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The CANADIAN MINING REVIEW is devoted to the opening up of the mineral wealth of the Dominion, and its publishers will be thankful for any encouragement they may receive at the hands of those who are interested in its speedy development.

Visitors from the mining districts as well as others interested in Canadian Mineral Lands are cordially invited to call at our office.

Mining news and reports of new discoveries of mineral deposits are solicited.

All matter for publication in the REVIEW should be received at the office not later than the 20th of the month.

Address all correspondence, &c., to the Publishers of the CANADIAN MINING REVIEW, Ottawa.

The mining localities in Canada which are attracting the most attention at the present time are: The Beauce gold district and asbestos mines of the Eastern Townships; the phosphate deposits of the County of Ottawa, and the mica mines, of which special mention is made in this issue; the iron deposits of Central Ontario, and further west in the same province, on the north shore of Lake Superior, the rich gold and silver mines are attracting the attention of capitalists. Capital is being liberally invested in the coal mines of the Northwest Territories and in the petroleum fields contiguous to the Red Deer and Lesser Slave Rivers. Much attention is also being directed to the mineral resources of the Kootenay District in British Columbia where eastern capitalists have already taken up claims with a view to commencing active mining operations in the spring.

The present year promises to be one of unusual activity in the mining centres above referred to—many new and influential companies have been organized to operate the mines and a fair amount of capital is available for that purpose.

In this issue we publish the full text, with illustrations, of a paper by Wm. Boyd Dawkins, M.A., F.R.S., on the Phosphate Deposits of the Ottawa District, read before the Manchester Geological Society. Professor Dawkins is a geologist and mineralogist of high repute in England, and during his visit to Canada last summer with the British Association he took occasion to visit our phosphate mines and devoted

some time to a careful examination of the extent and the nature of the deposits. His opinions, therefore, expressed in the paper referred to, will be of interest to those who are engaged in the industry of phosphate mining.

A variety of mineral specimens collected in the vicinity of Ottawa has been received by Dr. Selwyn, Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, for the International and Colonial Exhibition, which opens at Antwerp in May. A fair representation of the product of the phosphate mines will be exhibited, and an apatite crystal, pronounced by Dr. Selwyn to be the largest ever discovered, has been forwarded by Mr. Allan, of Ottawa. Some very fine plates of Canadian mica, from the Pike Lake and Villeneuve mines, are also among the exhibits.

Lt.-Col. H. Dachesnay, Inspector of Mines for the Chaudiere District, and J. Obalski, Esq., mining engineer for the province, have devoted careful attention during the past year to the mineral products and the occurrence of economic minerals in the section of the country under their supervision. Their official returns are embraced in the annual report for 1884 of the Commissioner of Crown Lands of the Province of Quebec, from which are published extracts in this issue referring to the occurrence of gold, asbestos and petroleum.

The annual report of the Minister of Agriculture for 1884, extracts from which are published in another column, contains special reference to the phosphate industry. It is strongly advocated in the report that the manufacture of super-phosphate should be engaged in in Canada, and in this we firmly concur.

The *Iron Trade Review*, Cleveland, O., in a recent issue, calling attention to the United States foreign ore competitors, remarks that Canada, as yet, does not appear as a formidable competitor, her shipments for the fiscal year under review being 29,125 tons, though for the calendar year they were about 50,000, but adds that it would not be surprising if Canada's shipments of iron ore into the United States during the fiscal year 1884-5 advanced to 200,000 tons.

Dr. Bell, Assistant Director of the Geological Survey, has been elected a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

Prospecting continues at the Marlow silver location in the Province of Quebec. Four good veins have already been struck ranging from 10 to 20 inches thick, from which samples have been taken that have assayed 20 ounces up to 250 ounces of silver per ton.

The machinery for the Winnipeg and Northwestern Petroleum Company is lying in Winnipeg awaiting transportation to the wells. This machinery is suitable for boring to a depth of 2,800 feet.

Canada's Phosphate Industry.

The activity which has prevailed at the phosphate mines in Ottawa County during the past year continues unabated, and notwithstanding that the market abroad has been more or less sluggish for the past six months or more, there is no disposition on the part of mine owners to check the output of the mines—on the contrary, they are working their properties, in most cases, to their utmost capacity and many thousands of tons of mineral are awaiting transportation. Owing to the construction of the Buckingham branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, but a small quantity of mineral has been forwarded during the winter months. At the terminus of the railway commodious ore-bins have been erected on the bank of the Du Lievre River to receive the phosphate which will be carried in scows from various points on the river, contiguous to the mines, and with the opening of navigation there will begin a busy scene between the High Falls and the railway terminus. Mr. Lomer, of Montreal, with his usual enterprise, has built a suitable steam tug, which will be available by the time the ice has disappeared from the river, and two scows of seventy-five tons capacity each, to be used exclusively for the transportation of phosphate. Mr. Lomer has contracted to carry the output of the principal mines, adjacent to the river, to the railway at a rate per ton that will greatly reduce the cost of transportation as compared with what it has been formerly. The facilities now offered for forwarding the output of the Du Lievre district from the mines to Montreal are such as to render winter hauling practically unnecessary, and will insure its transportation, irrespective of broken and unfavourable weather, from the opening until the close of navigation, and the cost of delivering phosphate in Montreal is now reduced to a minimum.

It is expected that the quantity of phosphate that will go forward this year will be several thousand tons in excess of last year's production and the quantity that has already been mined, and the present appearance of the mines, justifies such a conclusion. The chief contributors to the general output, and the approximated contribution of each, are:—

The Phosphate of Lime Company, 7,000 tons; Union Phosphate Company, 4,000 tons; Dominion Phosphate Company, 3,000 tons; W. A. Allan, 2,000 tons; Ottawa Phosphate Company, 5,000 tons; Du Lievre River Phosphate Company, 1,500 tons; and Messrs. McLaurin & Blackburn (Templeton), 3,000 tons. If this estimate is approximately correct, with the addition of the output of the less important mines, the production of phosphate in the County of Ottawa for 1885 will doubtless aggregate 28,000 tons. Year by year more attention is being given to careful cobbing; and this season's shipments are likely to be of a higher standard than those of any former year. It is quite certain that a large proportion of the output will run over 80 per cent., while some will go as high as 84 and