

almost similar instances could be cited from many localities, did time permit.

If, however, we were to go on and relate many such cases, there would be but little time for the matter proper of this paper, and I will pass from the consideration of this subject by saying that with many men who become infected with the mining fever, so peculiar is their disposition, that in many cases the advice of a competent mining or geological expert is very apt to be disregarded, most people preferring probably to cure themselves of the disease in their own peculiar way.

With regard to the leading geological features of the mineral bearing areas of the Ottawa District it may be said that these are referable to two divisions of rocks, viz., the Palæozoic and the crystalline. Concerning the origin of the rocks of the former there is no great doubt. They are sedimentary, and contain in their mass the traces of organisms peculiar to the age in which they were deposited. All these fossiliferous deposits have been arranged in due order like the pages of a great book, by turning which a clear and comprehensive history of the growth and development of the earth's crust, for this portion of its history, can be obtained.

When we come to the question of the underlying crystalline rocks we have a different story. Formerly these were regarded by many as having originally the same origin as the newer rocks, that is, the greater part were also held to be sedimentary deposits. Recent studies, both in the field and in the laboratory, have however led to a marked change of opinion in this respect, and it is now very clearly established, that a very large proportion of the crystalline rocks have been produced without the agency of water in the ordinary sense, but are distinctly and directly igneous in their character. In this way we have come to regard many of the rock masses, with which our most important minerals are associated, as intrusive through the sedimentary deposits, and this peculiarity of intrusion has in many cases, had a very important bearing upon the development of the associated minerals.

The principal rocks of the crystalline series, which in Canada have been, for the most part, long regarded as