joggins mines in 1890 the management was put into the hands of Mr. Baird. He thoroughly reorganized the system of working and successfully adopted the longwall method. Mr. Baird is the inventor of a railway frog of much merit, and he is one of the most active members of the Board of Examiners for granting certificates to colliery officials.

South Wales in Australia, and British Columbia

Ontario is to be congratulated in having at last succeeded in organising an association of

mining interests, which commends itself to the hearty support and encouragement of all in any way interested in the development of the mineral industries of the Province, and which bids fair in a short time to rival the older societies in Quebec and Nova Scotia. The initial meeting of the Ontario Mining Institute, though very hurriedly convened, was favored with a large and representative attendance, and great unanimity and enthusiasm characterised the proceedings. A detailed report of the meeting will be found elsewhere in this number.

We appeal to the mining men of Ontario of all conditions and capacities to unite for mutual benefit in maintaining this organization, which may be made the means of great individual culture and pleasure, as well as the instrument of the province's material progress in the development of her mineral wealth. If any one has a criticism to make, or a suggestion to offer, instead of uttering it in a carping manner in the press, let him show his genuine interest in the mining industry by joining the Institute and trying to make it what he thinks it ought to be. The first regular meeting for the reading and discussion of papers and the transaction of business will be held in Toronto, in September, when we understand a large and varied assortment of contributions to the mining literature of Ontario will be submitted by the best authorities.

Considerable interest is being taken in the discoveries of gold which are reported from the Rainy River district. The Huronian formation, in which all the gold reefs of the Lake of the Woods, Rainy Lake and Rainy River districts are found, strikes north of Port Arthur about six miles. It crosses the Canadian Pacific near Kaministiquia station, crops up at the international boundary near Gunflint Lake, Minn., on the line of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western railway, and continues well along the boundary to Rainy lake. Gold veins have been tested and proved to carry free milling ore on Lake Shebandowan. The townships of Moss, Partridge and Osinawe Lake, south and west of Savanne, on the Canadian Pacific, at Lake Harold in the Atikokan region, and Lake Wabigoon. Samples of ore have been taken from all these localities carrying from \$15 to \$1,500 in gold per ton. The only means of access to this country will be either by steamer to Port Arthur or by rail to Winnipeg; and by Canadian Pacific to Rat Portage, thence by steamer to Rainy Lake.

The doings of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia are in the eyes of the editor of the Journal News of Stellarton, N.S., as the flaunting of a red garment before a mad bull. Flicks of his tail we have erstwhile noticed, followed our references to the quarterly meetings of this Society, but after our last issue, reporting the success of the annual meeting, he could restrain himself no longer. He perspired gall, and dipping his pen in the drops that caught in his beard—a beard, by the way, as false in color as



MR. JAMES BAIRD.

his assumption to be the one and only exponent of mining interests in Nova Scotia he over-flowed with personalities.

Who is this being who vertures to leave the plane of impersonal discussion when others take up matters of which he claims to be the heaven (2) sent guardian. Is he immaculate, a Chesterfield in manners, or a Breckinridge in tone? Does his commanding presence, the dignity of his person, the measured sweetness of his accent, the modesty of his demeanor, the scrupulousness of his dealings with the humble men whose patton he is, leave him like Casar's wife and unbegrined.

Or can it be he sees not himself as others see him, as welcome as a gust of March wind in the legislative halls; respected with the respect accorded a tarantula: hailed as well met at those leaden state functions to which he is once annu ally bidden, as a blast from a charnel house would be at a funeral breakfast. He sneers, does this little blue haired terrier, at the dinner to which his master, Mr. Fielding, found time to attend even in the midst of a political campaign. Has the fellow ever really dined; does he know the meaning conveyed by the words "after din ner," or that there is a wide difference and a respectable middle ground between a dinner of herbs and drunken orgies? Nerve food he talks of--had he referred to "tangle leg" as an efficaceous stimulant for the preparation of temperance speeches he could have spoken with authority.

There is another aspect of this attack that must not be overlooked. This embodiment of envy, hatred and malice may as well at once understand that by lying and slandering the Mining Society he is not going to deter members from discussing subjects of interest to their profession. He drags in the P. W. A. for a purpose to rouse if he can class prejudice and bring him in the dues that are fast making him a man of wealth. He wants an excuse too for playing the skunk and squirting his vileness over those who do not sheer aside and leave him the full width of road his egotism demands -a line of writing that is sure to give delight to the baser sort, but which we know is deprecated by the vast majority of the working men of Nova Scotia.

The earliest known geological map is that of England, published by William Smith, in 1815-19. In a recent paper, Sir Archibald Geikie has something of interest to say regarding it. He writes—"Before geology became organized into a definite branch of science, men began to perceive that our fundamental requisites, as a grand work for the show of the rocks of the earth's crust, alike in the theorical and industrial aspects, lay in the delineation of the respective areas of these rocks upon maps. At first, the maps so constructed were merely rough representations of the general distribution of the mineral masses. They were mineralogical, or as they were called then, geognostical, that is

they only aimed at an indication of the relative positions of the rock at the surface. It was not until the time of William Smith that geology was supplied with the means of determining the true succession of the stratified rocks, apart from even lithological characters, which had previously been the only guide. Well may we look back upon that great pioneer as the father of English Geology. In every department of the science, we may trace the direct or indirect influence of his fruitful labors. But in no branch of investigation has this influence been more profound than in geological map-making, and in the assistance which geological maps have furnished to the onward progress of the science. The earliest true geological map, as distinguished from its geognostical or mineralogical predeessors, was the famous map of England, laboriously constructed by Smith himself, after years of patient investigation, and published in 1815-1819. The appearance of this map marks an epoch in the history of the science. It showed now for the first time how the successive stratified formations of the earth's could cover be recognized and traced, apart altogether from their varying mineral characters, and how the geological structure of one country could be logically compared with that of other countries, In fullness, accuracy, and artistic delineation, an enormorous advance has been made, during the last three generations in the construction of geological maps, but the initial impetus of this advance must unquestionably be traced to the land surveys of William Smith."

Sir Archihald has also much to say regarding the relation of a Geological Survey to the public, and points out that, from the beginning of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, it has been continually referred to by all branches of the Government Service for information regarding questions in which knowledge of geology is required. The sinking of wells, the choice of sites for forts and Government buildings, the placing of graveyards, the selection of materials for buildings or roads, or nature of soils and sub-soils with reference to matters of drainage, these and many other subjects have been reported on.

A correspondent of the Halifax Critic writes to that paper declaiming against a bill which was passed at the last session of the Nova Scotia Assembly, amending Chapter 121 on "The Partition of Land" by making the provisions of that Act apply to leases of mining property as well as to real estate. The reason of the amendment is patent to all our Nova Scotia friends who, in the past, have been saddled by the once absurd practice of the Mines Department with an unwished for co-ownership in mining property. Two years ago, through the efforts of the old Gold Miners' Association, a change in the wording of one of the paragraphs of Chapter 7 (on Mines and Minerals) was made which prevented any future union of unwilling co-owners and made it mandatory to sell at public auction any property for which there were two or more simultaneous applications. The effect of this change has been most salutary, and the prevention of future errors having been thus satisfactorily accomplished the next step was to provide legal and equitable means for the divorce of those owners who had been unwillingly, and in many cases, unwittingly forced into a joint ownership. The amendment spoken of (to Chap. 121) is the result. That it can be productive of anything but good, we are unable to see.

There are many cases, far too numerous in Nova Scotia to-day, where this unwilling and unequal joint ownership is directly responsible for the condition of inactivity in which these properties are found. Given diverse ownership, without any co-partnership by which the ownership may be dissolved, and in nine cases out of ten the natural unequal status of the owners will produce a condition of things ordinarily known as a "freeze-out, the inevitable and immediate result of which is the stoppage of work upon the property so owned. In nine cases out of ten also the disaffected parties will neither sell nor buy from each other, nor agree to sell to an outside third party. However much such a state of things may accord with the wishes of the owners, which we may be permitted to doubt in every case! it certainly is not in accord with the true development of the country, for the country's benefit as a commonwealth, particularly when, as is the case in Nova Scotia, the mineral development of the Province is perhaps its best asset.

It is not perhaps necessary to refer to the letter of this correspondent to the Critic further, as it is quite apparent that he has never read the Statute he refers to or he would never have written "The only fair way to do would be to sell the property at auction." It is expressly provided in the Chapter on the "Partition of Lands" that when the Commissioner cannot. from the nature of the property, make an equitable division, they are to so report to the Court. which will then order a public sale of the property for the benefit of all concerned. It is simply childish, and in exceeding bad taste, to complain of a chance of unfair treatment by Commissioners appointed by the Supreme Court . of the Country, and to advise resisting such appointment is to lay oneself open to contempt

The Critic does not publish the name of its correspondent, probably he is non-est and this letter, like so many others, may have originated in the editorial brain. It is in some points humourous, as for example when it says the law "is liable to be serious"—(we supposed all laws were serious)—and also when it alludes to the possible danger to "easy-going owners of shares in mines." If there are any "easy-going owners" who will be made serious and hardworking by this amendment, we think there is randant justification for its passage without saying a word more.

A deputation interested in the production of Canadian graphite had an interview with the Dominion Government the other day and asked for a repeal of the proposed change in the tariff whereby imports of this mineral are to be brought in at 10 cents instead of 15 cents as formerly. The Walker Mining Company, which at present is making extensive preparations for a season of unusual activity at the Ottawa County mines, purpose manufacturing their well-known products on a large scale. The principals of the concern claim that the old tariff is necessary if their manufacturing business is to succeed.

The last act in the doleful history of the notorious General Phosphate Corporation (Ltd.) was played at Buckingham this month, when the machinery, plant and equipment was sold at public auction by the Receiver. The sale was insufficiently advertised, and the attendance of buyers, as a consequence, was meagre. The amount realized was a mere pittance, hardly sufficient, we should judge, to cover the expense of its removal from the mines to place of sale, and the commission of the auctioneer.

No judgment has yet been given in the suit of the Johnson's Company (Ltd.) and Bell's Asbestos Company (Ltd.). We hope to give the judgment of the Supreme Court in our next issue.

A good deal of attention is being directed just now to the Chaudiere gold district as a field of great promise for remunerative investment, and it is not unlikely that some important operations may be carried on this year by American and Canadian capitalists. By the way, this reminds us that as the DeLery leases expire this summer, a capital opportunity is afforded the Quebec Government for buying out the rights of this use less monopoly. \$55,000 is mentioned as the price at which the Seigniory rights may be acquired, but this would be a bagatelle, even to an impoverished treasury, in view of the undeniable richness of the territory which would accrue to the province. By throwing this field open to capitalists the Government would quickly recoup itself for the outlay, and the benefit to the Province would be great. The opportunity is truly a golden one and we trust the Quebec government will not let it pass without an effort to its acquisition.

In this connection the services of a qualified and thoroughly experienced gold mining engineer for a few months in the field would be a great stimulus to the interest that is being excited in this direction. It is undeniable, from the best of evidence, that the quartz districts alone will amply repay investigation. The report of such an engineer, employed by the Government, would be of the greatest service and value to contemplating investors during the coming season.

Mr. John Hardman, S.B., Oldham, President of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia, passed through Ottawa this month on a visit to Sudbury on professional work in connection with certain reputed gold properties in that district.

The Hon. E. J. Flynn, Commissioner of Crown Lands, Quebec, purchased recently some fifty copies of the Journal of the General Mining Association of the Province of Quebec and distributed them among the leading mining institutes and public libraries of Great Britain and the United States. This is a practical way of advertising the resources of the Province for which the Commissioner is to be commended.

The other day we were pleased to have a call from Mr. Graham Fraser, of New Glasgow, and to find him sufficiently recovered from his recent severe illness to be moving about again. He is still, however, far from being well, and as he has been ordered a complete rest, it is not unlikely that the important iron and steel establishments of which he is the principal will have to do without his services for some time.

The construction of the magnificent coal handling plant of the Irominion Coal Company (Ltd.), at Montreal, is being rapidly pushed forward to completion. The discharging and loading capacity of these towers will exercise an important economy in time, labor and money to the syndicate.

The following table shows the number of tons of coal carried over the Intercolonial Railway from the Nova Scotia collieries to Chaudiere Junction and St. John for points west thereof, and to local stations in each year since the commencement of the trade in 1878-79:—

Year.	For the Via Chaudière.	Pia	To Local Stations.	Total.		
1876-77 1877-78 1878-79 1879-80 1879-80 1881-82 1881-82 1881-82 1883-84 1884-85 1885-87 1887-88 1886-87 1889-90 1890-91 1891-92 1892-93	6,102 18,015 12,837 22,014 133,440 171,170 192,871 183,704 160,026	4,022 11,779 22,206 19,534 1,773 21,150 27,536 36,228 27,923 25,126 39,213 5,918 3,775	103,420 97,043 112,232 135,369 174,483 2252,014 213,791 215,722 233,178 309,727 338,538 366,967 344,829 382,441 402,653	103,420 97,043 112,532 136,466 184,607 248,158 262,423 293,562 349,004 407,502 453,585 529,659 526,487 556,546 498,038 433,806 543,296		

It thus appears that the largest tonnage of coal carried over the road from the west was in the year 1886, when it reached 192,022 tons, since which the through coal traffic for points west of the Intercolonial Railway has been on the decline.

A method whereby the sulphur in coals may be estimated, and their suitability for gas-making determined before purchase, has been introduced by Herr W. Hempel, an authority on coal gas in Germany. The coal to be tested is powdered and pressed into a little platinum-wire cylinder, to which a long platinum wire is attached, and

then burned. The combustion is effected in an ordinary glass bottle, which is fitted with a trebly perforated India-rubber stopper. Through this passes a tube with a glass stopcock, and which widens out into a cylinder; also two glass tubes, to the lower ends of which two thick platinum wires are fused. One of these wires carries the platinum cylinder or basket already eferred to. A little mercury is poured into the tube so as to establish sure contact with the wires which lead the electricity. When the current is passed the platinum basket becomes white hot, the combination of the coal is effected, and the gaseous products containing the sulphur compounds are led off through the stopcock and examined chemically. There is practically an improvement on the more complex method originally devised by Berthelot.

The "Heathen Chinee" has no monopoly of "ways that are dark, and tricks that are vain," but he is a wily rascal all the same, and resorts to all sorts of devices for coming out on top of the Caucasian. He has been trying to palm off brass for gold in Queensland, and he has found that the trick was indeed vain, for it has landed him in jail. A splendid imitation of a 7dwt. gold nugget made of brass was recently submitted for sale by a Chinaman to several private persons at Georgetown, but they were either suspicious or without the disposition or means to buy, and no business resulted. The son of Confucius then hied him to the Bank of N. S. Wales, where he was bowled out by the experienced bank officials, and landed in limbo. He is now doing six months hard, and probably planning further schemes for turning the baser metals into gold.

We have received a copy of a photographic representation of 33,000 yards of wire rope, loaded in one length on eight eight-wheeled bogie trucks. The rope, which was manufactured by Messes. Felten and Guilleaume, of Carlswerk, Mulheim-on-Rhine, measured 5½ in. in circumference, and weighed 210 tons.

