

THE SOURCES OF SUPPLY OF NICKLE ORE.

Now that the Annapolis trials have demonstrated the value of nickle as an alloy of steel for armour plates, great interest is manifested in the sources of the world's supply of this metal. It has been stated by the daily papers that the world's known sources of nickle ore are limited almost entirely to the deposits at Sudbury, Canada, and to those in New Caledonia. Apprehensions have consequently been expressed concerning the adequacy of these deposits for supplying the demand for nickle if this metal should be largely called into use as an alloy of steel. The facts concerning the supplies of nickle ore show that there is no present ground for these apprehensions.

All the mines which used to yield nickle enough for all the world before those of New Caledonia and Sudbury were discovered still exist, and several of them, including the mine in Lancaster county, Pa., are still in operation, and are supplying a considerable part of the world's present demand.

When the mines of New Caledonia were first worked upon a large scale the owners expected to close all other mines throughout the world. They did succeed in so depressing the price of nickle as to cause nickle making everything to be unremunerative, but the company has greatly reduced its supplies of ore and, it is said, has made little money for itself.

The mines of Sudbury now command attention, being fresh and large, and they will doubtless yield freely for some years to come. The mines of Norway and Sweden, similar in character to those of Sudbury, and but partially developed, will also continue to yield nickle, while other nickle deposits are sure to be discovered.

It is, of course, the history of all mines that sooner or later they are exhausted. The nickle mine in Lancaster county, Pa., has had several periods of comparative poverty followed by new discoveries within its boundaries. At the present time it is yielding about as much nickle as all America used when its present proprietor first opened it.

The ownership of the Sudbury mines is in several hands. One group of the mines is owned by Americans; another group of equal value is owned by Canadians; another by Englishmen; and still other mines by various persons. The New Caledonia mines are mostly owned in France.—*The Bulletin.*

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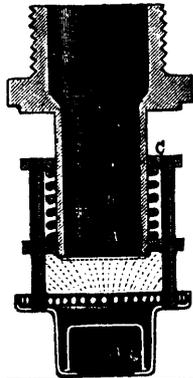
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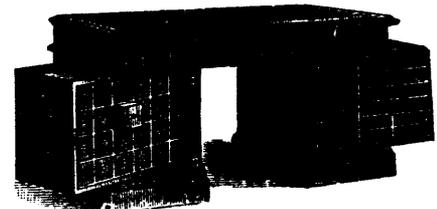
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