

ship of the public mineral domain there will be less danger of the mining interest owning the legislature than now. There is no security given us that the existing legislation relating to mining land will be permanent. Once the public get a taste of the advantages of a large revenue from mines, it is not likely they will destroy its source by turning it over to private ownership.

The following extract from the advertisement above referred to of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, is from the advertising pages of *Mineral Industry*, published by the New York *Engineering and Mining Journal*. Although "further information" to be had from the Department is also advertised, there is nothing to indicate in the advertisement that "sale" and "right of purchase" carry with either only a conditional fee simple:—"Ontario's great mineral fields; an extent of 100,000 square miles. Prospectors, miners and capitalists are invited to the great mineral fields of Ontario, in Canada. The most promising ground on the continent for exploration and investment. The Province of Ontario has a mineral bearing belt 100 miles in breadth by 1,000 miles in length, lying north of the great lakes from the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers to the Lake of the Woods. Nickel, iron, antimony, apatite, mica, copper, gold, galena, actinolite, talc, cobalt, silver, zinc, asbestos, plumbago, etc. Thousands of square miles of virgin ground for the prospector in the mineral-bearing formations, more easily reached by lake or railway than any other mineral district of the continent. Important discoveries made every season. Careful and intelligent exploration amply rewarded. The attention of miners and capitalists in America and Europe is invited. Mineral lands are sold by the Government at \$2 to \$3.50 per acre, or leased with right of purchase at from 60 cents to \$1 per acre first year, and 15 to 25 cents for subsequent years. The first year's rental allowed as part of the purchase money."

DISCUSSION.

DR. A. P. COLEMAN remarked that the paper contained the most revolutionary set of ideas he had heard given in a public way for a long time. There were cases in Saxony, Norway and elsewhere, of mines being worked by the State, the object being more to ensure employment for workmen than to make a profit. He was not aware that any of these mines were now earning a dividend. His own inclinations were towards