

**MINERALS IN CANADA.**

An article has appeared in the *Liverpool Journal of Commerce* commencing on the mineral wealth of Canada as follows:—"Much interest has of late been created amongst capitalists in consequence of the extraordinary development of mining in Canada; and, in connection therewith, it may be well to observe that in the neighbourhood of Ottawa, the Capital of the Dominion, the amount of enterprise displayed, especially in the Laurentian range of mountains, is something enormous. For the past two or three years parties of workmen have been engaged in removing phosphates from what are known as "surface pockets," the prevailing opinion amongst geologists having been that this valuable mineral was only to be found under certain conditions. The experience of those engaged in the operations referred to throws fresh light on the entire subject, and, in contra-distinction to the learned *dicta* of men of science, it is found that the mineral is obtainable under conditions which present no appearance whatever of animal organization. Further, it is obtainable in such quantities, and of so high a quality—the latter giving \$5 per cent. of phosphate of lime—as to yield a large revenue. It has been ascertained, likewise, that these "pockets," when blasted, expose extensive and unexpected deposits of phosphate beneath. The consequence of these disclosures has been much excitement, not only in Ottawa, but throughout the Dominion, and phosphate lands have experienced a rise in value. It is noteworthy, too, that not only American, but English, French and Belgian capitalists are investing largely in these lands, a strong testimony to the value in which they are held beyond Canada itself.

In further illustration of the mineral wealth of the country, we may mention that on the Island of Michipacotin there has been disclosed an enormous deposit of copper, which far exceeds the deposits of the Calumet and Aecla Mining Company, so well known in the United States. Specimens of the newly-discovered ore have been forwarded to the laboratory of the School of Mines in London, and the analysis has proved, in connection with the known extent of the deposit, that a valuable industry of unheard of dimensions is about to be opened up. A large capitalist from London has sailed in one of the Allan steamships, with a view of testing the accuracy of the reports that have reached this country as to mining development in Canada—a practical method of going to work, which should tend to foster legitimate trade and nip any bogus experiments in the bud. Assuming these reports to be, in the main, true, Canada is certain, as regards the mining industry, to have a bright future; and, with the in-

terest manifested in all Canadian matters by the Marquis of Lorne, should have the effect of promoting still further commercial intercourse between it and the Mother Country."

It cannot fail to please the people of Canada, more particularly those interested in mining enterprises, to read such flattering articles in the foreign press on the vast natural wealth this country possesses.

**Manitoba Mines.**

It must be encouraging to those directly interested in the welfare of Manitoba to notice how rapidly the mineral wealth of that province is being developed. Not a day passes that we do not see leading articles in the Canadian and American press commenting on the gold mines of Manitoba, and all testifying in unqualified terms to the richness of the mines at present in operation. Prominently among these is the well-known Keewatin Mine, situated near the Lake of the Woods, about 500 feet from its shore. The shaft has been opened on the crest of a ridge, about 80 feet above the lake level, and is being sunk in a true fissure vein, with most encouraging results, the quartz increasing in richness as mining progresses, until the company has now the satisfaction of claiming, and justly so, that the ore taken from its mine gives a larger percentage of the precious metal than any other yet discovered in the district; and, compared with the principal gold mines of the United States, its yield is far in excess, as the following figures will show:—

Manitoba Mine..	
Keewatin Mine, per ton of 2,000 lbs.	\$171 50
Lake Winnipeg	124 00
Hay Island	151 00
North American	81 25

**United States Mines.**

Mine	Per ton
Bodie Consolidated Mine..California..	\$74 78
Keystone Mine.....Georgia.....	28 00
Moneton ".....Montana.....	40 00
Penobscot ".....Dakota.....	5 to 6
Robinson ".....Colorado.....	50 00
Silver Bond ".....Montana.....	40 00
Tecumseh ".....Utah.....	30 00
The West ".....S. Carolina.....	10 00

From this it will be seen that the flattering reports published regarding the value of the "Keewatin," have not been without substantial foundation, and taking into account the many important advantages this mine possesses, such as being easy of access, the cheapness of fuel and the richness of its ore, it may safely be predicted that the company has in store a brilliant and a prosperous future.

