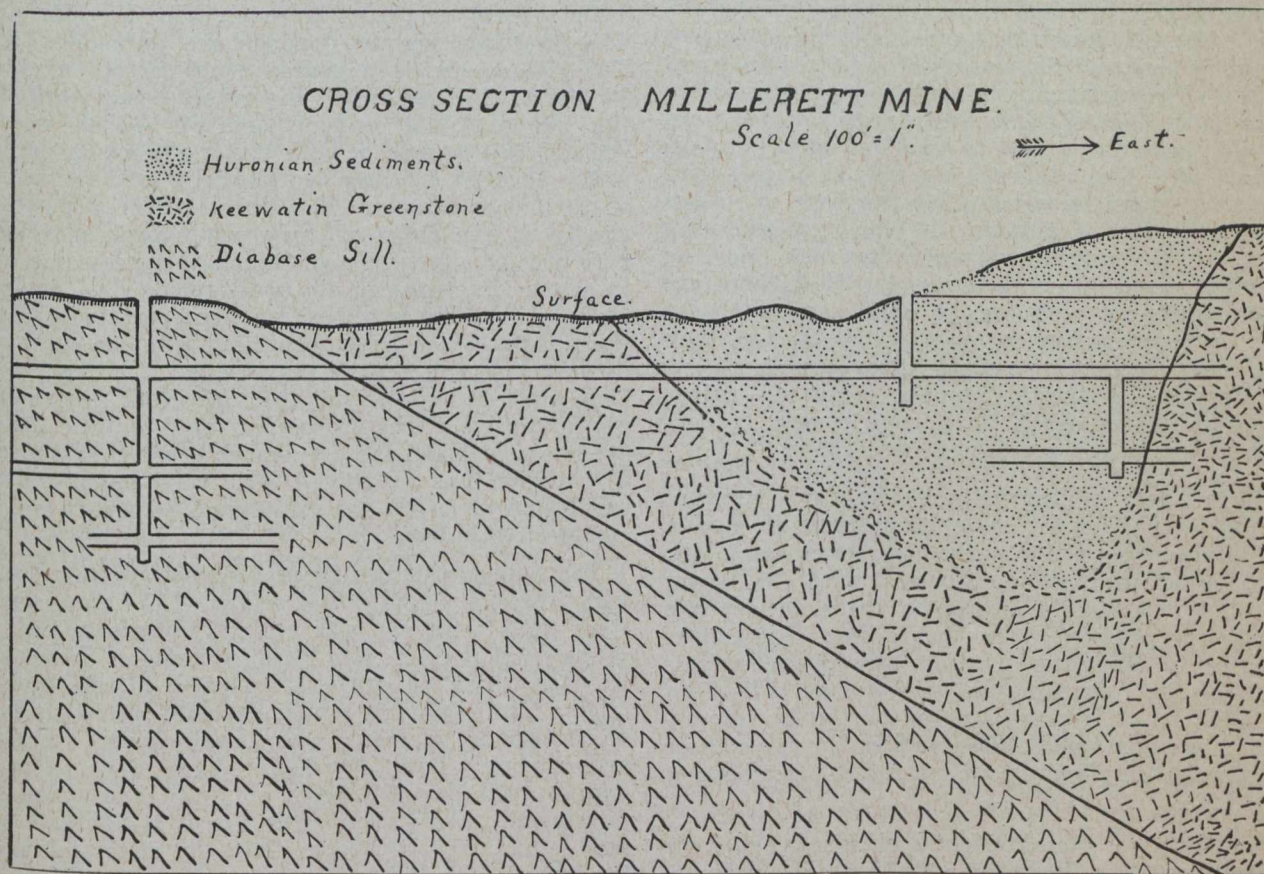


though probably productive veins will be developed only in the intrusive diabase areas and in the portion of the Huronian and Keewatin formations immediately adjoining these intrusions. Of the 100 square miles mentioned above 4,000 acres or perhaps five square miles has been pretty thoroughly prospected and two veins have been developed, each of which has already produced more than 400,000 ounces of silver. The Millerett No. 1 vein is in conglomerate. Very little prospecting has ever been done on this formation and no other silver bearing veins have yet been found, but there is every reason to assume that some good conglomerate veins yet remain to be discovered. The Miller Lake-O'Brien vein in diabase had not a remarkable surface showing, nor did the mine look particularly promising until after a year's hard work. There were several other properties which looked better, both on the surface and on the 50-foot level, than the Miller Lake-O'Brien, but the others stopped at that and no one knows anything more about them, while the O'Brien kept right on and repaid the confidence of owner and manager by earning 100 per cent. work-

which one can distinguish good veins from the others, and thorough underground work alone can determine the value of each special vein, on which the surface showings are sufficiently encouraging to warrant the expense required for their exploration.

There is not at present any reason to believe that Gowganda will provide any very big or remarkably rich mine, but there are good grounds for the opinion that several profitable mines may yet be developed, similar to the two which are steadily producing at the present time. Three other mines may become profitable producers during 1912. Their development is not yet far enough advanced to make any positive statement, but their chances look good at the present moment, and there is always the possibility of "dark horses" coming to the front.

It can at least be said that the future of Gowganda depends most of all upon the prospecting and development of the large area which is to-day absolutely idle. During 1908 and 1909, 7,000 claims were staked in the immediate vicinity of Gowganda and 2,000 more



ing profit during 1911, with prospects of doing even better in 1912. The No. 7 vein on the Millerett also in diabase showed a length of only 12 feet of silver ore on the surface, while on the 150-foot level there is an almost continuous body of concentrating ore for a length of 250 feet and close to 100,000 ounces of silver have been taken from this vein during the past ten months. Against these facts, it must be frankly admitted that some of the very best surface showings were found to peter out altogether at a depth of 30 feet to 50 feet and some properties which have been thoroughly developed, have certainly proved great disappointments. There does not seem to be any rule by

in the outlying districts, which are generally spoken of as part of Gowganda camp. The great proportion of these claims were quickly abandoned, for the most part with little or none of the assessment work completed. About 2,500 claims still remain in good standing and on most of these, leases have been secured, signifying that 240 days' assessment work has been recorded on the claim. Much of this work was done on contract, a good deal was slighted over and some of it entirely faked, so that very little is known as to the probable value of these properties, except that in several instances promising discoveries of silver were made and nothing done thereafter.