The rate of drilling different rocks is affected by several factors, the hardness and compactness of the rock and the weight, temper and drop of the drill being most important. Still, the minerals which compose a rock may be very hard, and yet the cementing may hold the grains so loosely that the drill will make rapid progress through the rock. A feldspar cement allows of rapid progress, while a silicious binding material would resist rupture. The fine-grained rocky and steeply dipping strata are difficult to drill. The following table is given by Professor O. C. S. Carter in a paper before the Franklin Institute, to show the thickness of rock pierced by a chisel drill 20 feet long, 55% inches diameter, weighing 700 lbs., guided so as to make a round hole:

"Which is the best way to work collieries without blasting?" is the title of an article read before the Manchester Branch of the Institution of Mining Engineers, England, and is replete with good suggestions as to the manner of managing men, or, rather, their prejudices. He desired to introduce a system of mining without using powder. Eighteen years ago, he was burning 400 lbs. of powder weekly and fifteen years ago abandoned it altogether, after a battle with the employees and employers. He first experimented on piece work with increased progress. Then he extended the field of operations and the men themselves after considerable opposition consented to the trial and conceded the benefit derived therefrom. All the time, he kept the men in ignorance of his design of putting the entire mine under the system knowing that they would oppose any change which seemed to be at their expense. He says, "Up to that time we had made our waggon road in the floor, which is very hard in the Cannel mine. from 2 feet 6 inches to 3 feet thick. By careful observation I found that two men could do more work by getting roof down, without blasting, and without risk and no powder to pay for, than three men could do by the old system. Now, as I have remarked before, I had to prove this to the men's satisfaction. To do this I commenced with one or two places at first, This went on for a while and proved of such interest to the men that others wished to do the same. I allowed this to go on until, instead of 20 or more shots a day being fired we had only six." Now, he thought was the accepted time. He called the men together and suggested the change, but was met with resistance and a demand for an increase of 1s, per yard, He abandoned the plan, though he permitted such as desired to adopt the new system to do so. "As is always the case, some men went on the old system, but on more strict lines. Up to that time, shots had been fired day and night, whenever the men were ready. After the meeting, we allowed no shots to be fired between 12 o'clock at night and 6 in the morning, and then only by one man; if the men were not ready when he went, they had to wait till the next round. This state of things went on till 1878, when the men who were using powder asked me to allow them to work on the new system and cease blasting, as, they said, they could not keep up with those who had already abandoned its use. I very readily consented and we have not fired a shot in that class of work since, and we have not had one case where a man has asked to fire one." ploys picks, steel wedge, hammer and water. The use of compressed lime was not successful, but he was satisfied with quicklime and water especially where a large surface was to be lifted. In a strong floor, he puts holes 3 feet down, 3 inches in diameter and 2 feet apart. In these are placed tapered prickers in quicklime 2 feet deep and under 1 foot of clay. The pricker is drawn, water poured on, a wooden plug driven and in twelve hours the coal can be "got" with pick and bads. The lessons drawn from a study of the report are trenchant; first it shows that the average per cent. of coal won from the commencement of mining to January 1st, 1893, is

about 44, if it is assumed that the buckwheat size had been prepared during that entire time. It states, however, that the conclusion reached by it is rather a saving of not more than 30 per cent. of the coal originally contained in the areas mined over. This may be increased to 40 per cent. by the utilization of the coal contained in the culm banks, and by the reworking of a part of the territory mined over. An estimate is made of the available marketable coal now still in the ground at 6,808,000,000 tons. One statement is made that should be impressive; i.e., that some of the collieries are using, under their boilers for pumping and hoisting purposes, from 15 to 25 per cent. of their production.

According to M. Eiffel the cost of any big engineering work in lives can be estimated with at least as much accuracy as the cost in money. "It has been ascertained," he said, "by statistical observation, that in engineering enterprises one man is killed for every million francs spent on the work. If you have to build a bridge at a cost of 100,000,000 francs, you know that you will kill too workmen." The argument, while rather an ingenious one, is not, we believe, borne out by facts. Take the Eiffel Tower, for example. Six and a half millions worth cost only four lives. The Forth Bridge, on the other hand, a contemporary points out, cost 45 million francs, while the lives of 55 men were sacrificed in connection with its construction. Then in regard to the Manchester Ship Canal, only 130 lives have been lost against an expenditure of 325,000,000 frames.

In the Ontatio Legislature the Hon. A. S. Hardy, Commissioner of Crown Lands, gave notice of a resolution setting apart \$25,000 per annum for a term of five years from the 1st of July, to be paid as a bounty to miners and producers of iron ore upon all iron ore mined and smelted within the Province. The bonus will be paid at the rate of \$1 per ton of pig metal produced from such ores.

The British Columbia Legislature has passed a resolution, praying the Dominion Government to give a bounty on pig lead. "Whereas, by the Dominion Tariff a bounty of \$2 per ton on pig iron is allowed; and whereas there is a large quantity of lead ore in the Province which might be mined and become a valuable industry and source of profit: Therefore be it resolved, that the Dominion Government be urged to make a similar regulation in the tariff, and allow a bounty on pig lead."

The Hon. A. S. Hardy's amendment to the Ontario Mines Act will have passed its third reading by the date this issue is in the hands of our readers. It will, we understand, do away with all royalties heretofore reserved, and all lands sold or leased within five years from the passing of the Act will be exempt from royalties. It is quite evident that the Ontario Government is alive to the importance and well being of its mineral resources. The old law was a fair measure, to which no one acquainted with

mining legislation in other countries could raise objection, but the amendment, if it will conduce to more liberal investments of capital, will achieve a very desirable end.

We are sorry to see our friend Captain R. C. Adams of Montreal, involved in a law suit over the acquisition of his "Bon Ton" silver claim, Slocan District, in British Columbia.

The complaint sets forth that the initial post of the Bon Ton is on grounds occupied and known as the Diamond Cross claim and also that neither number one or number two post is in place, and there are no monuments or witness stakes to prove that such posts ever stood. The third and principal reason is that the record made by the defendants makes the course of the line from number one to number two post southeast, while the line as run by the Government surveyor is northeast, which brings the Bon Ton on the same ground as the License, the claim owned by the plaintiffs. The Bon Ton and the adjoining claim, the Big Bertha, have been very unfortunate for their owners. The Big Bertha was famous at one time as being one of the richest properties in the Slocan District. Four and one-half tons of ore that were milled at the Tacoma smelter carried 376 ounces in silver and 45 per cent, lead to the ton. In the summer of 1893 the ownership of the ground was disputed by the owners of the Bon Ton and after making a survey of the properties, the development work on the Big Bertha was found to be on the ground now claimed by the Bon Ton. Since then little or no work has been done on the latter mine, although it was the intention of the owners to put on a large force of men this spring. The suit promises to be a very complicated and interesting one as it involves several very fine points of law which have never come up before in a British Columbia court.

In a recent discussion of the work of the Geological Survey of Great Britain by members of the Mining Institute of Scotland, some pertinent criticisms were made which can with all truth be applied to the work of our own institution in this city. In most mercantile businesses it is the custom to advertise the articles sold and increase the agencies for their sale in different parts of the country. The opposite principle seemed to actuate the Geological Survey; advertising a new map or taking any means to push the sale of a publication was apparently a departure too sensible to be dreamt of. No wonder that the general public knew scarcely anything about the Geological Survey and its work. The work of the Survey in the mineral districts of Canada demands more attention. Instead of pushing on, at considerable expense, explorations in the "Barren Lands" and other outlandish sections of this great contineut of ours, greater energy was desirable in the collection of mining information and the publication of new editions of mineral map with sections and accompanying memoirs, which would be of greater public utility than the almost purely scientific branch of the work. A vigorous stirring up of the dry bones in the Mining Bureau is urgently required if this section of the public service is ever to attain the respect and confidence of the people of this country.

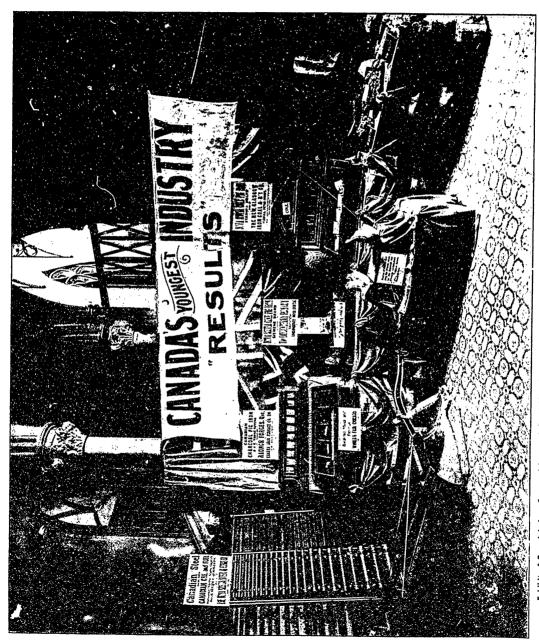


Exhibit of Ganada's Iron Ores and Iron and Steel Manufactures in the Main Entrance, House of Commons, during the Debate on the Tariff.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

The Stellarton Journal and the Mining Society of Nova Scotia.

Editor Canadian Mining Review :-

Editor Canadian Mining Review.—

SIR,—The Journal of this place comments on my address to the Mining Society at the annual meeting. The comments call for some notice. In the first place the Society is classed as a rival of the P.W.A., which has the Journal for its organ. This, as a study of your columns would make clear, is an entire misapprehension. No reference has been made to the P. W. A. at the Society's meetings, and no antagonism should arise. Clear and clean legislation is to be desired by those of both institutions who study the necessity of legislative interference. In the second place, my contention for a reconsideration of parts of the Mining Acts is based largely on those parts not expressing quite the intention of the framers of the Acts. Many of the working miners who have looked into the law find the difficulties I have already enumerated, though some of them, like the editor of the Journal, have into the law find the difficulties I have already enumerated, though some of them, like the editor of the Journal, have been misled into believing the "intention" would supersede the strict letter of the law on a question arising in court: Finally, I may suppose, on the truth of the well known advice, "When your case is bad abuse your adversary," that I should be flattered at the personalities that garnish these comments.

Yours, etc.,

H. S. POOLE.

Stellarton, N.S., April 12th, 1804.

Stellarton, N.S., April 12th, 1894.

#### Mr. J. B. Hammond and the Review.

Editor Canadian Mining Review :-

Editor Canadian Mining Review:

SIR,—In your last issue you publish an article commenting in a rather unusual way on the work of the Provincial Mining Association of Ontario at the annual meeting here on the 14th of February last. You do not attempt to disprove a single statement made in any of the papers you refer to, which would have been more to the point than a stormy tirade of personal abuse.

This young Association does not claim to have a worldwide fame, but it does claim to represent the mining interests of this disttict, which is the principal mining centre of the Province. In its membership are included the ownership of at least three-fourths of the best mining properties on the whole nickel range here, and who have, therefore, a perfect right to condemn the mining policy of the Government, as their interests are affected so disastrously by it.

trously by it.

Strangely enough, in another article in the same issue of your paper you denounce the Government for the unprogressive state of the mining industry in Ontario, and then slander us for doing the same thing in our own way. You must surely know that the dissatisfaction with the present mining policy of the Ontario government is not confined to this district or to a few men in it, but extends from the Ottawa River to Lake of the Woods and in

present mining policy of the Ontario government is not confined to this district or to a few men in it, but extends from the Ottawa River to Lake of the Woods, and includes all classes of the community. We have been struggling here for several years in trying to induce the Government by all legitimate means to adopt a more enlightened and progressive mining policy in the interests—not of the speculators and mining brokers, as you state—but of the country at large. All our efforts having been in vain, we are now going to appeal to the people of Ontario, and have no fear of the result.

Your peculiar criticisms of myself and other leading membets of the Association we do not heed. But, when you charge me with having sought "to make the sale of a large and valuable mining property of the lands of the Crown as if they had been my own," and then endeavoring "to make a public grievance of my own failure to carry out a crooked deal," my personal honor is at stake. You entirely misunderstood that part of my paper. The lands referred to in that case were held by other parties—including a member of the Ontario Legislature, and who is a supporter of the Government—and I had no interest in them whatever, outside of my commission if I made a sale. I must, therefore, request you to withdraw this charge in your next issue, and to apologize for the publication of such a false and libellous statement, or I shall be obliged to take proceedings against you for criminal libel.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES B. HAMMOND.

JAMES B. HAMMOND. Sudbury, Ont., April 6th, 1894.

[We comment on the above elsewhere.—EDIT.]

#### Mining in the Slocan District, B.C.

Editor Canadian Mining Review :-

SIR,—The period of activity which the Slocan district has experienced during the winter has been brought to a close by the approach of spring and consequent breaking up of the Kaslo-Slocan sleigh road.

The further drop in silver to 59 cents had caused one or two mines to reduce their working staff some few weeks ago, and now all the mines have ceased producing ore for

shipment and are confining themselves to development

shipment and are confining themselves to development work. Of the 12 or 15 mines which were shipping ore during the winter, the Washington was one of the first to stop producing.

This mine, the most prominent in the district for the active manner in which it has been worked, reduced its force from 50 men to 10 just about the time that silver reached 59, in the beginning of March. The Noble Five and Mountain Chief reduced their forces also about the same time, and now that ore hauling has stopped there are only about 150 men left in the hills doing development work in some 20 mines.

ment work in some 20 mines.

The business portion of Kaslo was burnt down six weeks ago, and on account of the extremely hard times has not been rebuilt, almost all the firms finding premises in other parts of the town in which to carry on their

business.

Everything in the district is at its lowest ebb and times should indeed be discouraging. This district is nothing if not a mining district, and at present nothing if not a silver producer. It is dependent wholly on the silver question; not on the high or low price of silver, but on the settling of the question—even if only temporarily—in one direction or the other. As has been so often stated, this camp would be a flourishing camp with silver at 50 cents if there were no prospects of its rising much higher, but with the present confidence of a decided increase in the price within the next year or two, mine owners feel they are deliberately throwing away money in producing silver at its present value.

are deliberately throwing away money in producing silver at its present value.

Neither despair nor hope show up at all prominently in the faces or conversation of the men of the district; they are determinedly and quietly confident. "The mines are all right; they can't run away," they say; "silver is all right; we have simply to wait." But there's the rub.

A good many men are here waiting for the snow to leave the hills to enable them to prospect. Besides the prospectors many men will find work on the Nakusp-Slocan Railway, upon which the rails will be laid this summer.

summer.

In one direction there certainly will be some activity, and it is already commencing. Capitalists from the States are realizing the fact that the holders of mining properties in the Slocan are in many cases very hard up—in a phenomenally hard corner—and they are taking advantage of this.

wantage of this.

The Slocan must await patiently the settling of the The Slocan must await patiently the settling of the silver question. When that time comes it will be in the very best shape to take full advantage of it. The mines are being opened up ready for extensive working and the necessary railway communication is being built, a sure foundation is being established which will stand the coming boom without fear of reaction.

Yours, etc.,

WAITER.

Kaslo, B.C., 19th April, 1894.

#### The Walker-Carter Process at Marmora, Ont.

To the Editor of the Review:

To the Editor of the Review:

SIR,—The bee of hard facts in Mr. Kitson's bonnet is an insect of large dimensions. Its buzz is so loud that he is deaf to any consideration of the only points which can be of interest to your readers. I will pass over the personal abuse which forms two-thirds of his letter in your last issue, and confine any further remarks to the more useful occupation of time and your space by consideration of the point at issue, namely, the successful treatment of the Marmora gold ores.

The point I take exception to is the too glowing statements brought forward in your January issue of the Review concerning this process as exemplified by the working results attained at Marmora last year, statements which I repeat are misleading and unwarranted. If Mr. Kitson or other interested promoters of the extension of the application of this process have any fresh facts in connection with their Marmora record to adduce, why does he not state them, instead of wasting your space by endeavoring to throw mud at me? Mr. Kitson has left me very little to reply to, and I hope he will stick to his text better next attempt.

Regarding the exit of the tailings at the Marmora mill

endeavoring to throw mud at me? Mr. Kitson has left me very little to reply to, and I hope he will stick to his text better next attempt.

Regarding the exit of the tailings at the Marmora mill last fall, these were pouring out of the end of a launder at the S.W. angle of the building on the verge of the river's bank, and accessible then to any one on foot; the superintendent who informs Mr. Kitson that the tailings now "run out of the mill into deep water," etc., probably found it desirable to make this improvement to their process after my visit, and thus displayed his zeal for Mr. Kitson's interests, in the same manner as when he affirmed to me that the mill was effecting a 90 per cent. "duty."

By my correspondence with Mr. F. B. Allan, reproduced by Mr. Kitson, I was endeavoring to conscientiously investigate the results attained by the Walker-Carter method at the Marmora mill, and having now completed that investigation I have formed my opinion regarding it, and am also ready to express it frankly, but I am still looking for the successful method of gold extraction for certain types of so-called refractory ores and am open to conviction only when I see the right kind of evidence and undisguised facts.

Mr. Kitson dismisses the important question of chlorington methods in a very summary manner. "everybody and the successful method of gold extraction of chlorington methods in a very summary manner." everybody

Mr. Kitson dismisses the important question of chlorination methods in a very summary manner, "everybody knows," he says, "that chlorination was tried under the best conditions at the Deloro mine, and was a decided failure." But thereby hangs a tale. Who said it was carried out there under the best conditions? If Mr. Kit-

son understands anything of the subject of which he is talking, without placing himself at the mercy of superintendents and experts, I recommend him to make a trip to the monumental Deloro property as I have done, and after he has duly seen and investigated the ore, the plant or its ruins, and the tell-tale tailings, which in this case were not carefully dumped into the river, he may get his eyes opened a little, and perhaps sympathise with this unfortunate district, which is still suffering from the moral effect of the Deloro collapse.

