

patent, *with the consent of and indemnifying the Seigniors*, as there could be no question but that the patent was valid." Government left the matter to the action of a committee of the Legislature, which unfortunately gave satisfaction to no party, as it neither recognized nor repudiated the rights of Mr. De Lery, but left the contending parties to fight it out, at much cost and trouble while as a consequence the development of this promising field has been very much retarded. This is the more to be regretted as the success of the first isolated efforts, though far from displaying anything like scientific skill, was such as to hold out a prospect of very gratifying results, more especially as the salubrity of the valley, and the facilities which it afforded for all the requirements of mining, with the cheapness of labour and provisions, could not be found elsewhere, and above all the disposition of the inhabitants was every thing that could be desired. I accord most completely with Mr. Judah, when he says:—"I cannot conclude this report without bearing testimony to the quiet and good order existing at the *Gilbert* mine. The miners consist chiefly of French Canadian *habitants* from the adjoining parishes with a few persons from Quebec and elsewhere, and at neither of my visits did I hear a word spoken in anger."