

Till we get the new crusher, however, into operation, only a portion of the jiggs can be kept constantly employed. This occupies our attention at present. As there was no means of attaching the new crusher to the engine, we have been obliged to obtain the machinery necessary to accomplish this from Detroit, at a considerable cost; also four pair of rollers, as those with the crusher might not last above two months on such stuff as ours. When the whole is completed, the Company's ore-dressing establishment will be almost unequalled; and when in full operation, the machinery is capable of crushing and dressing from mine stuff (hard as it is) 250 tons of 15 per cent. ore a month. I hope to have 800 tons of ore ready for shipment on the opening of the navigation. Of this, however, we have only about 250 tons already dressed. We would have had more ore dressed at this time, but that our old jiggs were so worn out with constant use night and day. We determined on giving the whole machinery a thorough repair. Much of the wood-work requiring to be renewed, a month elapsed before we resumed again. Since we did so, however, we have got on very well. The dressing of the ore is set on contract this winter at 35s. per ton of 12 per cent. ore from skimpings, and 25s. per ton of 15 per cent. ore from mine stuff; the Company supplying engine power, and tools, &c. The contractors paying all wages excepting the engineer's, and furnishing their own candles, or light.

THE STAMPS.

Although much improved in their action, I find even still that they do not answer for this ore nearly so well as the crusher. The stamping process is slow, and costs much more than the other. Against this the stamps have no particular advantage in respect of produce; for our crusher will crush the stuff as fine as we want it for dressing. The money expended in the erection of the stamping machinery may, I fear, be considered as gone; but it is satisfactory to know that there is little, if any probability of the machinery itself being a loss on our hands; for, so soon as the Company commence actual mining operations on Lake Superior, stamps will be indispensable for dressing the native copper ores found there.