The cyanide treatment is demolished with equal facility by Mr. Kitson, and with apparent satisfaction to himself.

In conclusion, Mr. Kitson has failed to give to your readers the very information which I now demand, namely, the tests and results attained by the Walker-Carter process upon the mispickel ores at Marmora. We know what the process has done upon other types of ores, these have been published and discussed elsewhere, and have nothing to do with our present subject. Mr. Kitson says, "I could furnish your readers with expert opinions and tests," etc. Please give them, Mr. Kitson, although do not present others similar to that of Mr. Beckwith, which you very frankly admit "was not written for publication, but for some capitalists who desired to invest in the process!" That is just what I concluded before Mr. Kitson admitted it, and it would be interesting to know if said capitalists invested on the strength of it.

J. LAINSON WILLS.

J. LAINSON WILLS.

New York City, April 25th, 1894.

A comparison of some Systems of Machine Screening, with a description of the screens lately put down at the Foxes Bridge Colliery, Forest of

G. E. J. McMurtrie, Assoc. M. Inst., C.E.\*

The subject of the best and most economical method of screening coal, has of late years received much additional attention. It is hardly possible to overate the importance of this branch of Mining Engineering; as on the condition in which the coal of a colliery is despatched, its sale must

in which the coal of a colliery is despatched, its sale must largely depend.

The early form of screening coal can still be seen at work in some districts, and may be called the Hod and Rake system; the coal being tipped out of the tub down a bank, and the large raked into boxes, called Hods in the Forest of Dean, and carried by the men and thrown into the truck. This method of screening was very far from perfect, as it limited the coal to three sizes, and was very expensive, often costing 5d. per ton.

Passing the coal over stationary bars was the first improvement on this, and effected a very considerable

Passing the coal over stationary bars was the first improvement on this, and effected a very considerable economy and improvement in the quality of coal made, while enabling additional qualities to be made. Stationary screens are now being replaced by some system of machine screening. Of these there are several, comprising among others—

others—

The Jigger Screen with lengthway motion.

The Jigger Screen with cross motion, or the patent Lyall Screen.

3. The Greenwell Screen, consisting of a number of endless chains travelling between stationary bars of varying widths.
4. The

ing widths.

4. The Chamber's Screen, as lately seen by the Members of this Scoiety at Denaby Main Colliery.

The last consists of a number of parallel longitudinal meshed bars, carried on pins rocking in inverted steps provided in the bars, and connected to a rocking shaft at either end. A vertical and lateral movement is imparted to the bars, through rods and levers from eccentrics on a revolving shaft. revolving shaft.

The gentle rocking motion of this screen causes very

The gentle rocking motion of this screen causes very little shock to the coal, probably owing to the addition of the cast steel Tee levers **D** for working the bars vertically, and the cast steel levers **E** for working the bars laterally. It is thus a very suitable screen for a soft coal.

As seen by us it was only making two qualities of coal, and consequently all that passed through had to be further treated in a revolving riddle with varying mesh, or in some other way. It can, however, be arranged to make any number of qualities.

any number of qualities.

The accompanying drawings, for which the author is indebted to the patentee, Mr. Wm. Hy. Chambers, of Denaby, Maine, fully show this screen. Some of the special advantages claimed for it are—

- penaloy, Maine, fully show this screen. Some of the pecial advantages claimed for it are—

  (1) Large capacity, four tors per minute being effectively separated, therefore saving bank room, distance in tramming, multiplication of screens, &c., and reducing labour.

  (2) Regular delivery on to the picking bands.

  (3) Saving of breakage, only sufficient movement being imparted, to cause the small to separate from the large and fall through the meshes.

  (4) The naterial is carried horizontally or at a very slight gradient, thereby saving height in bank above wagons.

  (5) The bars can be any length to suit wagons, position or picking bands, tipplers, &c., and if necessary the coal can be picked on the screen.

  (6) Any number of mesher can be used in tiers for screening into various sizes, all working from the same set of levers with adjustable throw to suit material, each tier only occupying a space of about 12 in. in height.

<sup>\*</sup> The British Society of Mining Students.

- (7) The bars can be taken out and others substituted for a different size of coal in a few minutes.
   (8) Few wear ig parts, and these all removed from contact with the coal and dust.

for a different size of coal in a few minutes.

(8) Few wear 'ig parts, and these all removed from contact with the coal and dust.

(9) Not liable to get out of order, and easily repaired.

(10) It is perfectly noiseless in operation.

(11) No vibration to cause heapstead to rock.

(12) Very little power required for driving.

5. The Bascoup system, also specially devised to deal with very tender coal, has been very ably and minutely described in No. 3, Vol. XIV., by Mr. H. W. Hughes.

Before describing the screens put down at the Foves tridge Collicry, a few - vtes on these different systems should be of general interest, and will show the reasons guiding us in our choice of screens.

In reading Mr. Hughes account of the Bascoupsystem, one cannot help feeling that the Briart Screen is a very complicated one; and while admittedly expensive in first cost. has probably a high cost of repairs. The use of longitudinal bars in place of meshes is objectionable, as it must be much long thin coal pass through, which ought to be retained in the higher priced coal, and must mean a money loss in this way. Were the bars replaced-by meshes the principal complication in this screen would be eliminated, as also probably its principal advantage. Its great advantage is that it may be placed horizontally—though this is not always taken advantage of nad consequently is very suitable for low heapsteads. In the Jigger Screens put down by myself are indiles at an inclination of only 2½ inches per yard or barely 4 degrees, which is w.r.) little from being horizontall. If meshes replaced the bars in the Briart Screen, the inclination would probably have to be increased to this.

The Briart Screen appears to have this advantage over the Jigger, that on account of its two sets of bars and eccentries, or ellows, it has double the throw of the Jigger with single eccentric, and should, and presumably does take consequently twice the quantity. This may not, however, be always taken full advantage of, for before the coal leaves the screens i

coal leaves the screens it should be completely divided up into its different sizes, and the speed the screen is driven at has to be regulated so as to to ensure this. In common with the ligger system of screening, manual labour is diminished and all small coal removed. The cleaning bands employed are very different from what are used in this country, and cannot last as long, while apparently they are liable to give trouble from expansion and contraction.

The loading them.

traction.

The loading shoot appears to be an improvement on the usual screen door or balanced shoot working on a fixed axis, and rather more than balanced with weights when empty of coal. Thus d-livers all the coal in the centre of the truck, and does not distribute it quite so fully as the Bascoup shoot. The height the coal falls, however, which after all is must important, appears to be the same is each act. in each case.

The means adopted for weighing at Bascoup, while expensive in first cost, must, be exceedingly convenient and economical of labour, especially where trucks have to

and economical of labour, especially where trucks have to be loaded to a certain weight.

The simplest way of correcting this, where all the trucks have to be weighed over one machine, is to have a platform opposite the machine, upon which a certain amount of coal is kept.

This system of weighbridges also enables every truck to lared, which is certainly generally neglected at small collicites, and sometimes at large ones; where it is done, a separate machine and clork have ty be kept for the purpose. The yearly loss to a colliery from want of taring is often very considerable, and many, if not all complaints of short weight are due to tais cause.

The Greenwell screen was fully described in No. 4 of

of short weight are due to tals cause.

The Greenwell screen was fully described in No. 4 of No. MIII. by myself. Its great advantage is ate very great simplicity, carrying with i' the very small first cost of frequires rescreen, and an almost inappreciable cost of repairs a repaire and labour together being said to cost but 3ch, per ton. No other system has yet approached this. The Poyaton collieries, where it is in use, largely supply nut fuel for the Stockport cotton mills, which require very careful screening, and it appears to give satisfaction in that district. All the cleaning has to be done on the small coal or slack portion of the screen, and in the cave of a ditry seam this must require to be of considerable length. As the chains travel 70 ft. per minute, or approximately at twice the usual speed of a travelling band, additional care is required to clean it; cherwise dirt must be carried into the nut coal. This can no doubt be modified to suit individual circumstances.

The weak point in this, as in all bar streens as com-

can no doubt be modified to suit individual circumstances. The weak point in this, as in all bus rescens as compared with the Jigger is, as before stated, that the sizing is not absolutely exact, some thin flaky pieces slipping through the bars into the wrong truck. It does not take up even the height occupied by the Briart screen, as 3 ft. plus. hopper height is sufficient for it, and the screen is absolutely level. The quantity it can deal with is 50 fear use hear.

tons per hour.

tons per hour.

The Lyall screen appears to me to have this serious disadvantage, that while gravity is dragging the coal lengthways the engine drives the screen crossways, thus retaining the coal much larger on the riddle, and bringing into play a conflict of forces which must surely try a coal in any degree tender or jointy.

The fewer shakes given to a coal the better, and the flatter, the riddle, the less must be the shock or blow per shake. Being a patent screen too, adds apparently a good deal to its cost.

Having takes all these things into consideration, and while admitting that the Briart screen can take a greator tonnage per hour, and that the Greenwell screen is stated to be cheaper in first cost, repairs and labor, yet ting

. . . . .

Jigger screen with lengthway motion, associated with a proper system of picking bands, appears to combine the most perfect system of sizing the coal yet adopted, together with an excellent system of cleaning the coals 2 ad conveying them to the different trucks. This system was consequently selected for the Foxes Bridge screens.

The Scottish Institute Report on Screening (part of Vol. XL) is, as far as dry screening is concern it, cry largely a report on the lengthway ligger system concerning, either alone or united with travelling picking badds. Its very gener, I adoption, in all the English and Scotch coalifieds, attest the value of this system of screening, modified or adapted to sait the requirements of the different seams and districts.

The accompanying drawings, which comprise sections of

different seams and districts.

The accompanying drawings, which comprise sections of both of the screens, together with a plan of them and the picking bands, are the original drawings, and have been since somewhat altered in details.

This, however, does not affect the general arrangement, The quantity to be screened is 500 tons per day, got from five thin seams. One screen would be sufficient to deal with this, but on account of difference in the quality of the seams worked, the roals have to be differently screened and treated. So two Jigger screens were put down and picking bands. See Plates VI. and VII.

On the first or block coal screen four qualities are made, viz. "

made, viz. :--

No. 5. Coal over a riddle with a mesh 4 in. square.
No. 2. Coal over a riddle with 1½ in. square mesh.
No. 3. Coal over a riddle with ¼ in. square mesh, and
No. 4. Coal or the dead small is what passes through this last riddle.

On the second or Best Forest screen three qualities are

made, viz.:—
No. 1 Coal over a riddle with 1½ in square mesh.
No. 3 Coal over a riddle with ½ in square mesh, and
No. 4 Coal what passes through this last riddle.
1. Looking at the Block screen we see that the No. 5
coal passes off the riddle and down a stationary shoot with halanced mouth direct into the truck, as it requires very little eleaning. Chains enclosed in leather are hung across this shoot to check where necessary the speed of the coal.

\* \*...

the coal.

2. The No. 2 coal passes off the jiggers in the opposite direction and down a short jugging shoot to a picking band, along which it is conveyed-to the track, and on which any dirt is picked out. The fact of the fall from the end of the No. 2 riddle to the No. 2 band being insufficient to carry the No. 2 coal down a stationary shoot, necessitated this shoot being made to jig, although a stationary shoot would have been preferable.

3. The No. 3 coal passes off the No. 3 riddle on to the No. 3 band, on which it is cleaned.

4. The slack passes down a stationary shoot into the truck.

If we turn now to the Best Forest Jigger we find :-

If we turn now to the Best Forest Jigger we find:

(1) The No. 1 coal passes down a stationary shoot on to the No. 1 land, on which it is very carefully cleaned. It passes off the band and down another short stationary shoot into the truck.

(2) A stationary shoot delivers the No. 3 coal into the No. 3 land.

(3) The first portion of the slack shoot of this screen had to be made to jig, as the fall into the truck from the riddle end was found insufficient to deliver the coal into the truck.

The great saving in height obtained by machine screens as compa. ed with stationary screens, is well shown by the fact that one of the riddles is inclined only 2½ in. per yard or barely 4 degrees, while the slack coal rhoot dips 1st. 11 in. per yard or 31 degrees.

The inclinations of the various riddles, together with their areas, entirely depends upon the amount of small upon the screen at one time, and the amount of small coal in it. This has to be arranged to suit individual

coal in it. This has to be arranged to suit individual

circumstances.
The tippler in uselis Rigg's Patent tippler, with a heavy flap, .ctaning the coal till close down upon the screen and thus reducing breakage. The average weight of a cart of coal is 23 cwts, which is a considerable quantity to pass down a screen at one time. In such a case it is best to pass it down a stationary shoot at least 6 ft. long before it passes over the jigger.

before it passes over the jigger.

The riddle are all woren on frames, except the No. 2 riddle, which is ½ in. square iron riveted in a frame, and fastened to the jigger frame by four 2, sx ½, in. Lolts.

Under every riddle is a wide sheet iron shoot, carrying all the coal that has passed through the upper riddle, to the head of the lower riddle.

The picking bands are all 44 (i. in length, the No. 1 hand is 3 fth. wide, and the Nos. 2 and 3 hands 2 ft. 11 would have been much better had these been respectively 4 ft. and 3 ft. The plates consist of 4 ft. steel 124 ft.

would have been much better had these been respectively 4 ft. and 3 ft. The plates consist of ½ in. steel 12½ in. long. In each case the plates are riveted by means of angle iron and six ½ in. rivets, to two endless chains consisting of steel links 2 in. deep and ½ in. wide, by 1.2½ in. long, connected together by strong ½ in. rivets. The steel links, in the case of the two narrow bands, form a guard on either side of the band to keep the coal on it. The 3 ft. band has the steel links underneath it, and no guard on top, the m.ker's idea being probably to save an extra drum at eith. r end, and the accompanying extra endless chain. extra endless chain.

extra endless chain.
When this hand has to be replaced this will be altered
as suggested, as while the narrow bands have given no
trouble at all, this has. The large rivets fastening the
steel links together wear very badly against the angle iron
frame, and frequently require renewal, and the plates are
more liable to catch and to rip off than on the other
bands, which are obiviously stronger to resist this. Each

band traven along the top on  $2_{12}^{2}$  in, angle iron, and returns over some five 4 in, east irdn rollers. The drums are in every case hexagonal and 2 ft, diameter. The whole band is built up on a pitch pine frame 12 in. by 4 in, and in each case a pair of 1 in a screws tighten out of in.

The thickness of the No. 3 coal allowed to travel along the No. 3 band, is strictly regulated by a board placed across the band; this forms one side of a small box arranged to hold any temporary accumulation of No. 3 coal that may take place from this.

No regulation is necessary in the case of the No. 1 or

No. 2 cuals.

No. 2 coals.

All three bands are driven off one common shaft. This reduces the shafting and gearing required, and the consequent expenditure. So far this has not caused inconvenience, but a better arrangement might have been, to have opposite each band a small wheel on this main shaft, gearing into a second wheel on a short drum shaft on the driver end of the band, fitted with a clutch for throwing it in and out of gear.

