

twenty-horse engine has been put up at the main shaft, and slides and cages introduced for hauling the stuff, and lowering and raising the miners. The ore is rapidly raised in waggons, which run upon an inclined tramway to the works for dressing, the loaded waggons hauling up the empty ones. Very little ore has been raised during the year, so much remaining on grass from last year; but a large quantity has been broken up and piled along the levels, to be raised as required. The new process of extraction lately patented by Dr. T. Sterry Hunt and the Rev. Jas. Douglas is now carried on at this mine with the most satisfactory results.

I am again indebted to the Rev. J. S. Brown, Manager, for all information respecting Harvey Hill.

I have received no reports from the Ives and Capel Mines, but I believe both to be doing well.

Iron.—Work has ceased, since the last issue of the *Year Book*, at the Moisie and Hull Mines, and is now carried on, I believe, solely at the Radnor Forges. High wages and the dearness of fuel are said to be the causes of the failure of iron smelting in Canada. Much is hoped from the development of the peat manufacture.

Peat.—Compressed Peat is coming largely into use, and continues in favor on the Grand Trunk Railway. I have failed to ascertain the quantity made in Quebec during the past year, but several new companies have been formed, and the manufacture promises to become extensive, and to do much towards reducing the price of fuel. About 300 tons have been prepared for market.

[For the Mining Regulations of Quebec, *vide* the *Year Book* for 1869.]

NOVA SCOTIA.

We read in the report of the Chief Commissioner of Mines for 1868:—"During the year there has been remarkable activity in prospecting and in opening new mines, both in the old and new districts. Eleven new crushers have been licensed, and there are six others in the course of erection. Financially the success has been more than was expected, the receipts being larger than in any previous year."

Gold.—The following statement for the year 1868 is from the same Report:—

DISTRICTS.	Average men employed.	Crushing mills employed Dec. 31st, 1868.	Steam Power.	Water Power.	Quartz, &c. Crushed.	Yield per ton.	Gold from Althoval Mines.	Total yield of Gold.	Maximum yield per ton.	Average yield per man for 12 months at \$18.50 per oz.
					Tons	oz. dwt. qrs.	oz. dwt. qrs.	oz. dwt. qrs.	oz. dwt. qrs.	
Stormont, "Isaac's"	47	1	1	..	596 05	0 2 14	18 0 0	673 3 17	2 0 0	\$265 00
Harbor	74	4	3	1	2,938 01	0 8 42	....	1248 6 6	5 12 6	312 00
Wine Harbor	191	10	9	1	8,880 04	0 16 10	....	7070 0 5	12 15 0	884 79
Sherbrooke	38	3	2	1	725 05	1 4 7	0 15 0	921 0 0	2 4 9	448 59
Tangier	24	1	1	..	350 00	1 13 9	....	584 14 23	4 8 0	450 70
Montague	118	4	3	1	6,372 00	0 7 12	....	357 8 23	1 15 8	374 30
Waverley	28	4	3	1	1,015 13	0 14 4	....	719 0 4	1 18 19	511 60
Oldham	127	5	3	3	5,994 05	0 11 16	....	3373 14 3	1 19 0	491 44
Benfrew	90	3	3	..	3,874 15	0 16 16	....	3247 3 17	1 19 0	667 49
Unisacko	31	2	2	..	382 17	0 14 0	0 15 12	272 3 8	2 6 16	162 40
Laurencetown and other Districts ..	9	5	5	..	136 00	0 6 12	3 9 34	44 4 14	0 11 11	91 00
Totals, 1868	775	45	37	8	31,242 65	0 13 3	22 19 16	29541 6 10	24 6 16	\$498 31
Do. 1867	676	35	27	8	30,673 00	0 17 23	49 1 15	27583 6 9	....	765 00

This statement shows a great falling off in the yield of gold, and in the average yield per man during 1868. Concerning this the Inspector says:—"The decrease in the yield may, to some extent, be attributed to a diminution of some of the lodes at a few of the mines." And again:—"The depth at which the lodes, in many instances, are now worked, necessarily involves the adoption of other means than manual or horse labor to contend with an increase of water in the mines, and to hoist the quartz or other material from the depth required. The additional outlay required for this purpose is often deferred until the yield of gold is almost balanced by the cost of production, and a somewhat disheartening result is the consequence. An earlier provision of machinery would, probably, in many cases, have placed mines that are now worked to a small extent only in a position more in accordance with their intrinsic value. Notwithstanding this circumstance however, the aspect of the operations in gold mining is certainly the reverse of depressing; several new districts are being rapidly developed, the establishment of works by companies of recent incorporation is being carried to completion, and there is every prospect of the operations in a short time being very considerably extended. The application of machinery in lieu of horses and manual labor, the importance of which, in an economical point of view, is becoming more generally recognized; the enlarged extent of the separate holdings, and the consequent probability of greater duration, together with the adoption of every scientific aid in treating and abstracting the precious metal, are the best assurance that gold mining in the Province is yet far from that development which, from the extent of the auriferous formation, may be expected."