

time for levying such royalties is left to the discretion of the Government, and no royalty has yet been demanded. On lands sold or leased prior to May 4th, 1891, all claim to royalties has been abandoned by act of the legislature and thus great blocks of nickel lands as well as some other mining properties are exempted from liability to the general royalty provided for. Ores from mining locations granted since, or that may be granted up to Jan. 1st, 1890, are subject to royalty as follows: Ores of silver, nickel and copper, and iron, two per cent., all other ores and minerals, such percentage, not exceeding two per cent., as may be fixed by Order in Council. The royalties may be calculated on the value of the ores at the pit's mouth, less cost of explosives, and of labor for mining and subsequent treatment. No royalties can be imposed until seven years after the issue of a patent or lease. After the beginning of 1890 ores of silver, nickel, or nickel and copper are to be liable to a royalty of three per cent., iron not more than two per cent., all other ores and minerals such percentage, not exceeding three per cent., as may be imposed by Order in Council. The royalty may be calculated on the value of ores at the pit's mouth, less the cost of explosives and labor used in mining and raising such ores.

#### Diamond Drills.

Two diamond drills are provided for loan, at low cost, for exploratory work.

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#### ADDENDA.

Since the first part of this circular, containing notes on the present position of leading gold properties in the Rainy River District, went to press, several noteworthy changes have been announced, among which are the following:

The amalgamation of the Hammond Reef Co.'s and the Folger-Hammond syndicate's properties on the Hammond Reef, under a new company with a capitalization of \$5,000,000.

The sale of the Barker mine in the Manitou Lakes country, for about \$250,000.

The acquirement of the Alice A mine by a British company, organized in England, with a capital of £300,000, and said to intend immediately erecting a mill of 150 stamps or more.

The sale of the Foley mine to a British company, the Canadian Mines Development Co. (Sir Edward Thornton, President), with a capital of £300,000.

In Eastern Ontario the Parry Sound Copper Co., with very high-grade copper deposits, and with a capitalization of \$5,000,000, has in addition to acquiring several thousand acres of copper lands around the McGown Gold Mine near Parry Sound, acquired the McGown mine also.

There are rumours that the Regina mine, now said to be over 500 feet in depth, may make changes in organization which will permit of greater facilities for handling its immense ore deposits.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

NOTE.—A circular on the British Columbia mines will be issued later by the Mines Contract and Investigation Company, Limited.