

grain from the various lake ports to Montreal, but in winter they will be employed both in coast trade and in carrying grain to Liverpool. Mr. Connors expressed the opinion that the project would be in operation by July 1st, 1900. He said,—"Naturally, I feel much gratified at the conclusion of my labors. I can say I have the support of all the large grain interests of Chicago and Duluth. The representative men have expressed confidence in the practicability of the scheme, and a syndicate with which I am connected have begun preparations for establishing a carrying trade all over the water route between the great lakes and Montreal. The Montreal route will afford an all-water way to the sea, which can compete with railways because of its cheapness. Montreal is 300 miles nearer Liverpool than New York, a decided advantage. Besides three elevators at Montreal we expect to build an elevator of 1,500,000 bushels capacity at Port Colborne, and through grain going to Montreal will be broken there.

During the season just ended only a little more than 21,000,000 bushels of the vast amount of grain which came to Buffalo from the west by lake and rail was shipped east by the Erie Canal. The great bulk went by rail. It will be the seaports that will suffer from the new route, New York, Newport News, Boston, Baltimore, Portland, Galveston and every port through which grain passes for export. It will simply be a contest between rail and water, and I am confident water will win."

CORUNDUM IN ONTARIO.

A dispatch from Ottawa a few days ago stated that B. A. C. Craig and Joseph N. Shenstone, secretary of the Massey-Harris Company, were in that city on their way to visit the vast fields of corundum in North Hastings of which they have the control.

This much-talked-of deposit in Hastings and South Renfrew is the only extensive formation at present known in the world.

In North Carolina and Georgia it is of secondary or derived origin and occurs in narrow, pockety veins, whereas in Ontario it is found in huge eruptive dykes, one of which is over half a mile in width. Mr. Craig and his associates have had engineers in the field for the last two years, carefully selecting what they considered valuable. The largest known deposit has been bought from the Ontario Government by private parties and the syndicate in which Mr. Craig is interested only obtained possession after a hard-fought lawsuit with some of the parties claiming to be part owners of it.

As to the question so frequently asked since the discovery of the famous Ontario deposit "What is corundum?" the simplest answer can be, an inferior corundum is a superior emery. Corundum is the hardest substance in the world, if the diamond is excepted. Until the Ontario deposits were discovered it had always been found in the form of emery, that is, intimately mixed with iron. It is the corundum in the emery

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