

much of the material which was mined in Canada and exported to Great Britain, is returned, either in the raw or manufactured condition, to the United States. This circumstance points to the fact that the utmost confidence is placed by American buyers in the thorough system of inspection of the raw material in England, which guarantees the standard by careful analysis, and is the only true means by which can be avoided, the substitution of inferior for higher grades, when the raw material is purchased in bulk. A reliable authority on phosphates informs me that raw Canadian phosphates contain 89.91 per cent. of tribasic phosphate of lime, according to the most authentic analysis that we have on record from picked samples selected as being the most free from admixture with foreign mineral matter. Cargo samples analysed in England have returned 85 to 86 per cent. from Canadian phosphate mines. As capital increases, and the consumption of fertilizers becomes more general competition will be keener and our phosphate bearing districts will be worked to a larger extent than at present, naturally tending to further cheapening of production. In a comparative table of the analytical composition of phosphate from the various countries producing it recently published in the New York Mining Journal, with the exception of three deposits in the West Indies and one in Spain, Canada ranks the highest. Such a fact as this should have the effect of causing our phosphate producers to open a direct trade for the raw material with the United States, and shows the advantages which would accrue from the establishment in our country of works for the manufacture of superphosphates.