Between 1859 and 1873 Ontario and Quebec together shipped 207,000 tons of ore to the United States, much the larger proportion being from Ontario. From 1873 to 1891 there were shipped 423,700 tons; and, in all, Ontario seems to have exported more than 600,000 tons; but since 1891 no work of importance has been done in our mines, the rich and cheaply worked deposits of Minnesota and the imposition of duties in the United States having driven our ores from the market.

The main obstacle in the development of our iron mining industry has been the lack of mineral fuel for smelting; and it will be of much interest to see how the experiment at Hamilton of smelting Ontario ores with American coke will turn out.

It is probable that before long Ontario iron mining will again be of importance, especially in the region west of Port Arthur, where inexhaustible beds of hematite and magnetite form the Canadian extension of the wonderful Minnesota iron region, which now leads the world in production.

There seems no good reason, except lack of capital and enterprise, why some point on the upper lakes, where ores, flux and fuel can be brought together cheaply by water, should not become a Canadian Cleveland with a great iron industry; and we may not unreasonably hope to see this in the future.

COPPER.

The copper mining of Ontario is naturally divided into two periods, an earlier one when the Lake Huron mines were operated, and the present when copper is obtained from the Sudbury ores as nickel-copper matte. The product of the Bruce, Wellington, and other Lake Huron mines, between 1846, when they commenced, and 1876, when they ceased work, is valued in the Report on the Mineral Resources of Ontario at \$3,300,000. In 1886 we find copper once more quoted in our statistics, 164,000 lbs. having been produced; in 1892 there were 1,936 tons; in 1893, 1,431 tons. This copper is in reality only a byproduct of the ore worked for nickel. There is some chance that the Mamainse deposits, which are really an extension of the famous Michigan region, may be worked before long, but the immediate prospects of copper mining as distinguished from nickel mining are not very bright, the low price of the metal discouraging fresh ventures.

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