

## Manganese Deposits of Nova Scotia.

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One of the most important members of the iron group is Manganese. Its discovery and use is of great antiquity, having been used by the ancient Egyptians and the Romans in the manufacture of glass, one of its many uses of to-day.

It may be found in all ages of rocks from the Archæan upwards, and its formation is continually going on as will be observed in many places. The writer has particularly noticed it in the region of the Manganese belt running through Hants county, N. S., where the waters from the springs and brooks, settling on the low lands, deposit a sediment of black oxide of manganese on the rocks and pebbles, and a slimy, bluish, oily looking scum on the small ponds and pools, which is often mistaken for oil.

It also forms an important part of the animal and vegetable kingdoms as well as of the mineral. The human system is said to contain a proportion of one part of manganese to twenty parts of iron, and it is hardly possible for us to dine without partaking of manganese through the vegetables served us.

Up to thirty years ago manganese was used principally in the manufacture of bleaching powders and glass, but about this time Weldon's recovery process was invented and put into practical use, which reduced the amount used in the manufacture of bleaching powders to about one-tenth the original consumption.

To speak briefly, Weldon's invention is a regenerative process, whereby it enables the manufacturer of chlorine to use the ore over and over again indefinitely.

About the same date of the Weldon invention came the introduction of manganese into the manufacture of steel, and this, with the increasing demand in other industries, over-balances the great reduction in its use due to the Weldon process, and the consumption now is greater than at any previous time.

Consumption of  
water in gallons  
per stamp per  
minute.

1½ — 2

3 — 3½

3½ — 4

5 — 7

6½ — 7½

3½ — 5

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lilling,  
Hills,