In the Forest of Dean it is the custom to cobble or top the No 5 and No. 1 coals off; when the trucks are nearly

In the Forest of Dean it is the custom to cobble or top the No 5 and No. 1 coals off; when the trucks are nearly full and the coal lies high in the middle of the truck, the coal will not discharge itself from 'to delivery shoot, as this has been kept down within one foot of the top of the ten ton truck, to reduce as far as possible the fall and consequent breakage. The land has then to be freuently stopped to clear the shoot and cobble the truck. Consequently this governs the working of the screens. For this reason in our own case a clutch arrangement is unnecessary for the No. 1 and No. 2 bands; though possibly it would be an improvement to the No. 3 band, as No. 3 coal is made on both the screens. It is clear, too, that it would not to twork the screens and stop the bands; as should this be done the coal would be delivered in a heap on whatever band was at rest, at divould give no change on whatever band was at rest, at divould give no change

would not do to work the screens and stop the bands; as should this be done the coal would be delivered in a heap on whatever band was at rest, ard would give no chance for examination and cleaning. This custom of cobbling keeps a man in brith the No. 1 and No. 5 trucks, consequently after passing off the No. 1 band, the coal has a second examination. In the case of the No. 5 coal, the coal is entirely examined in the truck itself by one man, or, if much No. 5 coal has to be made, by two men. Two men are kept upon the No. 1 band, 2 boys on the No. 2 band, and four boys on the No. 3 band, which carries the bulk of the dirt. Two men are required to chip and clean the coal picked out of the No. 5 truck and off the No. 1 band. No one is kept on either screen, though one man is required for each screen to put the coal into the tipper. One man is necessary to regulate the supply of trucks and to finish off the slack waggans. In consequence of frequently having to start or stop the screens and bands for cobbling, an engine-man is necessary although the engine is fitted with a Pickering high speed governor, which would but for this make a driver unnecessary. An official called locally a "cropper," whose duty is to watch the carts and see that an unfair proportion of slack is not put into a cart, and if so to "crop" or take off what is considered fair, supervizes the whole of the screening, and regulates the coal passed over either screen.

The engine driving both screens and bands is a single

whole of the screening, and regulates the coal passed over either screen.

The engine driving both screens and bands is a single 14 in. horizontal with 2 ft. stroke, a light fly-wheel, and 3 in. steam pipes. As will be seen from the plans, a belt driven off the fly-wheel shaft drives a 334 in. shaft, and which are the four cames of the two jugger screens. Off this shaft a second belt drives a 236 in. shaft, on which is a bevel wheel gearing into a second bevel wheel on the main 334 in. driving shaft of the bands.

Both these driving belts are 6 in. Gandy Cotton belts with patent Lagrelle fasteners, and have so far answered very well. They bear exposure to weather well, and do not slip even when a stream of water is running off them. The engine is driven at 60 strokes, the jiggers go 100 strokes, and the bands travel 30 ft. per minute. Both jiggers are stypended from a pitch-pine framing 12 x12 in. by means of four 2 in. round iron rods.

All the woodwork carrying the jigger screens, bands, etc., consists of strong pitch pine balk 12 x 12 in., strongly boiled and braced together. The stoke of the cams can be varied from nothing to 6 inches, the original idea being to give as short a stroke as possible; it has been found necessary, however, to utilize the full 6 in. stroke.

Heating of the cams has given soo- terouble, and sev. al of the original cast-iron eccentricstra + have been broke, owing to this. These are being repla. All by wrought iron of stronger section, welded to the connecting rod instead of bolted as formerly, when the bolts occasionally gave

of bolical as tormerny, when the beautiful as section, but most of the heating is due to dust getting between the cam and the excentive straps, which cannot be prevented. Sometimes towards the end of a day a strap will suddenly get hot after working cold all day.

As the new screens had to take the place of two stationary bar screens, it was important to utilize as far as possible the old framing and shoots. This added considerably to the difficulty of putting down these new screens, and caused certain modifications which would not otherwise have been adopted.

wise have been adopted.

These screens have now been working since the commencement of the year, and have so far given every satisfaction, for while the different qualities are strictly screened, every possible eart. Taken also to despatch the coal free from stone or other impurity.

The entire absence of complaints from those trading with the colliery bears eloquent testimony to this, while the cost of screening and cleaning the coal has been reduced, and this too at a very moderate outlay.

#### Ontario Mining Institute.

### Successful inauguration of a new representative mining organization in Toronto.

A large and representative gathering of gentlemen interested in the development of Ontario's mineral resources interested in the development of Ontario's mineral resources was held in the Rossin House, Toronto, on Tuesday, toth inst. Mr. James Commee, M. P. P. Port Arthur, was called to the chair, and Mr. G. R. Jones elected Secretary to the meeting. Mr. B. T. A. Bell, Ottawa, being called upon, explained what had been accomplished by mining organizations in the Provinces of Quebec and New a Scotia. The Chairman then asked those who were desirous of becoming members of an Ontario organization to come forward and sign the roll of membership.

The following were enrolled . Prof. Nichols, School of Mines, Kingston, Prof Miller, School of Mines, Kingston, A. Blue, Director of Mines, Toronto, J. W. Cibson, Bureau of Mines, Toronto, W. Hamilton Merritt, A. R.S.M., Toronto, B. T. A. Bell, Canadan Mining Review, Ottawa. B. I. A. Bell, Canadian Mining Re G. A. Spotswood, M. E., Kingston, Folger Bros., Kingston, J. B. Carruthers, Kingston, J. M. Machar, Kingston, J. Bawden, Kingston, T. Birkett, Kingston, W. A. Miller, Change W. A. Allan, Guawa James Conmee, M.P.P., Port Arthur. J. M. Clark, Toronto. J. M. Clark, Toronto.
Thos. Shorns, Toronto.
L. A. Morrison, Toronto.
D. F. Burk, Port Arthur.
Ian Cameron, M.E. Sudbury
R. H. Ahn, Toronto.
John McKellar, Fort William John McKellar, Fort William
Peter McKellar, Fort William.
Thomas, Marks, Fort Arthur.
Edgar J. Jarvis, Toronto.
Dr. Coleman, School of Practical Science, Toronto.
B. J. Townsend, Toronto.
J. F. Latimer. Toronto.
J. F. Latimer. Toronto.
Edward Faye, Toronto.
Edward Faye, Toronto.
Edward Faye, Toronto.
Edward Faye, Toronto. Edward Faye, Toronto.

E. S. Townsend, Toronto.

J. T. Laudlaw, Toronto.

M. J. Patteron, Webhwood.

T. D. Ledyard, Toronto.

F. A. Fenton, Toronto.

George T. Marks, Port Arthur.

J. J. Kingsmill, Toronto.

R. W. Pritte, Toronto

And about half a dozen others.

#### Election of Officers.

It having been resolved that the organization should be named the Ontario Mining Institute, and a constitu-tion and by laws having been drawn up, the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—

President

James Conmee, M.1.1., Fort Arthur.

Vi : Pre ident.

J. J. Kingsmill, Q.C., Toronto, Archibald Blue, Toronto, Prof. W. L. Goodwin, Kingston, W. Hamilton Merritt, A.R.S.M., Toronto.

Trasurer .

Secretary :

I. W. Gibson, Toronto. B. T. A. Bell, Ottawa.

Council:

Prof. Coleman, Toronto,
Peter McKellar, F.G.S. V., Fort William,
Prof. Nichol, Kingston,
J. M. Clark, Toronto. J. M. Clark, Toronto, William Young, Rat Portage, Ian Cameron Sudbury, T. D. Ledyard, Toronto, W Carscallen, M.P., Marmora, Dr. Ames, Toronto.

#### Amendment to the Ontario Companies Act.

The following resolution, moved by J. M. Clarke, seconded by J. J. Kingsmill, Q.C., was unanimously adopted.

Resolved. "That in the opinion of this Institute an

Act should be passed at the opinion of this Institute an Act should be passed at the present session of the Ontario Lagiclatort, placing beyond doubt the power of joint stock companies to issue shares at a discount, the present uncertainty on this point being especially detrimental to the mining industry.

#### Motion to Incorporate.

It was moved by Judge Kingsmill, seconded by Mr. Marks and resolved: "That the Council be directed to consider the question of Incorporation, and they are hereby authorized to apply therefor, if after consultation it is thought desirable."

#### A Mining Joint Stock Companies Act.

It was resolved on motion of Mr. D. F. Burk, Port Arthur, seconded by Mr. T. D. Ledyard: "That a committee comprising Messrs Connee, Kingsmill and Marks, together with the mover and seconder be, and are Marks, together with the mover and seconder toe, and are hereby appointed, to wait upon the Ontario Government forthwith, and ask that a Mining Joint Stock Companies Act be passed, providing that the only penalty attached to the non-payment of calls upon mining stock be the forfeit-ing of the amounts already paid upon their stock."

#### Mineral Exhibits at International Fairs.

Moved by Mr. L. A. Morrison, Toronto, seconded by Mr. John McKellar, Fort William: "That it is the opinion of this Institute that the mineral interests of Canada should be represented at all the great international exhibitions by one who is scientifically and practically acquainted with the great mineral resources of this Dominion." Carried.

#### Government Aid to Iron and Steel Production in Ontario.

On motion of Mr. W. Hamilton Merritt, seconded by Mr. T. Shortiss, the following resolution was adopted: "That it would be in the best interests of the Province were the development of the natural mineral resources substantially assisted by the Provincial Government, particularly in the case of pig iron and steel produced in Ontario, and that also the manufacture of steel rails and nickel-steel in Canada he practically assisted by the Dominion and Provincial Governments."

#### Aid to Metallurgical Treatment of Gold Ores.

The next resolution introduced occasioned a long and animated discussion, in which nearly all present took part. Here is the resolution

Asset is the resolution. Moved by Meser Latimer and Cooper, "That it would be distrible for the Provincial Government to encourage the development of the refractory gold ores in Ontario, and with this in view to give a prize of not less than and with this in view to give a prize of not less than \$10,000 for the best process of extracting gold from refractory ones—that is to say the process that "ill produce the largest amount of gold from a specified quantity of ore a minimum cost and on such a scale as to be a commercial success.

commercial success."

The H T A Bell vigorously opposed the passing of this resolution, saying that the Institute should not, at its first meeting, commence by asking the Government to bonus the mining industries of the country—and the resolution meant nothing else. He claimed that what the Government should do its to compet those holding mining Lands to open them up and work them.

Prof. Coleman also opposed the resolution, stating that whoever did discover a better method of treating refractory ares would have his reward from the whole world, provided he patented his method.

Mr. Connec supported the motion, thinking that everything possible should be done to encourage the industry

After a discussion lasting for about an hour the motion It was decided to hold the next meeting in Toronto

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman and acting Secretary and to Mr. Bell the meeting adjourned.

#### A Deputation waits upon the Government.

On Wednesday afternoon, 11th inst., a deputation from the Institute was favoured with an interview with Sir Oliver Mowat and the Hon. A. S. Hardy. There were about twenty present. Mr. D. F. Burke and Mr. J. M. Clarke explained the operation of the Provincial Campanies' Act in so far as it related to mining companies, and urged that an Act should be passed which would permit mining companies to issue shares at a discount. Mr. Burke calling attention to the beneficial mining companies legislation existing in several of the States. Mr. B. T. A. Bell directed attention to the value of diamond drilling as a means of determining the value and extent of mineral deposits, urging that the Government might with advantage to the Province, expend an appropriation of a few thousand dollars in the acquisition of a drill, and in the employment of an expert operator.

few thousand dollars in the acquisition of a drill, and in the employment of an expert operator. The stablishment of a Metallurgical Works in connec-tion with the School of Minesat Kingston, would also be of great service, not only to the students but to the mineral operators, many of whom had been compelled for lack of such works to ship carload lots of ores for treatment to other countries. He concluded by citing a number of figures, showing the appropriations made by other countries to aid the development of mining.

#### Notes on Coal-Getting by Machineay.

By T H WORDSWORTH

The uncreasing demand for large coal (even at a higher price) in preference to small coal; the fact that the production of coal per man employed is decreasing; the exhaustion of many of the thicker scams and consequent opening out of thinner ones; the working of scams at greater depths and increased temperatures; all tend to the substitution of machinery for hand labor.

A large number of holing machines have been constructed, amongst which may be mentioned the Firth puck machine; the Rigg and Meiklejohn, the Winstanley, and the Gillot and Copley disc or wheel machine; the Bower and Blackburn rotary bar machine; the Ingersoll sadgent percussive machine; and the jeffrey machine has been in successful use in recent years in the United States of America. It consists of a cutter-bar, 3 to 3½ ft. long, mounted 3x pt. and of a steel sliding frame, on the opposite end of w ich is face the electric motor or compressed air engine (toe machines being adapted for either). This frame slides inside a stationary one built of two channelions; the frames being connected by mek and pinion gear. The cutter-bar is revolved by chain gearing, and is at the same time advanced by the rack and pinion into the vail, making a cut 3 to 3½ ft. wide, 5 to 6 ft. under, and a inches high. The time occupied in each case for each cut is said to be from 3 to 6 minutes.

It is not intended in this paper to enter into a comparison of the various machines, since what may be economical in one seam with a good roof and other favorable

It is not intended in this paper to enter into a compari-son of the various machines, since what may be economi-cal in one seam with a good roof and other favorable natural conditions may be both costly and dangerous under other circumstances. The paper is simply the de-scription of the application of a machine to a particular seam, together with a statement of facts connected there-with, which it is hoped will be of some value to members who may contemplate the introduction of coal-cutting machinery.

machinery.

The Middleton main or silkstone seam at Messrs. Pope The Middleton main or silkstone seam at Messrs. Pope & Pearson's collicies, Altohs, lies at a depth of 960 to, from the surface. This seam has been worked at these collicies for upwards of thirty years at a depth of 1,60 ft, up to a large fault. The method of working at the lower level is longwall with pack, gates, the line of the lower level is longwall with pack gates, the line of the presence of certain slips which run almost parallel to the bordline of the coal and extend into the overlying strata. The seam is cryatically level, although there are occasions. The scan is practically level, although there are occasional undulations. The total thickness of merchantable coal is about 3 ft. 10 in., and consists of 10 in. of 10 pland coal and 3 ft. of gas coal, underlying which is about 10 m. of infair ft. of and and dirt lands (whetstones) containing a

large quantity of iron pirites.

On proving the seam on the higher side of the fault, it On proving the scan mon the higher side of the fault, it was found to be comparatively free from the above mentioned slips. The alsence of these slips and a consideration of the nature of the roof and floor, the depth from the surface, etc., led to the adoption of the system of working from which it will be seen that the line of face is plumb end. The unain-endings are driven in pairs, 7½ and 7 feet wide respectively, with 1,980 feet between each pair. The nain-bords (each 9 feet wide) are driven in pairs, 1,650 ft, apart. The endings are all 7 feet wide and driven 132 ft, apart, and about 675 ft, long to the covering-books. Each working face is about 1,710 ft, long, leaving a coal-pullar about 120 ft, theck next to the main endings.

When this scan was opened out, an attempt was made to hole by hand, but the cost of working was high. The

When this seam was opened out, an attempt was made to hole by hand, but the cost of working was high. The holing is now cut by machinery in the whestones imme-diately below the good coal, the remaining portion of the inferior coal and dirt being removed after the good coal

lately below the good coal, the remaining portion of the inferior coal and dirt being removed after the good coal is got.

\*\*Dastrition of the Coat Cutting Mathime—The coal cutting machines are made by the Yorkshire Engine Co. Score Trains. Feel. Inst., Vol. 1., 1969 136, Plate III). The first machine supplied was made from an old pattern, and undercut to a depth of 3 to 3½ feet, with a height of 3½ inches. This cut did not give sufficient leverage to break off the coal, besides which, to allow for a corve road, the props had to be set almost in the main lucals. Mr. Garforth then suggested that a wheel should be made to undercut to a depth of 4 to 4½ feet. This was then tried with a cut 3½ inches in height, and it was found that the coal often settled down on to the dirt before it could be filled out, thus entailing a considerable amount of extra work. The height of the cut was consequently increased to 4½ inches. Experience has proved that the improved machines work more easily with the larger height of cut, as there is more room for the wheel. The cutting wheel is 65 inches in damneter, and undercuts to a depth of 4 to 4½ feet, with a cut 4½ inches high, which, it is believed, is the greatest depth and height which has yet been done by a disc machine. The cutter wheel is carried by a strong cast steet trangular shaped bracket with phosphor bronze bearing. This is attached by T headed bolts and set screws to a strong steet frame carried on three adjustable wheels, two being placed in front of the machine and one behind. On this frame are fixed the engines, second motion shaft and feed drum. front of the machine and one behind. On his frame are fixed the engines, second motion shaft and feed drum. There are two cylinders, each 9 inches in diameter and 9 inches stroke, fitted with reversing gear. The second motion shaft is driven by wheel gearing in the reduced

\* Read before the Federated Institute of Mining Engineers.

proportion of 3 to 1. A small bevel wheel on the end of this shaft is peared into a real shaft is geared into a rack near the periphery of the this shall is geated into a tack near the periphery of the cutting wheef, the carting being in the proportion of 8 to 1. The engines thus make 24 revolutions to 1 of the cutting wheef. The cutters are fixed into pockets on the periphery of the wheel, and are each held in position by a pin and set screw. There sizes of cutters are used, one single and two double, the latter being 3 and 4½ inches wide respectively.

