

shovel and weighed before it is screened, we find it is not out of line with prices paid elsewhere in the district for the same seam. I think 25 cents per ton is not far from the average for screened coal in this district.

#### NEW MINES.

*Clinton County.*—The Trenton Coal Light & Power Co. has sunk a shaft at Trenton 330 feet deep to No. 7 seam. The coal is of an excellent quality, and well adapted to domestic purposes. This shaft is equipped with a pair of 16x32in. first-motion Danville engines.

The shaft is located half a mile south of Trenton on the B. O. & S. W. R. R. St. Louis is the principal market for the product.

*Madison County.*—A shaft has been sunk one mile south of Staunton on the C., P. & St. L. R. R. to No. 6 seam by Henry Voge. It was commenced in the latter part of September, 1896 and coal was reached January 16, 1897. The shaft is 8x16ft. and 292 feet deep. It is fitted up in first-class shape. The engines are a pair of 18x32in., Litchfield; three boilers, each 52 inches in diameter, and a shaker screen complete the equipment. St. Louis is the principal market for the coal.

John McNally has sunk a small gin shaft for local trade near North Alton; the seam is only about 2 feet 6 inches thick. He employs three or four men.

*St. Clair County.*—Muren Brothers sunk a shaft about one mile east of Bellville to No. 6 seam. The shaft is 7x14ft. and 180 feet deep. It is equipped with a single geared engine, two cylindrical boilers 42 inches in diameter and a shaker screen. St. Louis is the principal market for the coal.

James and Henry Taylor have sunk a small shaft just south of the corporation line of Belleville, on the Centerville road. It is only 35 feet deep and is equipped with a gin and is operated for local trade. Just opened, no output in this year.

#### PROSPECTIVE MINES.

A company of miners are sinking a shaft a mile and a half west of Lebanon on the B. O. & W. R. R. It is down about 64 feet and considerable difficulty is being met with, as there are nearly 30 feet of gravel at a depth of about 35 feet from the surface, and it is making a liberal quantity of water. The shaft is badly swung and will need a good deal of straightening if they are successful in getting the shaft down.

A new shaft is being sunk by Nesbit Bros., of Bunker Hill. It is situated in Madison county several miles south of Bunker Hill. It will be in the neighborhood of 180 or 190 feet deep to the coal, and will be operated for the local trade. They expect to find a good thick seam of coal.

#### ABANDONED MINES.

In St. Clair county, The National Mine, formerly owned by the Maule Coal Co., now owned by Donk Bros., has been abandoned.

At this mine the pillars had been robbed to such an extent that a general squeeze was induced, resulting in a cave-in under a small creek, which, during the high water and heavy rains last January, allowed the flood to enter