

mercial and moneyed men are aware of the vast aggregate of capital invested in the mines of Great Britain, the high respectability of the parties connected with the enterprises, the high position which a majority of the companies occupy in the opinion of moneyed men, or its great influence upon the commerce of that country.

The minds and purses of our enterprising capitalists seem to be absorbed in the one idea, that railroad bonds and stocks are about the only things fit to invest their surplus funds in, and this, too, in the face of the host of railroad stocks and bonds now selling for much below their original cost. Let them but turn their attention to the mines of England, and contrast their aggregate profits and yearly dividends with the bulk of our railroad shares, and we think there would then be some hope of attracting a portion of their surplus means to legitimate mining in this country.

The mines of England constitute one of its chief sources of wealth and prosperity. They not only supply the commerce and manufactories of Great Britain, but levy a tribute to the tune of many millions of dollars annually upon the United States for metals which we ought to produce within our own borders.

The English mines pay a larger profit on the amount invested than any other kind of business. The aggregate of profit annually paid to the stockholders is so large as to strike the reader of their reports with surprise; and perhaps the reader of this will be a little doubtful when I inform him that many of the English mines divide from 100 to 300 per cent. profits annually, and yet the actual facts, as presented in the *London Mining Journal*, will fully corroborate this assertion. When we take into consideration the small percentage of their ores as compared with the great richness of a majority of our own mines, the rich result of their operations seems the more surprising. The average per centage of metal to the copper ore of Great Britain, as proved by their monthly ticketings or sales, is from  $6\frac{3}{4}$  to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , while in this country the average, as far as can be ascertained, is more than double that amount. The same fact holds good with regard to our lead and zinc mines, and while the ores of our own mines are generally richer, they are at the same time obtained much nearer the surface than theirs, and consequently at less cost. With all these things in our favor, it seems remarkable that so little attention is paid to this

high  
terpr  
M  
yet  
few  
to a  
work  
gage  
Supe  
try, a  
num  
long  
verar  
on th  
rich h  
pany  
an ou  
years  
surph  
ably  
to a  
Comp  
ly rea  
prom  
The  
chuse  
and M  
a han  
The  
tonian  
may h  
the les  
now i  
par va  
Copper  
share.  
power  
United  
ly, tha  
succes  
and a  
and s  
portion  
manag