

following comparative estimate is submitted in each case taking the figures of the parties interested:—

	Canada	Lake Superior
Mining	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00
Railroad freight	1.00	.45
Lake freight, trimming and unloading31	1.10
Duty75
Insurance03	.03
Total	\$ 3.72	\$ 3.58

This, of course, is putting the two regions on an equality in the matter of ownership and not allowing for any royalty. If this were taken into the account, it would probably be offset by the increasing cost of mining which will be experienced in Canadian mines as compressed air plant, pumps, &c., have to be added to their outfits.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING NOTES.

Many of the creeks emptying into the Skeena will be prospected in the spring.

This year has not been a prosperous one for the gold miners in Cassair district, the outputs being below the average of other seasons.

The output on Quartz Creek has been good, one man having taken out \$6,000. Others located on the creek have also done fairly well.

About twenty-five white and a number of Chinese miners have been engaged during the past season on Thibert Creek and have done fairly well.

Summing up the information which has come from the northern mines it would appear that the Lorne Creek diggings are paying from \$7 to \$10 a day per man and some new claims have been found on some of the adjacent creeks.

Conflicting reports come from Lorne Creek, while the total amount of gold mined may not be large quite a number of individuals have put together \$800 to \$1,400, the result of their season's work, which, in the light of the golden days of Cariboo, does not seem large though it is much better than empty pockets.

On Dease Creek there have been five white miners and twenty Chinamen during the past season. One who has been in the Cassair district for the past ten years reports that little money has been made this season, though a few have done moderately well and one has done excellently.

The shipments of coal to foreign ports (exclusive of amount furnished foreign steamers at Victoria) from Nanaimo and Departure Bay for the month ending October 31st, amounted to 36,824 tons, valued at \$147,295. This is the largest foreign shipment for a single month in the annals of coal mining on Vancouver Island.—*Victoria British Colonist*.

Some prospectors who have been on Kitsini Kaline River report having struck diggings on that stream where they have taken as much as \$5 to the pan. Many of the miners think of going to this place in the spring, and, if the reports are found to be true, there will likely be a rush to that point. The river empties into the Skeena, but is got at from the Naas.

GENERAL MINING NOTES.

The deepest gold mine in the world is the Eureka, Nevada County, California.

Twenty thousand tons of Canadian iron ore had been shipped this season, up to the end of October, from Kingston, Ont., to Fairhaven and Cleveland.

The daily output of the Vancouver Coal Company, it is reported, has reached over 600 tons and with the assistance of the steam engine placed underground at the Esplanade shaft, the management anticipates raising the output, within a very short period, to 1,000 tons a day.

The Essex Gold Mine, Tangier district, Nova Scotia, has lately started up under a new organization and has made its first shipment of bullion. The old *Trapper* shaft has been cleaned out and shows a rich vein. The *nugget* lode maintains its reputation and the management is much pleased with results and prospects for future working.

The Ophir, Mexican and Union Consolidated Mining Companies have jointly sunk a winze 3,300 ft. into the bowels of the earth for exploration purposes, and it is still going down. It is said that if a much greater depth is reached it will puzzle the inventive genius to devise a steel wire that will be strong enough to carry its own weight.

The product of the famous CALUMET and HECLA for the four fiscal years ending 30th April, 1884, in copper 77½ per cent. fine, as also of ingot copper, has been as follows:—

1881.....	20,300.1147	1881.....	15,979.1300
1882.....	20,905.1187	1882.....	16,094.1985
1883.....	20,392.1480	1883.....	15,714.258
1884.....	22,956.155	1884.....	17,707.07

Letters patent have been issued by the Government of Ontario for the incorporation of the "Rabbit Mountain Mining Company of Ontario," with a capital stock of \$2,000,000 divided into 200,000 shares of \$10 each. The company will operate the Rabbit Mountain Silver Mine, and other mines on the north shore of Lake Superior, with its head office at Port Arthur.

EL CALLAO. This famous Venezuelan Gold Mine produced 14,102 ounces of gold during the month of September, 1884, remitted to the Messrs. Baring Brothers, of London. Estimated at the usual value of such gold per ounce, such produce was worth \$273,000. The dividend paid for the month was one of \$4.80 per share, aggregating \$154,560. The product this year to the close of September aggregated about \$2,775,000, of which shareholders have received \$40.80 per share.—*N.Y. Mining Record*.

