

5. The same question with regard to iron?—All I know with regard to iron is, that a Company at Detroit has made large purchases of land, as well as large expenditure in constructing a railway, buildings, wharves, &c., which I have seen. The road extends from near Batchewahung River, inland, about four or five miles; but, I believe, as to the mines being remunerative, it is uncertain. Messrs. Gartshore, of Dundas, C. W., have also discovered and purchased a large tract of iron land, but no development has yet been made.

6. The same with respect to other minerals?—I am not aware what has been done with respect to other metals. Last year, Mr. Palmer informed me that he had discovered gold at Goulais Bay, but I have not heard anything further since. I believe it is the opinion of Sir Wm. E. Logan that the rocks in that locality are such as bear gold, but I am not aware that any has yet been found.

7. At what points are mining operations now going on, as far as you know, and with what success?—At the Bruce and Wellington Mines, on Lake Huron, a large expenditure is being successfully made by an English Company, under the management of Captain Plummer. The ore is nearly altogether yellow at present, and is dressed up by machinery, for shipment, to 19 and 20 per cent., which pays; for although the yellow is an inferior ore, the quantity found generally makes up for the quality.

The next is a mine of copper, a little to the north of Goulais Bay, owned by Mr. Palmer. I cannot say with what success it is worked.

Next is a mine of copper at Batchewahung Bay, owned by Mr. Hill, of Hamilton and myself. I spent part of the summers of 1863, 1864 and 1865 there. A considerable amount has been expended, but altogether for the purposes of the development of its extent and richness. The ore, which is very rich, consists principally of grey, purple, and a little yellow crops out or shews itself in the south face of a perpendicular cliff or bluff, from 200 to 300 feet in height, in a lode of white and red quartz rock, which in extent has been traced 900 feet in length, 250 to 300 feet in depth, from the top of the bluff to the surface of the table-land; and from the south face of the cliff the lode has been explored thirteen feet in width, but the north wall not having yet been reached, the full width of it has not, therefore, been fully ascertained.

Copper has been found near to the Sault Ste. Marie, also at Echo Lake, and last year locations were taken up on the Thessalon River, and the river next it, on Lake Huron.

I have mentioned all I know relative to iron under article 5.

8. What are the facilities for reaching the mineral deposits on the coast and in the interior?—Mineral locations on the north shore of Lake Superior could be reached with great facility, as there is a succession of good natural harbours, as well as anchorage, from one end of the lake to the other; whereas, on the south shore, the facilities afforded for shelter to ships "in stress of weather" are comparatively few. But when you get inland, as there are few rivers navigable to any extent, or roads, it may be said that there are no facilities whatever for getting your ore to a place for shipment. Notwithstanding that rivers and streams abound in this mountainous country, quite sufficient for driving all the machinery which will ever be required for the dressing of ore and all other purposes, there is a want of roads and other means of access to the portion of the mineral country where the richest mineral veins will likely be found.

9. Are you acquainted with the mining operations on the south shore, or American side, of the lakes?

10. Please inform the Committee as to the character and extent of the mines there when you visited that locality?—I have no acquaintance whatever with those matters.

11. Are you acquainted with the system of granting lands on the south shore, —if so, please state its leading features?—I have understood from many persons who had purchased on the south shore, that when you found a location to answer you, all that was required to be done was to pay in the money to the local agent, and you at once got your title to the land and took possession.

12. What is your opinion of the American system as compared with ours?—The system in Canada will not bear any comparison to the American, or United States, system. There, you pay your money and get a title at once. In Canada you may pay your money and it may be given to a favorite.

13. Have you any suggestions to offer the Committee for the improvement of the land-granting system in the mineral region,—if so, please state them?—The