

away, before the gold for which the early colonizers of some parts of Canada showed so great a thirst, was discovered. In the meantime, however, many other metals had been found and worked to a greater or less extent. The forges of St. Maurice probably afford the first instance of the successful working of any metal in Canada. They were established by the French in 1737 ; at the conquest of the Province, the rights of the French King devolved on His Britannic Majesty, and these forges have been let to private parties, who have worked them very successfully. The copper deposits of the Lake Superior region have long been known, but on the North or Canadian side, they have not been much worked. The Copper mines of the Eastern Townships have yielded of late years a vast amount of wealth to their proprietors. Silver deposits of surpassing richness are reported to have been recently discovered near Lake Superior, at more than one point, and probably before the present year passes away, they will have been thoroughly tested. Iron works have been started in several different places, and at one point on the Lower St. Lawrence, the iron sand is manufactured by means of peat—another economic material, of which as our forests begin to give out in the older settlements, we are just beginning to discover the uses and value, and which will probably in the course of time exercise as great an influence in our manufacturing centres, as coal has done in England. From Marmora large quantities of iron ore are exported, and the new iron works recently established in Hull, in our own immediate vicinity, are but the pioneer movements in developing a source of wealth which has been slumbering for centuries in the bowels of the land, and which only awaited the enterprise of labour and capital to yield a rich return. A new process of separating copper ore from the rock, has recently been put into operation in England, and it will not be long before it is applied in Canada. By the old method of extraction, it was necessary to have ten per cent. of copper in the rock before it could be worked, and if there was only half that quantity, the difference had to be added. By the new method, rock bearing only two per cent., or perhaps less, can be worked without any addition of other copper.