As a result of the deeper cut, the number of shots used

As a result of the deeper cut, the number of shots used to detach the coal has been reduced about one-half; the breaks are further apart, thus allowing the props to be set between them and the face, and this, together with the fact that a greater weight of coal is underent for each time the machine is removed, has considerably reduced the cost. The machine is drawn along the face by means of a steel rope passing round a pulley block several feet in advance, and attached at one end to the bridle in from of awanees, and attacted at one can to the former in front of the machine, the other end being wound round a small drum which is actuated by ratchel gear worked by a small crank on the end of the crank shaft. By using two pawls and having three points of attachment for the connecting rod, the feed can be regulated ½ tools to 2 teeth per re-

The road for the machine consists of three pairs of flat The road for the machine consists of three pairs of flat bottomer ratio each 15 leed long, weighing 28 pounds per yard, laid on special sleepers and spragged against the props. The ional sleeper was made in the colliery slopps and is the best which has yet been tred, the rai ends sliding into a small chair and being held in position by a pin. It will be noticed that there are 4 pin holes in each end of the sleeper, two for each rail. If the outside holes are used, the road may be laid on a slight curve, which is are used, the road may be tail on a sight curve, which is of considerable advantage in straightening the road, should it by accident be moved out of line. The pulley block is attached by a hook to a D-link rivetted to a 28 lbs. rail, which is set as a prop, at an angle of about 20 degrees

from the vertical.

Some difficulty was at first experienced owing to the cutting wheel dragging, but this was overcome by balanc-ing the machine, the goal side of the machine being kept t inch higher at the back and the front end being be inch higher at the face than the front goaf side wheel.

nighter at the lace than the from goat site wheel. The machine is worked by two workmen, one in from to set any necessary timber and lay the road, the other, who is in charge of the machine, takes up the rails, clears away the debris from the machine and puts in the sprags. In addition to these two workmen there is an official, Mr. W. Bayton, who superintends the machines and work connected therewith, to whose exertions the success of the working of the coal cutting machines in this seam

The rails may be passed forward under the machine whilst it is in motion, but it is found advantageous to stop the engine when this is being done, as it gives an opportun

the eighne when this is being done, as it gives an opportun-ity of observing the root, which is of a brittle nature, and the weight comes on suddenly. With two men and under favorable conditions of roof, etc., the machine will cut a length of 480 feet in one shift

etc. the machine will cut a length of 180 feet in one shift of 8 hours, but if an extra man is sent to assist in removing the district agreed religible can be cut. The average for some time past, including removals of the machine and taking off pines, is 135 feet per shift of 8 hours.

On reaching the end of the face the wheel is detached and loaded on to a special trilley, the machine being placed on another. They can then be taken along the ordinary road to the other end of the face. By using the small trum on the machine as a windfass in loading-up the machine, low use can find tractice and one of the machine.

small drum on the meetine as a windlass in loading-up the naturine, two inen can load, take it 3,000 feet and get it ready for work in about 6 hours.

The coal-cutting machine is worked by compressed air. The compressors placed on the surface are on the wet principle, and consist of two air quinders 20½ inches in diameter, with water towers placed behind the steam cylinders, which are 24 inches in diameter and 5½ feet stroke. The -ir pressure at the surface is 45 to 50 lets, per square inch. The pressure at the machines varies from 40 to 50 lbs, per square inch. The air compressing engines work commonsily for haudage purposes during the morning shift, and for working the jumping engines and coal-cutting machines during the afternoon and night. The compressed air is taken down the pit and along roads through 5.760 feet of 5 inches, and 5,000 feet of 0 inch The compressed air is taken down the pit and along roads through 5,750 feet of 5 inches, and 4,500 feet of 6 inch pipes, and 4 inches pipes are used along the main-bords. A receiver is placed about the centre of each bord. Wrought from pipes are laid up every alternate ending, 2½ inches pipes being used for one-third of the length, and 2 inches pipes for the remaining distance, so that the coal cutting machine is sometimes worked at a distance of 2½ miles from the air compressor. Flexible hose-pipe to the coal cutting machine. Valves and taps are placed at various isomists for relief elekare. coal cutting machine. Valves and taps are placed at various points to reduce leakage.

Filling out the Coal—After the coal is under-cut, it has

Fring out the Coat—After the coal is under-cut, it has been the custom to employ workmen to remove the small coal made by the machine, and throw it into the goal. Two men are employed on each side of each ending, to get down and fill the coah to get up and pack the dirt

and do the timbering.

With the exception of the first fall after a heavy weig With the exception of the first fall after a heavy weight the greater part of the coal can usually be got down with bars and wedges. If this is not possible, it is detached by ardeer powder. Where shots are necessary, the holes are put in by machine drills, weighing 3S lbs., the maximum length beam, 6 feet. The time occupied in setting the machine are milling a hole 4/2 feet deep is about 7 minutes.

By the increased depth of cut the number of shots has been reduced in a face 1,710 feet long from 30 to 12 per

day. It is hoped by still further increasing the depth of out to 5 feet to entirely dispense with blasting. A machine with a cutting-wheel, 6 feet 1 inch in diameter, machine with a cutting-wheel, o feet 1 inch in diameter, designed from the experience gained in this seam, has recently been started with this object, and the results will be communicated to the members at a later meeting. The best results are obtained when the holong is done

The best results are obtained when the holing is done as early as possible after the last fall has been removed, as this relieves the pressure on the face of the coal, and by getting the full advantage of the weight the main breaks are regularly formed near the back of the holing. Timbering and Pucking. Packs are built 9 ft. wide, Care is taken that these packs are well built and ught up to the roof. Two chocks are placed in each waste and at each gate end, and are moved forward alternately, thus always keeping one on each side of the main break. Props are set 4 ft. apart and 4½ ft. between the rows, there being always two rows. Bars are set from the propiation the coal of \$ft. apart or oftener if required.

Con "urion.—The advantages obtained by the use of the coal-cutting machine will vary in different seams, one

the coal-cutting machine will vary in different seams, one amongst others being the reduction in the number of men do the same amount of work as that done by 173 men working by the old method.

#### Notes on Blasting in Coal Mines.

By H. Buse Werner.

With the enormous strides made of recent years in sci with the enormous stritues made of recent years in ser-entific inventions has come, at the same time, an outery for the safer working of all branches of industry. The voice of the public has found expression in various legisla-tive enactments, which it would be superfluous to mention

tive enactments, which it would be superfitious to mention in this paper as it is confined more particularly to blasting in coal mines.

With the greater depths at which some pits are now worked the dangers of explosion increase, and most modern appliances, such as safety-lamps, ventilating fans, safety explosives or contrivances for rendering them safe, have been introduced in order to minimize these risks. Up have been introduced in order to minimize these risks. Up to a certain point it wes supposed that the danger of explosions arose solely from fire damp, but for many years some mining engineers have recognized that the mixture of coal dust with fire-damp was responsible for the extension and violent destructive effects of some great colliery explosions. In more recent years the theory has been advanced that coal dust alone, without any mixture of fire-damp, is capable of causang a most discatrous explosion. One of the great exponents of this theory is Mr. Henry Hall, H. M. Inspector of Mines, who for the past two years has been carrying out experiments on a large scale, in a disueed shaft. The results of these experiments, so far as they have yet been published, seem to prove that wo years has been carrying out experiments on a large scale, in a disueed shaft. The results of these experiments, so far as they have yet been published, seem to prove that the flame produced by a blown-out gunpowder shot may cause an explosion of coal dust in the entire absence of fire-damp. Meanwhile, the Royal Commission on Explosions from Coal Dust in Mines have been collecting information, and their final report, when published, cannot fail to throw much new light on this most important subject. The attention of practical mining men having been called to a danger not fully iccognized hitherto, a number of methods have been proposed for rendering the dust less dangerous by watering or otherwise.

As blasting is responsible for many of the great explosions, it will be well to consider some of the types of explosives used for this purpose.

Chief amongst these comes, of course, gunpowder, both in the loose and compressed form. As an explosive for getting coal, gunpowder will stall hold its own for efficiency against high explosives: but the great dangers arising from its use are being gradually appreciated, and 11. Appendix of Mines in their last ranged research.

getting coal, gunpowder will stall hold its own for efficiency, against high explosives: but the great dangers arising from its use are being gradually appreciated, and II. M. Inspectors of Mines, in their last annual reports, almost unanimously agree that the time has come for the absolute prohibition of the use, in fiery and dusty mines, of gunpowder and dangerous dynamite compound, especially as there are now in the market other explosives which are relatively evry much safer, more particularly when detonated by electricity.

In France the mining authorities are more advanced on that subject than in this country, inasmuch as their Ministry of Public Works issued a decree chied August 181, 1800 (see Trans. Fed. Inst., vol. ii, Appendix, page 161), probibiting the use of blasting powder in any fiery mine or in any dusty mine whose dusts are inflammable. The assigned reason for this prohibition being that.—

In consequence of the experiments carried out under the superintendence of the Explosive Substances Commission it has been found possible to procure for use in mines, explosives which, although not capable of giving absolute security (which one can hardly hope to obtain from these materials), permit the attainment of a degree of safety which was hibsterio deemed inapproachable. (Hbid., page 159.)

Denamite, relienite and other forms of gelatine ex-

159.)
Dynamite, gelignite and other forms of gelatine ex-Dynamite, gelignite and other forms of gelatine ex-plosives, when used late, are as dangerous in the case of a blown-out shot as gunpowder, hence sarious contrivances have been suggested for reducing the temperature and quenching the flame given off at the moment of detona-tion. Chief amongst these contrivances is the Settle water cattridge. This system of blasting may or may not be comparatively safe, but its main defect is that to insure safety two separate elements are necessary, viz., the ex-plosive and the bag containing the water. It can be easily understood that unless the greatest care is taken the

element of safety may be wanting at the time the charge is fired; either the water has been omitted entirely, as appears to have heen the case in the explosion which took place at Apedale colliery on April 2nd, 1891, whereby ten tives were lost; or it may have leaked away because the water-beg was burst or pierced while charging. Besides the above-named defects there is the necessity for drilling extra large holes and carrying a pail of water to fill the large.

bags.
We now come to the more modern explosives: these We now come to the more modern explosives: these are known as dual explosives, having nitrate of ammonium for their hase. The decree of the French Minister of Public Works, previously referred to, permits the use of four different classes of mixture attaining "to a degree of safety which was fullent of deconed unapproachable."

The first, second and third mixtures are respectively dynamic No. 1, blasting gelatine, and gui-cotton, each mixed with nutrate of ammonium, whilst the fourth is a

mixture of dinitro-benzole and nitrate of ammonium.

mature of duntro-benzole and intrate of annionium. (Bid., page 160.)
As regards the first named mixtures the Hone Office authorities refuse to license explosives of this kind, and report thereon as follows:—

report thereon as follows:—
It will be noticed that, while the addition of various ammonium salts to dinitro-benzole has been structioned, the addition of ammonium salt, other than the carbonate, to explosives containing gun-cotton or nitro-glycerine, has always been reported against. The reason is this: all ammonium salts, especially when exposed alternately to moist and dry air at slightly elevated temperatures, lose traces of ammonia and become acid. Now, nitro compounts, like dinitro-benzole, are little, if at all, affected by traces of acid, and under such circumstances show no tendenax to standards. moist and dry air at slightly elevated temperatures, lose traces of ammonia and become acid. Now, nitro compounds, like dinitro-henzole, are little, if at all, affected by traces of acid, and under such circumstances show no tendency to syontaneous decomposition which might lead to ignition or explosion. Nitro compounds like gancotton and nitro-tylecrine (more strictly speaking, nitric ethers), on the other hand, are seriously affected by traces even of acids, especially strong mineral acids, and decomposition once started goes on and ultimately leads to total decomposition, which may end in ignition or explosion. Hence ammonium salts even to dangeous action on true nitro compounds, but may fatally affect the stability of nitric ethers, like gan-cotton and nitro-tylecrine. (See Report of 11. M. Inspectors of Explosives, 1890, page 19.)

The above extract, although bearing parely on the chemical aspect of the mixtures first referred to, is interesting, inasmuch as it only leaves the fourth mixture, consisting of dinitro-henzole and similar compounds with nitrate of ammonium, available for producing an authorized safety explosive of this class in the United Kingdom. Before proceeding, the author would like to name certain other regulations in the French decree, which have an important bearing on the use of safety explosives other than detonating explosives complying with the following condutions: 1st. The products of their detonation should not contain any combustible matter, such as hydrogen, carbon monoxide, solid carbon, etc. 2nd. Their temperature of detonation . . . should not exceed 1,900 degs. C. for explosives used in stonework, not 1,500 degs. C. for chyosic execution to the carefully made with plastic matter, so as to avoid blownout shot; the length should not be less than S inches for the forest 1,543 grans of charge, with the addition of 2 inches for each 1,543 grans of charge, with the addition of 2 inches for each 1,543 grans of charge, with the addition of 2 inches for each 1,543 grans of charge, w

ceed 20 inches.

The detonation of the cartridge should be caused by a detonator strong enough to assure the detonation of the explosive even when unconfined. (See Trans. Fed. Inst.

explosive even when unconfined. (See Trans, Fed. Inst., vol. iii., Appendix, page 162.)

The author will now consider a safety explosive of the fourth type officially recommended in France, which, as explained before, consists of a mixture of dinitro-benzole and nitrate of ammonium, and is the only one of the four types recommended which can at present be legally manufactured in the United Kingdom. As an example of this factured in the United Kingdom. As an example of this type, the author will describe roburite for the following reasons, (a) because it was the first of this type of explosive manufactured in England, and is now very extensively used, and (b) because this explosive has been the subject of several scientific and impartial investigations, and therefore more is known about never the subject. therefore more is known about its properties than of any similar explosives.

therefore more is known about us properties than of any similar explosives.

Roburite was invented by Dr. Carl Roth, of Berlin, in 1886, and was patented and its use authorized by the Home Office in this country in 1887. A factory was erected for the manufacture of the explosive in the same year, was fully licensed by the Home Office in May, 1888, and started the manufacture and sale of ruburite at once. Roburite consists of an intimate mixture of chlorodinitro-benrole and nitrate of ammonium. The chlorine intended as an additional flame quenching gas. The explosive is put into waterproof cattridges to suit all requirements, and the sizes range from 36 to 131 inches in diameter, and weights vary from 1 to 16 owness. As might be supposed, the introduction of a new explosive (although mining engineers and the public had been long elamnuting for a safet explosive than powder or dynamici, was not all that was required to ensure its success. Colliery managers before introducing it into their muses put it to many severe tests, and an apparatus was erected near Wigan to produce the effect of a blown out shot into an artificial mixture of fire damp. The results of these tests are recorded in a paper by Mr. Jas. Illuto (see Trans. Manchester (see). See, 1889, vol. xx., page 92). These tests were made at night, and seven shots of roburite tamped with from 4 to 7 inches of clay, and sometimes coal dust, were fired into the fire damp without igniting it. In looking through the details of

<sup>\*</sup> Transactions Mining Institute of Scotland.

these experiments, such remarks as the following are

appended to each test:—
Gas not ignited; no flame or spark seen; gave a light but no flame, etc. The author would call the particular but no name, etc. I he author would can the particular attention of the members to the latter remark, as some experiments with roburite were made at the Bent colliery before a committee of the Mining Institute of Scotland in 1888 (see Trans. Min. Inst. Scotland, vol. x., page 132), and a blown out shot was purposely produced when a light was seen. Whereas experiments have been made when fire damp was known to be present, and a light was seen, but was not followed by an explosion of the firedamp, it seems to the author that the light is not due to a true flame, but to the reflection of a halo of light formed at the mount the determination when is at the mount the determination when is at the mount that determine when is at the mount that the light is not due to at the moment the detonating wave is started, and that this is incapable of igniting an explosive mixture of gases. That this is true may be proved by taking a cartridge one-half filled with gunpowder and the other half filled with roburite placed directly on the top. On suspending the cartridge and detonating the roburite, the gunpowder does not become ignited, but is scattered about by the force of the explosion.

