The Calumet and Hecla Mining Company declared a dividend of $5 a share, or $500,000 on the capital stock, payable November 2nd. This makes $17 a share paid this year, and a total of $28,850,000 divided among the stockholders to date.

The Griffin Pulverizer Company.

This Canadian enterprise was referred to by the *Eureka Sentinel*, Sept. 26, attention being directed to the organization of a company in Montreal, under the above title, in the following paragraph :—

"Some time ago mention was made in these columns of the Griffin pulverizer, a new invention which, if it accomplishes what its owners believe it able to do, and if no unforeseen difficulties are encountered by it when put to work, will prove a great acquisition to the economical working of ores in the West. The patentee is a brother of W. E. Griffin, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s agent at this town. From an exchange we learn a company known as the Griffin Pulverizer Company has been organized, with a capital stock of $50,000, with headquarters at Montreal, Canada. It is intended to manufacture machinery for the pulverizing of phosphates and ores generally."

In connection with the foregoing the following notice appeared in *The Canada* (official) *Gazette* of November 7th :—

"Public notice is hereby given that, under 'The Canada Joint Stock Companies' Act, 1877,' letters patent have been issued under the great seal of the Dominion of Canada, bearing date the 6th day of November, 1885, incorporating Alexander W. Morris, manufacturer, Robert C. Adams, gentleman, and Chas. B. Morris, gentleman, all of the city and district of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, in the Dominion of Canada, and Edwin Packard, gentleman, and James R. Griffin, patentee, both of the city of Brooklyn, State of New York, United States of America, for the purpose of the manufacture and sale of machinery for the pulverizing of ores, phosphates, quartz and other hard substances throughout the Dominion of Canada, by the name of 'The Griffin Pulverizer Company,' with a total capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, divided into five hundred shares of one hundred dollars."

"Dated at the office of the Secretary of State of Canada the 6th day of November, 1885."

In the list of incorporators of this company we are pleased to see the name of Robert C. Adams, who is so well and favorably known among operators in the Canadian phosphate industry. The company has our best wishes for a successful career.

A HAND CRUSHER.

A convenient little hand crusher, for use in laboratories, is manufactured in San Francisco. Both jaws are faced with hard white iron, the lower parts of which are plain surfaces, and between them the ore is crushed. An ingenious arrangement of corrugations forces the ore down at each stroke of the lever, and the whole can be quickly taken apart for cleaning after each lot is worked. The lever has a rubber covering where grasped by the hand, and a rubber cushion where it strikes the bed-piece to prevent jar and noise. The height to which the lever can be raised is regulated. The jaws are 3 inches wide and open at the top 1¾ inch, consequently, a piece of rock 3 x 1¾ inches can be crushed. With the lower part of the jaws set at one-tenth of an inch apart, 40 pounds of the hardest rock can easily be crushed in one hour, and 20 per cent. of this will then go through a No. 60 sieve. Then the machine is set closer and the remainder is run through. This hand crusher is very complete and is not expensive.

A Possible Future Market for American Iron and Steel.

There are strong influences at work that are quite likely to lead the Chinese Government to begin the construction of an extensive system of railways with a view to provide for military exigencies as well as for commercial ends—military exigencies to grow possibly out of the habitual tendency of Russia to trench upon the territory of her Oriental neighbors. It is reported that the plan for such a system of railroads has been so far advanced that already the Chinese are negotiating for the means in Europe for its execution, and it seems to us that with such a plethora of idle money as there is, such a government as that of China should have no difficulty in placing a loan to be thus employed to ends that are creative and not destructive.

In that event, a demand for a vast quantity of iron and steel will be created which, with proper management, should be turned to the material advantage of our iron and steel industry. We certainly should be able to compete favorably with Europe in a very great deal of the material and appliances used in the building of Chinese railroads. Every exertion should be made in this country to win a liberal share of the industrial advantages to the West that are sure to be the result of an extensive construction of railroads in China.—*F. & M. Record.*

Work of the London Mint.

The recently issued report of the Deputy-Master of the Mint, giving an account of the operations of that department for the year 1884, is a more than usually interesting document. From it we learn that the amount of gold coined during the year exceeded by more than a million the amount coined in 1883, while the silver coinage was but little in excess of the average. The coinage of bronze, however, was larger than in any year since 1875.

The total weight of metal melted down during the twelve months was 470 tons, made up as follows: A certain proportion of alloy being of course included—gold, 67 tons; silver, 198 tons; and bronze, 205 tons. The total number of coins struck out of this metal was 65,295,382, giving an average of more than 1,200,000 pieces per week throughout the year. Out of these, however, 8,932,081 pieces did not come within the limits of the standard legal weight, so that the number of pieces available for issue was reduced to 56,363,301, the value of these good pieces being, real or nominal, £3,157,966 10s. 1d. Of this amount, £3,070,292 10s. 5d. (41,093,301 pieces) consisted of imperial coinage, the remaining £87,673 19s. 8d (15,270,000 pieces) being colonial coinage for Canada, Jamaica, Hong Kong, etc. All this coinage, both imperial and colonial, has been executed at the mint, its increased coining power rendering it unnecessary that any portion of the work of coinage should be intrusted to private firms.

The greatest number of coins struck of any denomination was about 11,700,000, consisting, as will readily be supposed, of pence. Half-pence came next in point of numbers, nearly 7,000,000 of this coin being struck. The number of farthings struck was over 5,700,000, a seemingly large number considering the present small general circulation of this coin. Of shillings, nearly 4,000,000 were coined; sixpences, over 3,400,000; threepences, over 3,300,000. Sovereigns and half-sovereigns were coined to the number of over 1,700,000 and 1,100,000 respectively. Of colonial coinages, that of bronze half-cents for the Straits settlements was numerically largest, 4,000,000 of this coin being struck during the year.

NOTES.

Six-tenths of the gold produced is yielded along with silver.

The iron age is passing away and is being superseded by the age of steel.

Economy, enterprise and free use of capital are indispensable for successful mining.

The excessive import of copper into England and France this year has been almost entirely from America and Japan.

A smoke stack for a smelting works at Pueblo has recently been completed, measuring 10ft. in diameter and 319 ft. high.

Exaggeration misrepresentation of the richness of mineral districts have a tendancy to work them permanent injury.

India, which has, heretofore, bought her copper from England, has now a supply at hand in Japan which yields six thousand tons annually.

At Newcastle-upon-Tyne it is announced that the steel plate industry is now fairly will employed, and that there is every prospect of increased work.

The iron product of the United States in 1860 amounted to 900,000 tons of ore; to-day it foots up 8,000,000 tons a year, almost a nine-fold increase.

A new gold-like alloy, valuable in the arts and certain mechanical channels, has been discovered, and is of interest to the copper trade, as its composition contains 66 per cent. of copper.

The Russian Government proposes sending experts to Turkestan to study the turquoise mines on the Persian frontier. The same commission will visit the sulphur deposits recently discovered near Khiva, and the lignite mines and petroleum springs in the district of Ferghana.

An Immense Lode of Silver-Bearing Iron-stone.—A lode has been discovered at Carowa station, about sixty miles from Silverton, South Australia. It has been traced for over twelve miles, and in one place is 400 yards broad. A surface assay gives from 2 ounces to 24 ounces of silver a ton.

The exiles who live in the mines in Siberia are exiles of the worst type and political offenders of the best. They never see day-light, but work and sleep all the year round under ground, extracting silver or quick-silver under the supervision of task-masters, who have orders not to spare them.