

tributable to the indifference of the public. Nowadays fabulously rich finds in other provinces of the Dominion have attracted wide attention, and it is not difficult to find capital for the exploitation of precious mineral deposits of even questionable value. But until now it has been difficult to interest investors in deposits of base minerals in this Province promising absolutely safe and large returns on money invested.

Even in 1908, Quebec produced but \$5,493,664 in minerals. It can be safely stated, however, that during the next few years this enormously wealthy Province will show an increase in mineral production and returns to stockholders that will astound the world.

As this book goes to press, Quebec has 181 Companies vigorously engaged in the mining industry, in one form or other, and the reader will mark this—NOT ONE OF THIS ENTIRE NUMBER IS A STOCK-JOBGING TRANSACTION; NOT ONE IS A WILD CAT; NOT ONE IS A FAILURE, OR UNSUCCESSFUL.

IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF THE MINING INDUSTRY OF QUEBEC, NO ONE CAN POINT TO A SINGLE COMPANY WHICH HAS ORGANIZED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELLING STOCK.

These Companies are engaged in the production of Magnetic Sand, Iron, Ochre, Copper, Gold, Graphite, Manganese, Asbestos, Mica, Phosphate, Feldspar, Magnesite, Kaolin, Talc, Cement, Granite and Building Stone.

Asbestos: The Coming Mineral.

We have spoken of Asbestos as the coming mineral. While, to-day, it enters largely into the economy of the world, it is, practically speaking, only at the beginning of its usefulness.

Hardly a month passes without some new use being discovered for Asbestos, some application for which it is especially fitted and superior to anything else.

In speaking of Asbestos, we necessarily speak of Quebec, because the production of Asbestos in Quebec overshadows that of the entire world.

The history of Asbestos and its discovery in Quebec reads like a romance.

Just north of Lyndonville, over the Canadian border, the Boston and Maine Railroad joins the Quebec Central, and a few miles thence towards Quebec, following the famous Serpentine Belt, are the largest Asbestos quarries in the world.

Ninety-eight years ago the second son of Baron Thetford, who had fallen heir to a Crown Grant 10 miles square (where are now the famous Asbestos mines of Black Lake and Thetford), sold back his grant of land to the Crown for fifty pounds.

When Asbestos was discovered in the hill at Thetford in 1873, it was only a hunting and lumber camp, 33 miles from the Grand Trunk road.