

Among other valuable minerals occurring in the maritime provinces are copper, manganese, antimony, oil-shales, and infusorial earth or "tripolite," but none of these have actually been produced as yet in very important quantity. Gypsum is abundant, and is somewhat extensively worked and exported, while of structural materials, the fine red syenite quarried and polished in New Brunswick may be specially mentioned.

Respecting most of the great northern extent of Canada, including not only the continental lands, but also the archipelago of the Arctic Ocean, comparatively little is as yet known, but in considering this region, with such slender information as we have of its geology, it may be taken for granted that beyond the limits of any profitable agriculture, important communities dependent on mining will eventually be formed, and that mining will yet become a main resource of these inhospitable lands. The enormous deposits of iron ores lately discovered in Northern Labrador by Mr. A. P. Low, constitute a reserve of this kind which may one day be drawn upon, and even in the more remote Arctic islands, placed upon the map by our intrepid explorers and whalers, minerals of value, including coals, have been found, which may not prove to lie entirely beyond the reach of modern civilization.

Of half a continent, embracing as Canada does in different parts of its extent the most varied geological conditions, it is not possible in a short article like this to even enumerate the minerals already discovered and the known districts of promise. It has been endeavoured to notice chiefly those fields which at the time present the most inviting prospects for the intelligent utilization of capital. Those parts of the Dominion, chiefly in the south, which can no longer be described as unexplored in a geographical sense, are now only beginning to reveal under patient and minute search many of their valuable ores. Of the country as a whole, it is safe to predict that the mineral wealth to be ultimately developed will not fall short of that of the United States, than which the extent of Canada is only slightly greater. This areal aspect of the question is chiefly useful, under due reservations, in enabling such a comparison to be established, for to the south of the international boundary the circumstances have already led to a vast development of the mining industry. This has resulted largely from the fact that to the virgin deposits laid bare by long processes of nature, it has been found possible to apply at once the most improved machinery and methods, coupled with great energy, as well as the support and confidence of capital, coming chiefly from abroad and lending itself on easy terms to the building of railways and the opening of mines. This, of course, applies chiefly to the western third of the Union, where the development of mining has been almost everywhere concurrent