We have seen from the extracts already quoted from the French decree that the conditions specified for a safety explosive are that the conditions specified for a safety explosive are that the calculated temperature of explosion must be below a certain temperature. From this it would appear that even although a flame should be seen, if such flame were below the given temperature, still no ignition of fire damp would follow. Another point, too, in the French report is that the duration of the temperature has an important bearing on the subject, and even although hot enough to ignite gas would not do so if not least hot enough to ignite gas, would not do so if not long enough in contact with it. The writer has been told that it is possible to ignite fire damp with heated gases which

give no visible appearance of heat.

Much has been said about the fumes of roburite, and at

Much has been said about the sumes of roburite, and at several places the workmen raised objections to the use of the explosive on that account, although from more recent experience there can be no doubt that prejudice in favour of blasting powder was at the bottom of these complaints. The question of sumes has been investigated by two separate scientific committees—the first in Lancashire in 1889, the members of this committee being Dr. N. Hannah, Dr. C. J. Mouncey, and Prof. Harold Dixon, of Owens College, Manchaster; (see Trans. Manchester Geol. Soc., 1889, vol. XX., page 329) the second committee, appointed in 1889, by the Durham Coal Owners' and Miners' Associations, with Mr. T. Bell, H.M.. Inspector of Mines. as ations, with Mr. T. Bell, H.M., Inspector of Mines, as chairman, and Prof. Bedson and Drs. Drummond and chairman, and Prof. Bedson and Drs. Drummond and Hume as professional advisers. (See Trans. Fed. Inst., vol. II., page 368). Both of these committees arrived at practically the same conclusions, viz.: that the fumes of roburite were not more injurious to health than those of gun-powder. The report of the Durham committee, moreover, called attention to the fact that the fuze was responsible for some of the deleterious fumes, and many members will no doubt have noticed the difference in the quantity of smoke between a roburite shot feed by

members will no doubt have noticed the difference in the quantity of smoke between a roburite shot fired by fuze, and one fired by electricity.

As to the efficiency of roburite in mines, it may be stated, that by the kind permission of the owners and managers, trials have been made of roburite in about fifteen of the coal mines in Lanarkshire, as well as at the shale mines at Broxburn and Pumpherston, in West Lothing and in each in each shall access with a small permission.

Lothian, and in all cases with marked success.

The question of safe method for igniting the detonator appears on the face of it absurd to fire a safety explosive by fuze, which is practically the same as a naked light, as the

fuze, which is practically the same as a naked light, as the spit of the fuze will easily ignite gas, and indeed has been known to do so on many occasions, and moreover, the tape fuze gives off noxious fumes.

The Bickford shot ignitors were introduced to make firing by fuze safer, as the first spit of the fuze takes place in the tin cap which contains the igniting composition. Still, even supposing that this contrivance is otherwise efficient, is there no risk of the smouldering fuze being projected when the shot is fired? The writer believes it to be a fact that this does take place, and that the fuze may brighten up in its flight and be a source of danger.

Another method suggested in Austria, but not to the author's knowledge used in the United Kingdom, is the Lauer frictional detonator. By this method of firing, an action somewhat similar to that used in the Christmas cracker produces the explosion, only the operator stands

cracker produces the explosion, only the operator stands at a distance and pulls a string. (See Trans. Fed. Inst.,

at a distance and pulls a string. (See Trans. Fed. Inst., vol. II. Appendix page 153).

Firing the charges by electricity is, the author thinks, admitted on all hands to be the safest, and besides the other advantages it possesses, a very important one is that shots cannot hang fire as is sometimes the case when using fuze, and there is less smoke.

There are two distinct types of electric fuses used to produce an electric detonator, viz., high and low tension

There are two distinct types of electric fuses used to produce an electric detonator, viz., high and low tension. In the former case the priming composition is ignited by a spark, in the latter the heating of a hair-like platinum bridge by the resistance offered to the passage of the electric current ignites the composition which fixes the detonator. The high-tension fuze is best known to mining engineers, but the low-tension fuze is now coming into more extended use. (Ibid., vol. ii. p. 553). Some authorities advocate the latter, because it can be tested by galvanometer, whereas the high-tension fuze cannot. This facility of testing would certainly be of great advantage in firing a large blast, where a number of charges had to be fired simultaneously, but in colliery work where only single shots are fired as a rule, the author thinks that either class of fuze is equally good.

In order to secure the best results from electric blasting too much attention cannot be paid to the electric appli-

ances. The exploders should have a good surplus of power, so as to minimize the risks of a miss-shot, and power, so as to minimize the risks of a miss-shot, and should be kept in good condition. The cable should also be good and, in case of a miss-shot, should be over-hauled to see whether either of the wires has been broken or short circuited. In making the connections the wires should be clean, so as to obtain good metallic contact, and should be twisted firmly together. If proper care be taken, the writer believes that there would be fewer failing shots with electricity than with fuze.

All high or detonating explosives are fired by a deto-nator, some explosives are more sensitive than others. nator, some explosives are more sensitive than ouncrs, hence they require different powers of detonator to fire them efficiently. It is a waste of energy to use a detonator very much stronger than is necessary to start the detonation of the explosive, but it is far better to err on this side than to attempt to use with an inert explosive a detonator intended for a sensitive explosive. Thus, while detonator intended for a sensitive explosive. Thus, while a roburite detonator could be used to fire dynamite efficiently, a dynamite detonator would probably only scatter the roburite without detonating it. The French Government recognized the importance of this point in

Government recognized the importance of this point in the regulations issued for the use of safety explosives in lieu of blasting powder when they said:—
"The detonation of the cartridge should be caused by a detonator strong enough to assure the detonation of the explosive when unconfined." (See Trans. Fed. Inst., vol. ii., Appendix, p. 162.)

The author desires to lay special stress upon this matter as to his knowledge many complaints as to miss-fires of some of the more inert explosives have certainly been due to the use of too weak detonators.

#### Iron Exhibits.

Fine Display of Canadian Iron Ores and Manufactures in the House of Commons Ottawa.

During the recent budget speech of the Hon. G. E. Foster, Minister of Finance, and the subsequent debate on the new Canadian tariff, the REVIEW, acting for the various companies interested, had a fine display of the products of our iron mines and the various iron and steel establishments of the country. The exhibit, which was tastefully displayed in the main entrance to the House of Commons, was a great attraction to the crowds of people who daily and nightly thronged the House. Our engraving shows a section of the exhibit. The following is a list of the exhibits which were on view:—

Canadian Iron Furnace Co., Ltd.—(a) Bog ore, heavy

vein; (b) bog ore, lumpy; (c) bog ore, fine shell; (d) bog ore, fine gravelly; (e) hard ore, St. Jerome; (f) lake ore, heavy sheets; (g) lake ore, cakes; (h) lake ore, lumps; (i) lake ore, fine, deep dredging; (j) lake ore, shore ore.

shore ore.

Monireal Car Wheel Co.—Sections of chilled car wheels made from "C.I.F." Three Rivers charcoal iron.

New Glasgow Iron, Coal and Railway Co., Ltd.—(a)

Iron ore, brown hematite, from East river mines; (b) red hematite; (c) East river specular; (d) Guysborough county specular; (e) Brown limonite; (f) limestone; (g) Iron ore, brown hematite, from East river mines; (h)

Manganese: (i) unwashed coal. (ii) weeked acade. Manganese; (i) unwashed coal; (j) washed coal;

ke. Nova Scotia Steel and Forge Co., Ltd.—Large collec-on of samples of Canadian steel made from Canadian tion of samples of Canadian steel made from Canadian ore and fuel by Siemens-Martin open hearth, including

steel bars, shapes, angles, shafting, etc.

Londonderry Iron Co., Ltd.—Case of samples of coke pig iron (Siemen's brand) and fine collections of ores and fluxes.

Cockshutt Plow Co., Branford.—Fine specimen of plow manufactured from Canadian steel.

### Mica Deposits of the Ottawa District.

By Tr. R. W. Ells, OTTAWA.\*

Occurrence of Apatite and Mica. - It has been already pointed out in a previous paper that the deposits of apatite are confined entirely to the pyroxene dikes of this apatite are confined entirely to the pyroxene dikes of this system, and that the mineral occurs for the most part near the contact of these dykes with the gneiss or near the intersection of cross-dykes of intrusive dolerite or telspar. The occurrence of mica in these rocks presents almost identically similar conditions to the apatite as regards its presence in workable quantity, but differs in this respect, that while the apatite is found exclusively in hypoxenic rocks, the mica is often essecutated with other this respect, that while the apatite is found exclusively in pyroxenic rocks, the mica is often associated with other kinds of intrusives. It is, however, more particularly found in two varieties, namely, the pyroxene which varies greatly in color and hardness, and in a coarse admixture of clear quartz and grayish felspar, which is generally styled a pegmatite, and which contains also crystals of tourmaline, garnet, etcetera. This quartz-felspar rock differs, however, very greatly from the usual varieties of pegmatite found in the Laurentian, which is usually very much finer-grained, and occurs generally as veins intersecting the gneiss as one approaches the great masses of anorthosite or gabbro. The quartz-felspar those of pyroxene, frequently cut the gneiss along the line of strike of dikes, like the latter, but its intrusive character is clearly evidenced in most cases by the sending off of spurs into the mass of the gneiss in contact, as well as

by the fact that it frequently cuts directly across the one act that it requestly cuts directly across the gneiss and interesects the pyroxene as well, thus showing it to be a later intrusion. Inclusions of the grayish or reddish gneiss which is penetrated by these rock are also frequently found caught in the mass, both of the pyroxene and felspar, and furnish further evidence of the intrusive character of these rocks. In some places the presence of three distinctly intrusive dykes is recognized in the same opening, the oldest being the pyroxene, the second cut-ting the pyroxene, is a quartz-felspar, and the third is a

black trappean rock.

It has been stated by some writers that the apatite and It has been stated by some writers that the apatite and mica occur in the Laurentian limestone, as well as in the gneiss and pyroxene. This view has doubtless arisen from an imperfect study of both the limestones and pyroxene, the latter in the earlier stage of the investigations on these rocks being regarded as a peculiar variety of the sedimentary gneiss formation, as already pointed out, while concerning the former it is found that in many of the pyroxene dykes, more particularly near their contact with the grayish gneiss, an irregular development of calcite, generally of pink color, occurs, which by the miners is styled a limestone, and has thence been confounded with the distinctly different limestone formation which forms the upper portion of the Laurentian system. in no case can this calcite, in which very frequently the mica crystals, as well as crystals of apatite, are disseminated, be regarded as a member of the sedimentary or stratified Laurentian series, but is always found as an irregular, generally pockety, mass in the intrusive pyroxene

pyroxene.

Mica-Apatite Horizon.—The horizon of these deposits, both of mica and apatite, can now be clearly defined. They are for the most part confined to the series of gneisses which constitute the upper portion of the Laurentian silicious rocks and which underlie the limestone proper. These gneisses are generally of some shade of grey, with reddish grey, reddish and hornblendic bands, some of which are garnetiferous, and nearly all of which contain a large percentage of silica in the form of quartz. These beds, as already pointed out, graduate upward by regular passage through the interstratification of calcareous layers into the massive crystalline limestone of calcareous layers into the massive crystalline limestone formation. In the Buckingham and Templeton areas apatite and mica are rarely found in dikes cutting calcareous strata, but in the Gatineau area several localities are known where large dykes of pyroxene in limestone

Mica deposits generally occur in the form of crystals, some of which reach an enormous size, instances being lately reported of single crystals measuring nearly eight feet across the face. These crystals sometimes occur in lately reported of single crystals measuring nearly eight feet across the face. These crystals sometimes occur in the pyroxene in pockety masses distinct from each other, or in somewhat irregular deposits near the contact of the enclosing pyroxene and the gneiss adjacent or as scattered crystals through the mass of the dike itself, but generally near the contact. In many cases of pyroxene dikes where the mica occurs as a contact deposit near the gneiss it is found associated with masses of pink calcite, some of which are but of small extent, while others have a thickwhich are but of small extent, while others have a thickwhich are but of small extent, while others have a unickness of several feet and are traceable for some yards. The mica found in the calcite is, as a rule, in well formed crystals disseminated through the mass and often associated with well terminated crystals of apatite. In some cases the latter penetrate the former, while frequently cases the latter penetrate the former, while frequently inclusions of calcite or apatite are found in the centre of the mica crystal. Of the mica found in the mass of the pyroxene it may be said that the crystalline structure is rely perfect.

Mode of Occurrence of the Mucas.—From recent obser

vations it may be stated that the merchantable micas of the district occur under six principal conditions, thus:—

I. In pyroxene intrusive rocks which either cut directly across the strike of greyish or other colored gneisses or are intruded along the line of stratification. Some of these deposits have been worked downward along the contact with the gneiss, where the mica is most generally found, for 250 feet, as at the Lake Girard mine, and irregular masses of pink calcite are abundant. In certain places apatite crystals occur associated with the mica but places apatite crystals occur associated with the mica, but places apatite crystals occur associated with the mica, our at other times these are apparently wanting. As in the case of apatite deposits, mica occurring in this condition would apparently be found at almost any workable depth.

2. In pyroxene rocks near the contact of cross-dikes of diorite or felspar, the action of which on the pyroxene has lad to the formation of both mice and apatite. Numerous

led to the formation of both mica and apatite. Numerous instances of this mode of occurrence are found, both in the mines of apatite and mica, the deposits of the latter in certain areas being quite extensive and the crystals of

large size.

3. In pyroxene rock itself, distinct from the contact with the gneiss. In these cases the mica crystals, often of large size, but frequently crushed or broken, apparently follow certain lines of faults or fracture. Some of these deposits can be traced for several yards, but for the most part are pockety. Some of these pyroxene masses are very extensive, as in the case of the Cascade raine on the Gatineau river and elsewhere in the vicinity. In these cases calcite is rarely seen and apatite is almost entirely absent. When cut by cross-dikes conditions for the oc currence of mica or apatite should be very favorable:

4. Dikes of pyroxene, often large, cutting limestone through which subsequent dikes of diorite or felspar have intruded, as in Hincks township. The crystals occurring in the pyroxine near to the feldspar dikes are often of large size and of dark color, resembling in this respect a hintite mind.

biotite mica. The mica found under the conditions stated above in one, two, three and four is all amber-colored and of the variety known as phlogopite or magnesia mica.

<sup>\*</sup> Paper read before the Geological Society of America. † Canadian Mining Review, Ottawa, March, 1893.

5. In felspathic-quartzose rocks which constitute dikes 5. In felspathic-quartzose rocks which constitute dikes often of very large size, cutting red and greysis guesses, as at Villeneuve and Venosta. These are distinct from the smaller venus of pegmatte which occur frequently in the gness as the anorthosite areas are approached. In this case the intens is muscovite or potash mice and is 1 variably found in that portion of the dike near the contact with the gness. The cristals frequently are of large size and white in color, as octated with crystals of tournaline, garnet, et cetera, but with no apatite, unless pyroxene is also meseur. also present.

6th. In quartz-felspar dikes cutting crystalline lime

stone, in which case the crystals are generally of small size, mostly of dark color and of but little value.

oth. In quartz-teispar tines cutting systamme misstone, in which case the crystals are generally of small
size, mostly of dark color and of but little value.

In the case of the amber micas this peculiarity wanoted that when the pyroxene was of a light shade of
green or greenish gray and comparatively soft, the mica
was correspondingly light colored and clear, and in some
places almost approached the muscovite in general
appearance. As the pryoxene became darker in color and
harder in texture, the nica assumed a correspondingly
darker tint and a brutle or harder character, and in certain cases where dikes of blacksh hornblenic thornte wertersent. The mica also assumes a black color as well.

\*Difference observable in the Mita-Apatite Diponit.\*\*—
There is one feature observed in the deposits of mica and
apatite which is not yet explainable from the study of the
rocks in the held. Thus in the apatite mines cong extensive and can be traced doxinward for
hundreds of feet, as proved by the workings of the North
star and the High Rock nunes, the occurrence of mica in
quantity with the apatite is are, though in certain areas
both are present. In the Templetion or McCreegot Lake
belt of apatite mines the two minerals frequently occur both are present. In the rempietor of arcategor take belt of apattle mines the two minerals frequently occur together, in quantity sufficent to be profitably worked in both cases. Thus at the Blackburn and Jackson Kae mines. the former especially long celebrated for its great yield of apatite, the mica also occurs in considerable quantity and In both the apartic, the mea also occurs in considerable quantity and in crystals of large size and good quality. In both the Lievte and I empleton areas the apartie is rarely found in crystals, occurring for the most part in pockety bunches which vary in size from magnificant deposits to masses of a thousand tons.

