

seldom) in bringing ore from the western Mine, which we intend to continue as long as the sleighing lasts. Thus under favorable circumstances, we dress about 200 tons of ore per month. I have taken samples of the ore thus dressed, with as much care as circumstances would admit of, and I find the produce of my last assays to average 15 per cent. This Department of your establishment gives me every satisfaction.

#### ORE ON THE SURFACE.

As regards the piles of ore on the surface, I beg to state that I can give no estimate, by reason of the short period I have been here, the number of duties which have occupied my time, and moreover as the piles of ore are covered with snow. The Hon. Mr. Ferrier, accompanied by Mr. Campbell and Captain Polglase have I believe measured and computed the amount, and they will furnish you with information on this subject. The erection of the stamps will have my earliest attention.

#### THE MINE AND ITS WORKING.

In calling your attention to the Mine, I regret not having plans and sections to send you, as a reference to them would enable you better to understand the plan we are pursuing for working the Mine—which plan was agreed on before the Hon. President's departure from this. I have already commenced a detailed survey of the Mine, which I shall proceed with as fast as circumstances will permit.

I will now proceed to give you a list of the points on which we are at present operating, but I most respectfully beg to caution those not conversant with mining, against taking too sanguine or depressed views of the changes in mineral veins, for it frequently happens that when a lode has a discouraging appearance, a single blast will alter its character.

#### ROSS'S SHAFT.

In this shaft at the 15 fathom level driving west, the present appearance of the lode is small, poor, and very hard—we have 4 men employed in this gallery at £20 per fathom.