

MINING REVIEW

VOL. 2.—No. 7.

1884—OTTAWA, JULY—1884

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Canadian Mining Review.

OTTAWA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - - - \$1.00
 ADVERTISING RATES—15c. per line (12
 lines to 1 inch).

OFFICE:

UNION CHAMBERS, 14 Metcalfe Street.

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 5th of the month it is to appear.

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

The Directors of the Austin Mining Company, whose head office is at Ottawa, have recently employed Mr. E. D. Ingall, M.E., to examine the Company's property at Echo Lake. The full text of Mr. Ingall's report is to be found in this number of THE REVIEW, and it should be gratifying to the stockholders to learn that it coincides in its main features with Professor Chapman's report, made before the Company had accomplished the present developments to which Mr. Ingall refers, and which have enabled him to arrive at conclusions with comparative certainty. The position of the mine is most accessible,

and its situation affords unusually favourable shipping facilities, advantages which, together with the richness of the lode, should render it a very valuable property. We hope to hear at an early date that work has been resumed at this mine.

The Cleveland, Ohio, *Iron Trade Review*, referring to African iron ore, says:

"The shipment of iron ore from Africa to the United States is no new thing, but its present extent and future prospects present some new features of interest. From the consular reports made to the Department of State it appears that there were declared for the United States from Africa during 1883, 46,543 tons of iron ore. While this does not equal one-third of the average *weekly* receipts of Lake Superior ore at the single port of Cleveland, it is still of importance, since, according to these same reports, the exports from Africa last year to the United States exceeded those reported from our near neighbour, Canada, by 20,113 tons, being also in excess of our reported receipts from Spain and Portugal combined."

And continues:

"While under our system of Protection the importation of foreign ores must necessarily be restricted, a considerable increase may be looked for from Canada and Cuba, while Africa will doubtless play an important part in the world's production."

The iron ore deposits in Canada are in no wise inferior to those of Africa. On the contrary, the ore from some of our mines is used by American manufacturers in preference to that from any other quarter of the globe. African mine owners have the same duty to pay, while the difference in cost of

transportation to the iron manufacturing centres of the United States must be greatly in favour of Canada, and yet the amount of ore exported to the United States from Africa last year was nearly double the quantity exported from this country. Canadians might find it profitable to seriously consider the practicability of reversing the situation.

Dr. Selwyn, Director of the Geological Survey, has sent an expedition to explore the almost unknown country lying between the mouth of the Bersimis River and James Bay. Mr. A. P. Low is in charge as geologist with Mr. Bignell, of Quebec, as surveyor. Supplies are being forwarded *via* Lake St. John to the Hudson Bay post at Lake Mistassini, where it is expected the party will arrive by the close of the season. Exploration will be continued until the snow renders it impracticable, and during the winter the surveys will be proceeded with. It is expected that the section of country lying between the mouth of Bersimis River and the height of land will be gone over this year, and that by the close of 1885 this work will be completed through to Fort Rupert on James Bay along the course of Rupert River.

ENGLAND IMPORTING AUSTRALIAN COAL.—The recent arrival in Liverpool of several cargoes of gas coal from Australia, has excited a good deal of comment in the public press, and the matter has been made to assume an importance which it certainly does not possess. These cargoes can only be shipped profitably from the colonies when vessels going over are so absolutely short of freights that they have practically nothing else to carry, and the coal can consequently be

exported to England at almost a nominal cost, but that a regular competing trade could be established is out of the question. The coal itself is, however, remarkable for its gas making properties; it is extremely light, and is so full of gas that it could almost be forced out by the pressure of the hands, but it is altogether useless for any other purpose, it does not make a particle of coke, and it has to be largely mixed with other fuel.

Referring to an article which appeared in the MINING REVIEW in May last, wherein we found fault with Canadian capitalists for so persistently standing aloof from the mining industries of the country and thus permitting our most valuable mineral deposits to fall into the hands of our more go-ahead friends across the border, the *Iron Trade Review*, of Cleveland, Ohio, remarks:

"This is certainly a tribute to the enterprise and liberality of American capital that is worth having. What the outcome of this amalgamation of American enterprise with Canadian conservatism will be is one of the interesting problems for the future to decide."

The article in question was written more in the hope of stirring up the monied men of Canada to a sense of what their country reasonably expects of them than with intention to eulogize the liberality of American capitalists. While we greatly admire our neighbours for their enterprise and so-called liberality, we do not fail to observe a certain intermingling of shrewdness and caution which will, in all probability, protect them against ill-advised investments.