In the Gatmeau area the quantity of pink calcite in e twroxene becomes much greater. There is often an In the Gatmeau area the quantity of pink calcite in the pyroxene becomes much greater. There is often an admixture of mica and apartic crystals, the latter in quantity sometimes sufficient to be worken profitably, while in other areas the mica occurs without the apartice or with the latter only in very limited development. Very often quantities of crystals of pyroxene, sphene and zircon, occur in these deposits with the mica. Of the apartic associated with the mica in the Gatmeau beh it may be said that it presents generally features distinct from that occurring on the Lievre. The reasons for these different modes of occurrence and association are not, as already remarked, very clear, unless it be due to some cleature depending upon the strattgrandpal relations of the S already remarked, very clear, unless it be due to some cleature depending upon the strategraphical relations of the Scontaming beds or some peculiarities regarding their exact horizon. The difference in the character of the exact horizon. The difference in the character of the exact horizon of the contaming rocks.

\*\*Jitaal Localities\*\*—As regards the portions of the Lautentian from which mica might be obtained, it may be sold their incontrollers.

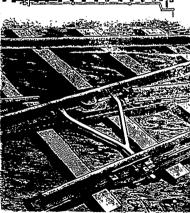
Laurentian from which mica might be obtained, it may be said that its occurrence in economic quantities is now known at certain points over a very extended area. Thus in Omario the mines of Burgess and the adjacent townships yield large quantities, generally of the phlogopite variety. Along the Ottawa river it is found from a point nearly 100 miles west of Ottawa to the township of Grenville, 60 miles cast of that city, while on the Gatineau river, which flows into the Ottawa at the city of Ottawa, numes have been located and worked for 50 miles north from its mouth, and the mineral is reported from points many miles further north along that stream. To the east of Quebec it is known on the branch of the Saguenay, called the Manouan and in the townships of Escoumains, Bergeronnes and Tadousac, situated east of the mouth of that river, as well as at several other places along the river Saint Lawrence. The mice found in this district is cheldy muscovite.

The principal areas where this mineral is at present worked are in the belt which extends from North Burgess, in the Province of Ontario, approximately along the

strike of the gneiss, into the territory adjacent to the Gaineau and Lievre. Over much of this area south of the Ottawa river the Laurentian is concealed by the the Ottawa river the Laurentian is concealed by the mantle of Cambro-Silurian rocks belonging to the Ottawa River basin, but it may be said that the geologic conditions and the stratigraphic sequence in the area swith of the Ottawa and in the rear of Kingston are the same as those found in the mineral-bearing belts morth of the Ottawa, and that the most favorable conditions under which the deposits of mica and apatite may be looked for occur in those areas occupied by the upper portion of the Laurentian, where traces of gneous agency are visible in the presence of dikes of pyrovene and quartz-felspar, though it should be stated that the mere occurrence of these in gents does not warrant the presence of either of these minerals. these minerals.

#### Baird's Improved Railway Frog.

Mr. James Baird whose familiar face we reproduce in our portrait series this month, and to whose work as a colliery manager we have already referred, has displayed collery manager we have already referred, has displayed much ingenuty in his insention of a railway frog, for which he has taken out a patent in Canada and the United States. In this invention, which is illustrated by the annexed engraving, at the point of intersection of the inner rails of the two tracks, the rails are removed and a pivoted track section or frog is placed, to which is attacheded a forked lever for turning it on its pivot so as a to cause it to coincide with either of the track rails. The forked level extends underneath the outer rail and is connected with a rod which extends to an angled switch keer, so that the frog is made to move simultaneously with the switch rails. A step is provided for holding the figo-operating rold in one of the two positions in which it may be placed. The pivoted rail section or frog is suported by a beasy metallic plate resting upon two or more may be placed. The pitoted rail section or frog is sup-ported by a heavy metallic plate resting upon two or more use, and the ends of the converging rails adjoining the frog are held in proper relation to each other by wedge shaped distance pieces. The details of the frog and switch operating rolds and levers are shown in the smaller view of the engraving. One of Mr. Baird's frogs has been doing excellent service for nearly two years on the Interrolonial railway at Maccan station. Besides obtain-ing the disagreeable noise and par of ear wheels, Mr. Barid's frog rolders to a minimum the danger of accidents Barrd's frog reduces to a minimum the danger of accidents to trakesmen from getting caught in the ordinary frog. We understand it has also given first-class satisfaction at Chignecto mines.



#### A Fire-Damp Indicator.

Mr. Chesneau (.Innales des Mines) after describing the dangers and inconveniences connected with the use of the Pieler alcohol lamp and of different improved models of that lamp, describes an alcohol lamp of his own

invention.

It is composed of a brass reservoir for the alcohol, strmounted by a circular crown for the admission of air (which can be regulated) through double gauges. Resting on the crown and surrounding the wick-tube is a solid cylinder of sheet-iron which serves as a screen. Above this screen, and resting on it, is an iron-wire gauze 5½ inches high. The gauze is surrounded by a sheet-iron shield furnished with an observing-window, completely closed by a sheet of mica, on which a scale is engraved. The shield is fitted at its base with an annular diaphragm which closely surrounds the base of the gauze so that the exterior air can never arrive directly to the gauze. The diaphragm rests on an ashestos washer for the purpose of diminishing the heating of the lower part of the lamp when it is in a gaseous mixture and the shield gets hot. The top of the shield is furnished with openings, protected by screens to pievent currents striking the gauze. An outer moveable screen of sheet-iron having a window, protects, when required, the base of the observation-window in the shield against currents, and this prevents the deposit of dew which tends to form on the interior of the mica by outside cooling.

To make an observation, it suffices to bring the window in the moveable outer shield in front of the mica observation-window. In a calm atmosphere the dew disappears of itself some immutes after lighting, and only re-forms when the lamp is brought into a cold current.

The interior of the reservoir contains a small piece of cotton-wool under the wick-tube to prevent the rapid

when the lamp is brought into a cold current.

The interior of the reservoir contains a small piece of cotton-wood under the wick-tube to prevent the rapid escape of alcohol if the lamp is overturined. When the reservoir of the ordinary Pieler lamp is tightly packed with cotton-wool it only gives a cap in gaseous mix tures for some minutes, because the alcohol retained by the cotton ascends the wick with difficulty, and the flame soom lowers, and the wick carbonizes. The almost total suppression of the cotton-wool in the new lamp offers no danger, because the lamp goes out, when laid horizontally, before the alcohol can spread in the lamp It is not so with the ordinary Pieler lamp, where the alcohol can spread and burn on the gause when they are tilled and much inclined. The alcohol is introduced by a hole, futed by a screw, a tight joint being obtained by means of a washer of lead or leather. The weight of the lamp, full of alcohol, is 3,2 lbs.

The entry of the air and the exit of the products of combastion being absolutely separate in the new indicator there can be no maxture between them as in the Pieler lamp, in which air charged with page was been in and burn on the contract.

combastion being alsolutely separate in the new indicator there can be no mature between them as in the Fieler lamp, in which air charged with gas may come in and burn the whole height of the gaure and heat it strongly. Placed in stationary gaseous mistures of increasing per centages, the lamp gives caps which only reach the top of the gaure with about 3 per cent, with the alcohol the gaure with about 3 per cent, with the alcohol than eclongates, the cap enlarges, becomes cylindrical, but lowers more and more from the snammit, the lamp being unable to emit the increasing products of combustion. A little above 5.75 per cent, the alcohol flame clongates towards the top of the gaure, but without sensibly heating it, the quantity of air drawn in being insufficient for the complete combastion of the gas, and the alcoholic vapour liberated by the heating of the limit of inflammability of air and fire-damp, which is produced with 6.1 per cent, [alumps. Above 5.75 per cent, [alumps in the lamp, and the gas burns with a very pale flame in the lamp, and the gas burns with a very pale flame in the lamp, and which is monsterably heating the reservoir. All is extinguished after some seconds very rapidly if the inlet regulator is closed. The alcohol flame of the lamp reduces rapidly to its initial height when removed to pure

All is estinguished after some seconds very rapidly if the inlet regulator is closed. The alcohol flame of the lamp reduces rapidly to its initial height when removed to pure rair. Tested in explosive currents the lamp appeared as safe as ordinary safety-lamps of good construction.

The height of the caps vary considerably, according to the volatility of the alcohol employed, and to obtain comparable results the same alcohol must be used. The alcohol gring the best results is wood spirit or methylated alcohol of 92°5 degrees by the Gay-Lussac alcohol-meter

#### EXPORTS OF CANADIAN ASBESTOS.

(Comfiled from Trade and Natication Returns.)

The following are the official returns of the exports of Canadian Crude Asbestos for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1893:-

No. I. Gra	No. II. GRADE.		No. III. GRADE.		No. I. Grade.			No. II. GRADE.		No. III. GRADE.			
EXPORTED TO	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	EXPORTED BY	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.
Great Britain.  Germany  Holland  United States  Belgium	4 20 1,301	101,223	49 3,947	262,328	20 27	600 1,050 4,822		165 1,234	,,	4,073		1	\$ 4,265 10,877

at 59 degrees Fahr. To increase the visibility of the caps at 50 uegrees rant. To increase the visibility of the cape chloride of copper may be dissolved in the alcohol with a little hydrochloric acid to maintain it in solution. The proportion recommended is about 17 drops of a saturated solution of crystallized chloride of copper in concentrated hydrochloric acid per pint of alcohol; this gives the alcohol flame a green tinge. In this way caps may be seen with from 0 1 to 0 2 per cent, of fire-damp. They

seen with row o 1 to 0.2 per cent, of me-damp. They are easily seen with 0.5 per cent, or more.

The proper methods of regulating the alcohol flame and the appearance of the caps are minutely described.

#### Diamond Drilling in South Africa.

Diamond Drilling in South Africa.

Mr. R. A. S. Redmayne, (Journal British Society of Allining Students), contributes a readable paper containing much valuable matter on this subject. The price of boring by diamond drills is, to a great extent, dependent to five price of carbonates. In 1858 Kimberly bolt cost in Natal 75: 10 Sc. per carat. I puly 1890, this had risen to 60% per carat. Drining the year 1890-91; in Natal, four of these drills (three hand and one stean drill) borted 5,621 feet, (the steam drill borted 1,945 feet 2 inches of this depth at a cost of 2,773 6s. 5d., or 7s. 11½d. per footh, at a cost of 55 sql per foot, which amount would be slighly increased; at an allowance was made for a percentage representing the annual deprecation of plant. This cost compares favourably with that of borting in other parts of the world. In one of the Australian Colonies, the cost of boring was (as a per the annual reports of the Mines Department): In 1884, 11 drills bored 9,856 feet at a cost of 12s. 104 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 6,539 feet at a cost of 18. 1134, per ft.; in 1887, 5 drills bored 3,007 feet at a cost of 18. 1134, per ft.; in 1887, 5 drills bored 3,007 feet at a cost of 18. 1134, per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1887, 5 drills bored 3,007 feet at a cost of 18. 1144, per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1887, 5 drills bored 3,007 feet at a cost of 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft.; in 1886, 10 drills bored 18. 1144 per ft

The Mining Peess and Bret Harte.—The February Tree rotations an amoving sketch by Bret Harte of the reception of hits first book from which we quote: A well-known mining weekly, which I here poetically veil under the title of the Rvd Dog Ayr Harek, was first to swoop down upon the tancfel and unsuspecting quarry. At this century-end of fastilitious and complaisant criticism, it may be interesting to recall the direct style of the Californian is sixties. "The hogwash and 'purp stuff ladled out from the slop-backet of Messrs.— & Co., of 'Frixco, by some lop-cared Eastern applicatice, and called 'A Compilation of Californian Verse,' might be passed over, so far as criticism goes. A club in the hands of any ablebodied citizen of Red Dog and a steamboat ticket to the Bay, cheerfally contributed from this office, would be all-sufficient. But when an imported greenhorn dares to call his flapfoodle mixture 'Californian,' it is an insult to the The Mining Press and Bret Harte.-The February Bay, chearfully contributed from this office, would be all-sufficient. But when an upported greenhenr dates to call his flaploodle mixture 'Californian,' it is an insult to the state that has produced the girted 'Vellow Hammer,' whose lofty lights have from time to time dazeled our readers in the columns of the Jay Harak. That this com-plaisant editoral jackass, browsing among the dock and thistles which he has served up in this volume, should make no allusion to California's greatest bard, is rather a confession of his idiocy than a slor upon the genius of our esteemed contributor. We doubt if a more feeble collec-tion of drivel could have been made, even if taken ex-clusively from the editor's own verses, which we note he ciscenia continuor. We doubt it a more ecole contestion of diviel could have been made, even if taken evelusively from the editor's own verses, which we note he has, by an equal editorial incompetency, left out of the volume. The Mormon Hill Quarts Cruther relieved this simple directness with more fancy. "We don't know why Messrs. & Co. send us, under the title of Selections of Californian Poetry," a quantity of slumgullion which really belongs to the sluices of a placer mining camp, or the dutches of the rural districts. We have sometimes been compelled to run a lot of tailings through our stamps, but never of the grade of the samples offered, which, we should say, would average about 33% cents per ton. We have, however, come across a single specimen of pure gold evidently overlooked by the serene saw who has compiled this volume. We copy it with pleasure, as it has already shone in the 'Poet's Corner' of the Cruther as the gifted effusion of the talented manager of the Excelsior Mill, otherwise known to our delighted readers as 'Outcop."

Nickel Steel Guns in Germary. (Eng. and Min. Journal.)—Two 34 inch shells, each loaded with 6 oz. of pieric acid, were placed, one in a gun of ordinary Krups steel, the other in a gun of nickel steel 12 inches from the muzzle, and exploded. The muzzle of the ordinary steel gun was blown to a number of pieces, but the only effect on the nickel steel gun was a local enlargement of about 14 inch in the bore.

#### Placer Mining on the Fraser, B.C.

#### Activity Fast Assuming Control in the Old Time Placer Camps.

M. II. Gibbs, a former Colorado miner but who for the past few years has been prospecting in the country which recognizes 'spokane as its central city, has recently returned from Yale, B.C., where he spent the winter doing a hitle place mining and picking up information. Mr. Gibbs says that 'the gold 'fever has struck our noithern neighbors and there is more activity along the Fraser river and its principal tributaries than there has been since the "golden days of the Cariboo." The industry, however, has assumed a different form from that practiced in the earlydays when the rocker, panand shicesconstituted to method of gold saving although there can still be seen at various points along the rivers, small squads of men panning, rocking and sluicing; the returns are however, small and the bars are one after another being deserted by these stalwart pioneers to give place to more modern devices.

deserted by these stalwart pioneers to give place to more modern devices.

Dradging.—For 300 miles, from Hope to Quesnelle on the Fraser, the ground has been leasted and is being worked or preparations are being made to work it. There are now in operation or building not less than a dozen dreliging machines, owned by men of means who have leasted large tracts of ground, or more properly speaking water, (for the dredges are all built on the centrifugal principle) with a view of working it this season and thereafter so long as it will pay.

Between Hope and Yale Messrs. Bell, McCaskell & Shehan have a dredge, the largest on the river, and a strongly constructed boat, with a centrifual pump to such the and and gravel up from the bed of the river, which

should be said and gravel up from the best of the 'iver, which with the water, passes through a receptacle charged with quicksitver which catches the gold and allows the debris and other uniterals to pass out. As is the case with all other littles, nothing is attempted on the banks or above

ne water-line.
At Boston Bar, which is about 25 miles above Yale,

At Boston Bar, which is about 25 miles above Yale, another dredger is working. The principle is the same as the one below but the capacity is less.

At Kanaka Bar, 35 miles from Yale or about 10 miles above Boston Bar, another strong company is operating with a channel dredge. At Lytton and again near Ashcroft, dredges are working or in course of construction. What the cost of construction or of operation, the capacity or per centage of value which is saved by the process is a syet known only to the operators themselves: it is to be presumed, however, that the results are satisfactory as several more barges are contemplated at other points along the Fraser.

along the Fraser.

