The Canadian Mining Review

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CONDUCTED BY

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 develop

Visitors from the mining districts, as well as others interested in Canadian Mineral Lands, are cordially invited to call at our effice.

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 19th of the month.

Address all correspondence, &c., to the Manager of the Canadian Mining Review, Ottawa.

Ottawa as a Mining Centre.

It has been predicted that with the waste which for many years has been taking place in cutting and preparing timber in our forests, and from the want, of any systematised forestry regulations, the time is not very far distant when the lumber trade of Ottawa will shrink into very small proportions from the want of material, and that the large and costly establishments now em-Hoying, in this vicinity, so much labour and capital will materially curtail their operations, and practically suspend work on a large scale. The question which naturally arises is, how will Ottawa be affected by such a result? The country surrounding the capital is not an agricultural district compared with Western Ontario, and manufactures are only in their infancy. But just at the very time when this apparently bad outlook looms up a new industry appears and is assuming such proportions that there is every reason to believe it will, before many years clapse, become the leading enterprise of Central Canada, and afford employment for hundreds of busy hands. This industry is mining, and utilizing the product of the mine. The whole country north of Cttawa, wherever the Laurentian range of mountains is met with, possesses mineral wealth of one kind or another. Iron, plumbago, galena or lead, phosphate or apatite, ashestos and mica all are there, and in rich profusion. Few persons, beyond those engaged in mining enterprises, are aware of the richness of this section, and the wealth that has been lying at our very doors for years past, waiting only the hand of man for development. It is of untold value. The plumbago mines at Puckingham, a few years ago, gave every promise of becoming one of the largest industries industry? Where are the raftsmen whose about thirty dollars a vertical foot, and the

waste curtailed their operations, and the large crushing mill on Donaldson's Lake being destroyed in the great bush fires, which swept that section of the country, crippled that industry for the time being. These works, however, must eventually be utilized again, and the yield of the mineral it of so pure a quality and so easy of access that the only wonder is they have not again commenced operations. The enormous proportions the phosphate industry has assumed are well known both in Europe and at home here, and United States capitalists are investing largely in phosphate lands and phosphate operations. Not only, as at first, is the mineral mined and shipped, but crushing and pulverizing works are now in operation, and a demand for ground phosphate has arisen amongst the fertilizer companies on the shores of Lake Erie and elsewhere, which bids fair to shortly revolutionise the trade in rock phosphate by shipping only the ground Water power is the only cheap material. motor for works of this nature, and the mighty power of the Chaudiere Falls, which hitherto has been confined to the manufacture of forest products, will contribute its share to the developement of mineral wealth as well.

The iron deposits which abound in this vicinity will prove as valuable in the near future as the gold bearing quartz in the lands where the latter is worked. The iron of this district is known abroad for its excellent qualities, comparing as it does with the finest Sheffield steel, and one mine alone, in the townships of Templeton and Hull, is estimated by Professor Chapman to contain 6,300,000 tons, equal to a daily output of 100 tons of ore, or 60 tons of metal, during a period of a century and a half.

The iron deposits in Bristol are also now a centre of attraction, a number of capitalists having taken them in hand, and the only requisite to perfect a large iron trade in cur midst, are smelting works, which time will certainly bring about. Taking into consideration these facts, he who reads the future will see visions of mining industries and their atten dant factories supplanting the timber tradewhen forest products will require to be handled miles away from their present location. As the demand for timber yearly drives the lumberman fur her and further up the head waters of the Ottawa and its tributaries, the mills will have to be located nearer to the place of production, and railway facilities for the transport of square timber and deals now penetrate the lumber district to such an extent, that the material louded on the cars for Quebec, now passes by Ottawa in transit, instead of as formerly being floated here as a distributing point, where it could be rafted or sawn and shipped in its manufactured state. Where is the rafting, that only a few years ago, filled the bay below Parliament Hill with its

in Central Canada, but mismanagement and stalwart forms filled Sussex Street and Lower Town during the summer months? Gone with the advance of railways to other points which demand them. But the miner is gradually filling their place, and although his presence is not yet felt to any extent in the streets, yet we think the banks could tell us something of the large transactions done with him, and of the heavy drafts the pay roll of the mines requires monthly. The settlers on the Lievre and Gatineau who were vir ually in the power of the large lumber firms, and who sold their produce to those firms for whatever they could get, are fast acquiring money from he demand the mines make for farm produce of all kinds; and this not for one firm only, but the competitive demand of the various mines enables the producer to ask and obtain a fair value for his hay, his roots, and produce generally. To the mining industries must Ottawa look in the near future for its trade, and although lumber has done much to build up the manufacturing industries of the Capital, mining will do still more, and be a permanent source of wealth, when the pine tree will be as scarce in the Ottawa district as it now is in Western Ontario.

Basic Slag as a Fertilizer.

For some time past the columns of The Engincering and Mining Journal, of New York, have been ventilating a very valuable discussion upon the merits and demerits of basic slag as a fertilizing agent. An editorial on the question concludes the matter thus:-

"The discussion upon the qualities or defects of basic slag is brought to a close in our present issue. The obstinate and studied silence with which it has been treated by European chemists leading us to infer that they feel somewhat insecure in their position, and like ourselves, regard the experiments hitherto made known as somewhat onesided, insufficient and unreliable. If the charges brought by Dr. Wyatt should be finally disproved, and the basic process worked in this country ipon the promised large scale, our supply of raw phosinformation and reading scales, our supply of raw phosphatic material will be increased and probably cheapened. If, on the other hand, the charges are sustained and verified, we shall simply be called upon to find a means of eliminating the precious element from its deleterious surroundings, and we have plenty of able chemists who will certainly solve the problem. Every thing comes to the men who can wait."

To us in Canada the question is one of comparatively little moment. With such vast deposits of rich phosphate in our possession, our farmers are in no way dependent upon this source of phosphoric acid. Like our contemporary, we await further developments with calmness and composure.

A Suggestion.

The irregularity of apatite deposits has been the occasion of much disappointment to miners and the cause of heavy expenditure in exploration, which has been often fruitless. A wide vein of phosphate frequently narrows or pinches out entirely, but the few experiments that have so far been made towards deep mining go to show that the mineral will come in again if followed down. To sink a shaft usually costs