A resident of Calgary, N. W. T., Mr. McRae, has returned to that town from British Columbia where he has located some valuable gold placers. He reports that a quantity of gold has been taken from the small tributaries to the Columbia River. From Canon Creek two men took \$200 in one week. Mr. McRae expresses the opinion that very rich placers are likely to be discovered next year. He has had a successful season in the district, but, on account of the snowslides, he has been compelled to suspend operations until next spring, by which time he will have had an opportunity to prepare for active mining on an extensive scale.

MINING HISTORY.

The history of British lead and silver mining reaches back into the realms of tradition. The mines at Combo Martin and Beer Alston, in Devonshire, are said to have enriched Edward the First and Edward the Second, and were re-opened by Queen Elizabeth, Combo Martin being discovered years before the reign of Henry the Seventh. The mines in the Mendip Hills were known in the reign of Edward the Fourth, a rude map, drawn about 1480, being still extant, together with a curious copy of the laws governing the district. The famous lead mines of the Alston Moor district, in Cumberland, had royal protection in 1233, and Richard the Second granted privileges to Nicholas Veterijont, which was confirmed to his son by Edward the Third. In 1620 the mines were reported exhausted; but in the eighteenth century they were re-opened. The Cardiganshire mines were certainly known in the time of Henry the Seventh. In 1690 they were "boomed" by the owners, and in 1698 the public was favoured with a highly coloured prospectus, which reads curiously like some of the modern documents of that kind. Thus, "with a stock of £20,000 and good management, the said mines would yield a yearly profit, over and above all charges, of £171,970 19s. 9d. for lead, besides the silver, which it is believed will yield, one ton with another, about £14 in silver per ton of metal, and may, in all probability, double the valuation of these mines." In 1700 the company was regularly formed under the title of "The Government and Company of Mine Adventurers in England." About 650 shareholders took the bait, embracing people of every class, but they never realized anything, and the mines which started with such brilliant prospects collapsed amid a flood of papers and pamphlets of accusations and vindications.—*Chicago Mining Review*.

THE METAL MARKET.

Messrs. E. W. Carling & Co., 16 Philpot Lane, London, Eng., report under recent date:—

Metals have shown a better tendency during the week, iron being generally in improved demand both for pig and manufactured sorts at hardening prices:—

IRON.—Scotch pig, @ £12 7½s. to £13 4½s. cash; Welsh bars, £5 10s. to £5 15s.; nail rods, £6 to £7; Hoops, £6 17s. 6d. to £7 10s.; sheets, £7 17s. to £9.

TIN.—Steady, dearer and in more demand @ £74 5s. to £74 15s.; for fine foreign Australian, £74 5s. to £74 15s.; English bars, £81 10s. to £82; plates I. C. coke, 14 x 20, £15; charcoal I. C., £18.

COPPER.—Firm, Chili bars good ordinary brands, cash, £53 10s. to £53 12s. 6d.; English tough ingot, £58; best selected, £59; sheets and rod, £64 to £65.

YELLOW METAL.—Sheets, 5½d.; sheeting, 5½d.

LEAD.—Steadier @ £11 to £11 5s., although little business passing; bars, £11 15s. to £12; patent shot, £13 15s.; sheet, £11 15s.; pipe, £12 7s. 6d.

ZINC.—Usual gauges, £18 5s. to £18 10s.

WIRE.—Fencing, rolled, No. 4, £6 15s. to £7; annealed drawn, No. 6, £8 5s.; No. 7, £8 5s.; as No. 8, No. 9, £8 15s.; No. 10, £9 5s.; galvanized drawn, Nos. 4, 6, £11 10s.

BRASS.—Wire, Nos. 1, 2, 6½d.; rolled brass, 6½d.; sheet, 6½d.

NAILS.—Wrought strong rose, 1½ to 3 in., 6d. to 8d., discount 40%; 3½ to 6 in., 35% discount; pointed, 30%; cut nails, £10 to £15 according to gauge.