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OPPORTUNITIES.

At risk of wearying our readers we intend once again to draw attention to little-known fields for mining investment in Canada.

In our last issue we referred to the beneficial effect that certain prosperous mining camps have had upon the country generally. There is, however, another side to the subject. The excitement that attends the development of new mining regions is apt to give to outsiders the impression that these regions are the only profitable channels of investment. To many Englishmen, Americans, and Europeans, Cobalt and Porcupine embrace all of Canada that is worth while looking at. This is one of the misconceptions that must be patiently corrected. And it is for this purpose that we are guilty of reiterating the following facts.

We shall preface what is to be said by the remark that the most numerous chances for profitable outlay of money do not lie in camps that are being boomed. The mere fact that a mining camp happens to be the focal point of public interest creates conditions that militate against equitable terms of purchase and operation. This is so obviously a truism that it requires no demonstration.

On the other hand, deposits of such minerals as iron pyrites, scheelite, chalcopyrite, pyrolusite, graphite, gypsum, barite, magnesite, and so on, are lying undeveloped in many parts of eastern and western Canada. Not a few of these deposits can be easily and quickly proven. Many of them are already known to be commercially workable. The growth of our own markets alone demands that they be exploited. The possibilities of the foreign markets lend additional inducement.

Even more attractive are the chances that offer in the older gold fields. Study of Provincial and Federal reports shows that some of the gold discoveries of from thirty to fifty years ago were as rich as anything of recent times. But not until within the memory of this generation have circumstances been such as to encourage a large measure of enthusiasm. The limiting conditions were the lack of means of communication, and the absence of adequate media of information.

Times have changed. It is now possible to work to advantage all kinds of mineral deposits throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. To the disappointed searcher for cheap bonanzas in Porcupine we would suggest that he read up the mining history, not only of Ontario, but also of British Columbia, Quebec, and Nova Scotia; and that he take steps to ascertain for himself the merits of forgotten districts.