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The CANADIAN MINING REVIEW is devoted to the opening up of the mineral wealth of the Dominion, and its publishers will be thankful for any encouragement they may receive at the hands of those who are interested in its speedy development.

Visitors from the mining districts as well as others interested in Canadian Mineral Lands are cordially invited to call at our office.

Mining news and reports of new discoveries of mineral deposits are solicited.

All matter for publication in the REVIEW should be received at the office not later than the 20th of the month.

Address all correspondence, &c., to the Publishers of the CANADIAN MINING REVIEW, Ottawa.

Mr. W. A. Allan, of this city, has shown us some very fine blocks of white marble which he has just received from his property in the Upper Ottawa district. The specimens are of a very superior quality, fully equal to the best Italian grey marble. The blocks are to be sawn and placed on exhibition at an early date.

In our last issue attention was drawn to the specimens of chromic iron recently exhibited at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition and to the deposits of this ore to be found within the Province of Quebec. We have since received a communication from an authority in that province who states that last winter the Hon. L. G. Ross and Dr. James Reed, Reedsdale, shipped several tons of the ore, averaging 50 per cent. of chromic oxide, to Philadelphia, at \$18 per ton of 1240 lbs. The ore was placed on the cars at this price at Robertson station, Quebec Central Railway (near the Thitford Asbestos Mines). Samples from the deposit assayed by Professor Ditmar, Anderson's College, Glasgow, average 52.48 chromic oxide. The ore is found in large quantities on lot 7, range 10, at Leeds, Megantic County, while another deposit exists on lot 16, in the 4th range, Thitford. The writer adds "that among other purposes it is used for rapid tannery, and that there is no difficulty in getting large quantities of the ore, provided remunerative prices could be obtained for it."

If testimony was required to demonstrate the great and valuable work that is being accomplished from year to year by our Geological Survey it is undoubtedly evi-

denced in the voluminous reports of its doings periodically issued by its eminent director, Dr. Selwyn. That for 1885 is before us, and like its predecessors it is, from beginning to end, replete with much valuable information regarding the topography, the geological structure, and the mineral wealth of our Dominion. As in former years the work of exploration and survey has been vigorously pursued over a vast area, portions of every province and territory from Nova Scotia to the Pacific coast, have been visited and investigated and a flood of new light has been thrown upon districts hitherto unknown or but imperfectly understood. To the public at large the report will prove of inestimable value while the student of our geology and particularly of our mineralogy will find within its necessarily condensed but very able summary, much useful matter of great variety and varied interest. The notes and statistics bearing upon our mineral resources are particularly worthy of attention.

Referring to the establishment of a mining and mineralogical department and the collection and publication by the Survey of statistics of mines and mineral product, a question which of late has been the subject of much wholesome discussion. Dr. Selwyn writes:—"I may say that after carefully considering the matter in all its aspects, I am led to the belief that the system I originally adopted, namely, that of issuing a circular with questions to be answered on a form printed for this purpose, and when convenient or considered necessary, to be accompanied by personal application on the ground, is that which is most likely to afford the desired result. There are two gentlemen, trained mining engineers, now employed on the survey, to whom the work of issuing, collecting and compiling the returns might be entrusted, and, and who might also each year visit and critically examine and report on one or two mining districts. In this way, every mining district in the country would be visited at intervals of one or two years, unless some special development called for more frequent examination. At present the chief mining developments are in the provinces of Nova Scotia, Quebec and British Columbia, and in each of these provinces the local government employs a mining inspector or engineer, who collects statistics and reports on the mines of the province.

"It would not, therefore, seem desirable or necessary that the work should also be done in these provinces by the Geological Survey, but with the co-operation and consent of the provincial authorities, the results obtained by their officers might be incorporated in the general statement issued annually by the Geological Survey, and thus gain wider publicity.

"So far as the special examination of mining districts is concerned, a commencement was already made in 1883 and continued in 1884, the districts examined being: In 1883, the Lake of the Woods gold region, and the phosphate region in the townships of Wakefield and Templeton; and in 1884 the Marmora gold and iron bearing region

around the north shore of Lake Superior; also some of the mines in the province of Quebec. If the scheme now proposed is carried out, no further assistance would be required, but the two gentlemen named, Messrs. E. Coste and E. D. Ingall, should be appointed on the permanent staff with the title of 'Mining Geologists.'"

Again we have to add that the establishment of a thoroughly organized and equipped Bureau of Mines and Statistics is of vital importance to the country at large, and that if there is to be such an establishment it must be founded on a permanent basis with an adequate and efficient staff. The work of collecting and compiling information and statistics in connection with Canadian mines and minerals is too important to be left to the tender mercy of any half-hearted organization, and it can never be done in a manner that will be acceptable to the mining public until such time as a distinct and separate department, thoroughly and efficiently equipped has been added to the Survey.

In another column our readers will find a reprint of Mr. Eugène Coste's valuable pamphlet, "Observations on Mining Laws and Mining in Canada," which is presented as Part K of the Annual Report, 1885, just published by the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada. Mr. Coste, who, by-the-way, is a graduate of the School of Mines, Paris, and a mining engineer of marked ability, has had an extensive and varied experience of the mining districts of England and Europe, and his remarks on the state of the mining industry of our Dominion, and particularly to those districts lying within the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, will be read with much interest. His suggestions for the better development of the mineral resources of the country are particularly well timed and worthy of the best attention.

Among other papers read before a recent meeting of the Mining Institute of Scotland, was one by Mr. David Reid, Glasgow, on "Pitkins Electric Safety Lamp." Examples of the lamp were exhibited and explained from which it was shown that it consists of a small storage battery encased in a light box with lamp attached capable of being carried by the miner into his working place. The lecturer stated that it gave a splendid light underground and that when perfected it would become the lamp of the future.

An effort is being made by several leading newspapers to impress upon the Dominion Government the necessity of giving adequate protection to our iron industry. The Montreal Star, handling the question editorially, says: "If it is not considered advisable at present to increase the custom duties on iron and steel there can be no general objection to the passage of an act obliging all railways receiving public assistance to use rails and rolling stock of Canadian manufacture. If such a law was passed and pamphlets descriptive of the