Hydraulicing. - There are several hydraulic companies Hydraulteing.—I here are several hydraulic companies working or preparing to begin on numerous tributaries of the Fraser. On the Lilooet, Bridge river, and Cayuse creek, a tributary of the former stream, where the Hotserfly company is putting in nine miles of iron pipe. There is considerable work also gong on at 'Mison creek and Willow river. The distances of these streams from rail-road connections are: from Asheroft to Quesnelle, 185 miles; to Horsefly creek, 150 miles; to Wilson creek, 255 miles; and to Willow river 300 miles. Although the distances named may not be quite correct they are nearly so.

Barkersville, at one time a live town where flour and Barkersville, at one time a live town where flour and bacon was worth almost its weight in gold, and the rendezons and trading point of the miners of the entire Cariboo country, is assuming some of its former activity. This little frontier post is on the 53rd parallel, is on the old Cariboo trail and on the survey of the Cariboo trail and on the survey of the Cariboo rail-road which leaves the Canadan Pacific at Asheroft. The distance from Asherott by air line is in the neighborhood of 150 miles but the routes traveled are much longer. The distance from Vancouver is 200 miles farther than from Asheroft.

The distance from Vancouver is 200 miles farther than from Ashroft.

Miners are going into the country already in limited numbers, and it is expected that there will be an increasing number as the season advances. There are many of the smaller streams which empty into the upper Fraser, which have never been mined systematically. The sensons are somewhat shorter than along the lower river and in the days when no ground was worked unless it paid very high wages large tracts of good ground was entirely overlooked.

The Cassiar district which is immediately west of the Cariboo. Extends westwardly to the Alaskan boundary

entirely overlooked.

The Cassar district which is immediately west of the Cariboo, extends westwardly to the Alaskan boundary line and the Pacific coast, has produced considerable gold but the greater portion of the territory embraced within its limits is entirely unexplored, and may or may not be rich in gold treasure. It is reasonable to suppose, however, that there is a large and rich gold field covering a greeter or less portion of it, for so far as explored from the Cariboo side, from the coast and from the south, together with the evidence of rich placers along the Yukon, some of the sources of which rise in this great unexplored territory, it can scarcely cease at the imaginary line of its boundary or at the limit of its explored elistric. In fact the recent surveys made by the Canadian Geological Engineers along the Yukon and MacKenzie basins, bear us out in this assertion, for gold was found at several points and in paying quantities. That prospecting in this far northern and isolated region, which is devoid of roads or trails, will be laborious and dangerous, will not deter the prospector but will add new zest to the task which he lays out for himself. The gold output in British Columbia no doubt will be greatly augmented during the next few years.

#### CANADIAN COMPANIES.

Bell's Asbestos Company, Limited.—Dividend for year 1893, 5 per cent. Net profit, £4,683, exclusive of £3,048 brought forward. Only £1,731 left to carry to new year, so whole dividend not earned last year. Reserve fand £55,000, a mere book entry, as 'goodwill, patents, etc., stand for £69,102, and not attempt is midde to write this off. Company is owing £61,300 on mortgage debentures and its property in Southwark Street is mortgaged for £25,167. The financial position is thus precarious. A most meagure report accompanies the balance sheet.—Investor's Kevicuo.

Marmora Mining and Milling Co. (Ltd.)—Applying for Ontario charter. Authorized capital, \$24,000, in shares of \$10. Directors: John Parry, George E. Keith, James Murray, and Robert Rae. Head Office: Toonto, Operations to be carried on in the counties of Peterborough, Hastings, Addington, Frontenac, Lanark and Renfrew, Ont.

Otterville Brick and Tile Manufacturing Co. (Ltd)—Incorporated 11th April, 1894. Capital, \$5,000, in shares of \$25. Directors, A. B. Moore, C. B. Purves, J. Wyatt, Samson Simley, T. J. Pennington and Robert Paxion, 'all of Otterville, Oxford County, Ontario.

Ledyard Gold Mines (Ltd.)—Capital, \$100,000, in shares of \$10.00. Head office: 56 Colborne Street, Toronto. Directors: T. D. Ledyard, T. H. Yeomans, Chas, Henderson, and E. D. Ledyard, Operations are being carried on in the township of Belmont, Ontario.

Strathroy Petroleum Co. (Ltd.)—Capital, \$90,000, in shares of \$100. Directors: G. A. McGillivray, W. B. Lindsay, Chas. Grist. Head office: Strathroy, Ontario. Operations to be carried on in the counties of Lambton and Middlesex and elsewhere in Ontario.

Stevenson Gold and Platinum Hydraulic Mining Co. (Ltd.)—Formed to acquire and work placer mining claims, etc. on the banks of Granite Creek, Yale district, B.C. Authorized capital, \$1,000,000, in shares of \$100. Directors: Robt. Stevenson, J. H. Thain, W. Lovitt Hogg. Head office: Vancouver, B.C.

Canadian North-West Mining Co. (Ltd.)—Registered 31st March, '94, under the Foreign Companies Act, B.C. Head office: Helena, Montana. Capital, \$2,000,000, in States of \$5,000. Formed to operate mines in B.C.

Bear Lake Consolidated Mining Co. (Ltd.) is applying for charter, under the B. C. Companies Act, to acquire and work the Snowshoe mineral claim, situate in the Slocan mining district, West Koottang division, British Columbia. Capital, \$500,000, in shares of \$5.00. Head office: Victoria. Directors: George Riley, Gustav Leiser, and Gordon Hunter.

#### MINING NOTES.

IFROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.

Nova Scotia. Cariboù District.

The Dixon property has well under way the new mill and hoisting works now being erected by the management. It is to be regretted that the mill plant is not of the approved modern pattern, but it is being solidly built and will be a great advantage to the district.

The Burgess-Neilly group of mines will be outfitted this spring, and work pushed to bring them as rapidly as possible into the ranks of the producers.

#### Sherbrooke District.

The old mines at Goldenville remain very quiet, little or nothing is doing. During the winter an effort was made to sell some of the small holdings, but prices asked were too high to ensure sales.

At Cochrane Hill mines, which belong to the group of Burgess-Neilly mines, so-called, preparations are being made for the equipment of the property with a large plant for mining and milking work. A contract has been let to the Truto Foundry and Machine Co. for the ercetion of a 20-stamp mill of that company's best design, and the plans have been prepared. A power drilling plant has been purchased, and plans are ready for a hoisting and jumping gear.

The Canadian Mining Manual, 1894.—The foredition of this useful reference book has been issued. -The fourth standing the second and the contract of a second of the second of the second of the second of the second of the

At Country Harbor the Antigonish and Country Harbor properties are steadily pursuing the even tenor of their way, and prospects were never brighter.

At Isaac's Harbor the management of the Richardson Co. has nearly perfected extensive plans for the improve-ment of the plant now on the mine, and for an increase in the milling capacity.

At the Crow's Nest mine work is being prosecuted by the parties who have an option on the property, and developments are awaited with interest.

Work at the Dufferin mine was practically suspended on the first of this month. Several experts and promoters have recently visited the mine, and rumor hath it that the property will soon change hands.

The foreman reports all the headings of the Old Provin-cial Co. in good rock, and that there is now no question but that the lode worked is the "Stuart" lode so-called. This property is being opened up with a view to showing fully its resources and capabilities.

The work done by the Pictou company in this district is creating considerable excitement. Rock taken from near the boundary of the Empress or North property has shown some remarkably fine specimens of coarse or nugget gold, and the company is pushing work on that section.

The Turnbull mill has been put in order and is now crushing quartz.

The Free Claim property remains idle.

#### Montagu.

This district remains quiet, but a good deal of fine work

Mr. W. R. Thomas has bought the plant of drills and air compressor ordered originally for the East Waverley Tunnel but never used .there, and has introduced power drills in the stopes of the De Wolfe lode.

Mr. Thomas has also thoroughly re-timbered and systematized the work at the Symon-Kaye mine, formerly managed, in name, by Alfred Woodhouse. Under Mr. Thomas the nuine has been made practically safe to work in, and a proper system of underground work introduced.

Utilization of Peat in Iron Smelting.—It has long been regarded as probable that the many acres of peat to be found on the moors at Dartmoor can be utilized in a manner that will make it available as a fuel for iron smelting purposes. The first attempt at this novel procedure was made some 2 years ago, when machinery was erected near Bridestowe by the Dartmoor Peat and Iron Smelting. Company, Limited, which also acquired the right of working 2 square miles of peat deposit. Several difficulties, however, where found to exist in bringing the peat to the combustible condition which has been bespoken for it. Nothing daunted, however, the company has now erected a plant at Bridestowe in order to practically test an invention of Mr. J. D. Brunton, C.E., of London. In order to witness the new system in operation, the directors and others, including members of the press, were recently invited. From what was fully explained at the time, we learn that peat, when first removed, is practically fall. of moisture, but by Mr. Brunton's arrangement he proposes that the drying of this shall be by means of exporation. The peat is first of all delivered by means of a revolving band into a hopper, from whence it is pressed through a perforated iron plate, by which the fibres are destroyed and entirely macerated, bringing the peat to a condition of soft mud or clay. By means of revolving bands this substance is then carried to moulding machines, where it is shaped into bricks, and afterwards delivered automatically into a drier, by which means the moisture evaporated. During these processes, however, the bricks shrink in bulk so much as to loss something like six-sevenths of their weight. The inventor claims that these bricks, when propelly prepared, will be found superior to coal for the purpose of iron-smelting. A considerable quantity is now in course of manufacture for the purpose of for warding it to Birmingham, where it will undergo severe less in the blast furnaces. In the event of these experiments turning out a success, bl Utilization of Peat in Iron Smelting .- It has long

The Destruction of Blast Furnace Linings.—F. W. Lilmann. (Stahl und Eisen, vol. xii., pp. 336-338), discusses the question of the lining of blast furnaces. This lining is worm awayowing to one or other of the following, causes:—(1.) Actual wear produced by contact with the

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descending charge; (2.) By the action of the constituents of the blast furthace gases, especially of cyanogen or of its salts; (3.) By the action of sodium chloride contained in the coke; (4.) By flaking owing to the deposition of carbon from carbonic anhydride, caused by the iron particles formed from the iron pyrites existing within the material forming the lining. The first of these only accounts to a slight extent for the wear actually observed, and although the action of the cyanogrón or volatile alkaline cyanides is likely to account for a considerable portion of the destruction, yet this still requires experimental proof. The water used for cooling purposes takes up large quantities of cyanides from the walls of blast furnaces, and fused cyanides may even be occasionally observed to drop away from such walls. The third source of wear, the salt present in the coke, is undoubtedly an important cause. Coke-ovens are frequently rapidly destroyed by the salt present in the coal coked, the quantity of this salt having in one case, to which the author refers, reached as much as 48½ lbs. in the charge of six tons of coal. An examination of the coke recently charged into a blast furnace showed it to contain 0.062 per cent of sodium subplate and 0.119 per cent, of sodium chloride, or for 100-tons of coke nearly 140 lbs, of the former and over 260 lbs, of the latter; and quantities such as these charged daily into a blast furnace would soon exert a marked destructive action on the lining. The fourth cause of wear is a most important one when, as is nearly always the case, the fire-resisting material used in the manufacture of the furnace lining contains on sulphiles. These lead to the formation of metallic iron, which in turn causes the deposition of carbon within the masonry, which then splits away and is destroyed. The author recommends the use of carbon bricks.

K. Sorge (15b2) questions whether the lining of blast furnace should be of fire-resisting brick work. He con-

Ine author recommends the use of carbon bricks. K. Songe (tibid) questions whether the lining of blast furnaces should be of fire-resisting brick work. He concludes that this is not necessary, and that instead of such a mass of brickwork as is usually employed, a sufficiently strong iron casing well cooled with water is all that is really necessary.

What is a Living Wage?—Writing in the February number of the "National Review, Mr. Hugh, Bell discusses a couple of very pertinent questions. "What is a living wage?" he asks, and "Out of what fund it is to be paid?" With regard to the first, he says a living wage?" he asks, and "Out of what fund it is to be paid?" With regard to the first, he says a living wage "is at least as much as is now paid, and as much more as by hook or by crook—by strike or by legislation—can be sreewed out of a body of men who, it would seem, only require to be sufficiently pressed to be able to pay anything which may be demanded of them." In dealing with the second query, Mr. Bell gives a variety of figures connected with the fron trade in North York-shire, Eng., and utilizes them very effectively to show that capital can bear no further strain. In view of this fact, he is driven to the conclusion that higher wages will mean fewer men in employment, and that the laborers are sadly deluding themselves if they think the effects of competition can be avoided by legislation. For the rest, Mr. Bell's forecast is far from hopeful. "I foresee," he says, "a time of great suffering—with a very uncertain issue—both for those who are engaged in providing wages for the artisans of the country and for the artisans themselves."

themselves."

Effect of Flux upon Iron.—In an address delivered before the Philadelphia Foundryman's Association on the fluxing of iron in cupolas, Dr. Edward Kirk stated that many of the lime stones and mineral substances employed as cupolas fluxes contain more or less finely-divided as cupolas fluxes, etc., in combination with earthy materials. The flux is often reduced in a cupola and its component parts separated and in minute quantities they alloy with the iron and injure its quality. The conjoined effect upon iron of these diffused oxides, silicates, etc., liberated in a cupola from their native elements in fluxes, is to prevent the metal running elean in the mold or making sharp round eastings and the tensile and transverse strength is frequently impared by them. When the oxides, silicates, etc., are not separated. in the cupola from their native elements, they do not impare the 'quality of the metal,' nor do they improve it. The tendency of the cupola furnace is to clog and bridge over the tuyeres and concentrate the blasts upon the iron through a small opening in the centre and injure its quality. If by the free use of limestone we prevent bridging and keep the furnace working open and free we avoid injuring the iron in melting by the concentration of a strong blast upon it. The effect, therefore, of limestone in a cupalo is not to improve the quality of iron but to prevent its deterioration in melting.

#### Petrolia's Shipments for 2 Years.

We give below the shipments of petroleum from Petrolia, Ont., for each month of the two past years and the totals for the same:

	Crude.	Refd. —1892—	Equiv.	Crude.	Refd. -1803-	Equiv.
January	-\$4,577	24,751	79,718	23,671	28,834 19,807	96,756 77,070
March April May	15,045	19,469 15,145 8,665	65,217 \$1,704 61,897	17,891 16,131 19,031	22,405 16,532 .10,476	73,903 57,460 67,721
June July August	13,280	17,510 20,562 28,077	58,000 62,103 85,562	16,023 16,845 27,511	10,783 10,510 26,860	58,005 67,520 84,661
September October November	20,517	39,730	117,005 130,542 120,200	19,169 23,407 26,455	35,967 49,266 39,766	100,027 140,672 125,870
December	19,011	30,383	95,168	25,685	30,354	200,570

The Use of Fluor Spar in the Metallurgy of Iron.

—Dr. Foehr (Chemiter Lettung) discusses the possible use, on a large scale, in the future, of fluor-spar in the metallurgy of iron. Its use as a solvent and fuel-saving ingredient is most marked, and in the manufacture of ferro-silicon its use is almost a necessity. Similarly, in the manufacture of ferro-manganese and spiegeleisen, it tends greatly to increase the ease of the reduction.

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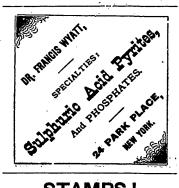
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## Canadian Mining Manual

### AND MINING COMPANIES DIRECTORY.

BY B. T. A. BELL,

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Royalty on all the Gold they extract at the rate of two per cent. on smelted Gold valued at \$19 an ounce, and on smelted gold valued at \$18 an ounce.

Applications for Licenses or Leases are receivable at the office of the Commissioner of Public Works and Mines each week day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Saturday, when the hours are from 10 to 1. Licenses are issued in the order of application according to priority. If a person discovers Gold in any part of the Province, he may stake out the boundaries of the areas he desires to obtain, and this gives him one week and twenty-four hours for every 15 miles from Halifax in which to make application at the Department for his ground.

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The royalties on the remaining minerals are: Copper, four cents on every unit; Lead, two cents upon every unit; Iron, five cents on every ton; Tin and Preciona Stones; five per cent.; Coal, 10 cents on every ton sold.

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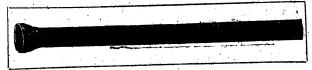
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