

New York State has spent six millions thus far in buying back land in the Adirondacks and other regions for the establishment of forest reserves and for the conserving of their water reservoirs, paying therefore at the rate of \$3.50 per acre.

Maine and Massachusetts are considering similar action. Strong agitations on the same lines are manifest in Michigan and Minnesota.

THE BUREAU OF MINES.

The Provincial Assay Office.

In 1901 the authorities of the Province of Quebec wrote for full particulars respecting the Provincial Assay Office at Belleville, stating that they had in contemplation the establishment of such an office for the Province of Quebec. Full particulars were furnished, and as to the benefits which the office in Ontario had upon the mining industry of this Province. Shortly afterwards the Quebec Government opened an Assay Office in Montreal, no doubt as the direct result of the example set by Ontario.

Diamond Drills.

Two or three years ago the Government of Nova Scotia applied for information respecting the diamond drills operated by the Ontario Bureau of Mines. About the same time the Government of that Province had authority from the legislature to purchase one or more such drills for use in testing the mineral deposits in that Province. It is most likely the example of Ontario influenced in this direction, although the idea of aiding the mining industry in this way was not original with this Province, having been some time before adopted in New Zealand and one or more of the colonies in Australia.

Praise of the Ontario Mining Law.

Dr. R. W. Raymond, of New York, Secretary of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, recognized as the great American authority on mining laws, said in the *Ottawa Mining Review* of October, 1897, "The Ontario Mining Act, as framed in 1892, seems to me to embody a very judicious attempt to continue the encouragement of exploration and mining, with the retention of sovereign control and supervision." After dealing with the various provisions of the Act, Dr. Raymond remarks: "I trust also that the excellent features I have taken the liberty of pointing

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