Some gentlemen from the United States who have a large amount of capital invested in mines in New Mexico and Nevada, accompanied by mining experts from New York, recently visited the property of the Keewatin Mining Company, and were unanimous in the opinion that the lode was much richer and promised a larger yield than anything they had seen in Colorado or Nevada. To the opinions of these practical and, in such matters, well-informed men, should be attached much importance, time, however,

will prove the correctness or incorrectness of their reports. If mining operations are prosecuted with the same energy in the future, and with the same encouraging results as have been shown in the past, this company will realize such prosperity as will exceed the most sanguine anticipations of those who are interested in its welfare. If, when the output of ore has been crushed, the result bears out the tests already made on a small scale, and there is little doubt but it will, then, it is safe to say, success will have been assured for the Keewatin Mining Company and a lively "boom" will thus be created in Manitoba mining stocks. There will be no further necessity for applying to men of capital for assistance—on the contrary, capitalists will anxiously seek investment for their money in what promises to return such handsome profits.

**A Gold Brick.**

A despatch recently received from Winnipeg announces the arrival in that city of a gold brick weighing 3 lbs. It was brought from the Winnipeg Consolidated Mine, and has created intense excitement among those interested in Manitoba gold mines. Another brick is looked for, and should have reached Winnipeg ere this, from the Argyle Mine. The mills at both these mines are said to be doing excellent work, and the value of the properties is established beyond a peradventure.

**Keewatin Mine.**

A telegram was received from New York a short time since by a gentleman in Winnipeg, asking him if the Keewatin Mining Company would be disposed to sell 5,000 shares of its stock at \$8 per share. If this offer be accepted, it will be the largest sale of Keewatin stock yet effected; its par value is \$10 per share.

**Incorporated Mining Companies in Manitoba.**

The following is a list of the Gold Mining Companies owning properties on the Lake of the Woods, the capital stock of each, and the par value of their shares:

Company	Capital Stock.	Shares par value
Argyle Mining Co., limited..	\$1,000,000	\$100
Winnipeg Consolidated Gold Mining Co., limited.....	1,020,000	50
Keewatin Mining Co., limited..	1,000,000	10
Lake of the Woods Gold Mining Co.....	2,000,000	10
George Heenan Mining Co.....	500,000	2
Lake Winnipeg Mining Co.....	2,000,000	10
Mining Investment Co.....	300,000	
Canada Gold Mining Co., limited.....	1,000,000	20
British American Gold Mining Co.....	500,000	10

The greater number of the above named companies are already engaged in active operations, and mining is being vigorously pushed ahead.

A careful estimate, by States, of the silver product of Mexico, shows an annual yield of \$22,000,000.

**Manitoba Lands.**

We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the list of Birtle Lands in Manitoba, published in another column for the purpose of the selection of these lands made by an old resident of the country, who reports rich bluffs with gravel sub-soil, and plenty of water. The Portage and Couronne Railway—now in construction—will run through the heart of the Birtle district, and more beautiful country exists in British possessions than the and Bird Tail Section of Manitoba, and we venture to say that, in the next five years, lands of those offered for sale will be obtained at \$50 to \$100 per acre.

**ASBESTOS.**

This valuable mineral is found more or less in various parts of Canada. It occurs in the township north of Kingston in many sections adjacent to the tawa Valley, but the deposits covered in these localities have yet been worked, and this is due to the want, on the part of the owners, of the necessary machinery to carry on mining operations, as to the fact that the existence of the mineral in this section of the province is comparatively unknown to the public. Yet the opinion amongst geologists that the presence of asbestos in the Ottawa Valley is destined to become an industry of great importance. In the Township of Shefford, mining operations are being actively carried on by the Boston Asbestos Company, by Messrs. Kingston and by Messrs. Johnston and Four distinct properties are worked by these gentlemen, and employ in all 160 men, and the daily output is estimated at 100 tons. Mr. Jeffery has for some years been engaged in mining in the Township of Danville, and has succeeded in raising a large amount of mineral all of which has been shipped to New York. Mr. W. H. Johns, of New York, one of the largest Fire-proof Paint and Packing Manufacturers in the United States. Mr. W. H. Johns, in Wolfston, is said to produce 100 tons daily, and by the employment of additional force the output may be considerably increased. This has, however, been but a small opening and it is only reasonable to suppose that it will become more productive as development progresses. In the Township of Broughton, Dr. J. Reed is giving some attention to mining, and a mine now operated by him is expected to develop into a very valuable industry.