

bilities of the soil. Consequently production is cramped, and kept down to the narrow limits of demand.

Of most of the Mineral resources of Carleton little is as yet known. The presence of Copper over a considerable extent of country has been known for years; and Copper Mines have been opened and worked, but not as yet profitably. Limestone is abundant in several districts. Hydraulic Limestone has been found; as has also been Antimony and other minerals, besides large quarries of Roofing Slate. To these and other minerals and stones we shall make no further reference; as they cannot be counted on as of immediate availability in furnishing traffic for a Railway. But the developement of the Iron Mines has already commenced; and in them Carleton possesses the crude materials which must, with Railway communication, make her second in wealth to no district of the same extent in North America. The great difficulties under which we labor in the working of our Iron Mines, are, first, the inconvenience and cost of the present mode of transportation to and from the seaboard, and, secondly, the want of Mineral Coal. As yet none but charcoal iron can be produced; and although this demands the highest price in the British markets, yet its production is limited by the difficulty of transport already mentioned, and must always be limited by the extent and cost of the supply of fuel. The following statistics regarding the present works, and the extent of the iron beds, have been kindly furnished by Mr. Norris Best, Manager of the Charcoal Iron Works at Upper Woodstock. The quantity of wood required for the operations of these works in 1864 is estimated at 12,000 cords, which will strip say 400 acres. Evidently with this consumption annually added to that necessary for the ordinary purposes of the County, wood must go up in price, and the expense of producing Charcoal Iron must be increased. But the present works furnish a very considerable addition to the business of the County, and would provide an item in Railway traffic of no small importance. The estimated production of pig iron for 1864 is 2,750 tons, employing at the mines and about the furnace and works seventy-five men. Twelve teams, with their drivers, find constant employment in hauling the ore, while to cut the wood requires say one hundred and fifty men for twelve weeks; and to haul it some sixty teams and their drivers for the same length of time. The