

of the superintendent of the Franklin stamp-work, I took several samples from various parts of the run-house, and from the waste heap outside, which assayed as follows :

From head of run.....	4.93 per cent.
“ middle of do	3. “
“ end of do	3.13 “
“ a heap immediately outside of run house	0.66 “
“ sand bank.....	1.00 “

When it is recollected that the yield of the rock treated in the Franklin stamp-work is only 1.69 per cent. the loss in the refuse products would appear to be very large. At the stamp-works of the Albany and Boston Mining Co., Gates's revolving stamps and Collom's jiggers are employed. This is also the case at the Huron stamp-work. (The Huron mine is on the Isle Royale bed.) It appears to be as yet uncertain as to which system of dressing is the most advantageous, but in view of the experience which is being acquired in the district almost daily, this cannot long remain a matter of doubt. It is, however, singular that in a district where such an enormous amount of capital is invested in mines and stamp-works, there should be no provision made for testing accurately, by the wet process, the various refuse and other products of the ore-dressing operations. It would seem difficult without such means, to come to a reliable result as to which method of concentration is the best.

The system of dividing the lands into small sections seems to have contributed not a little to the rapid developement of the mines of the Portage Lake district. The sections contain one square mile of 640 acres, and each of these is subdivided into four quarters. Some of the best of the mines have no more length of lode to work upon than may be contained in a quarter section. As a consequence, the attention and energies of the mining companies, and their managers, are, on the discovery of a cupriferous bed, at once turned to exploring and mining in depth. The opposite system, which prevails on the north shore of the lake, of having very large mining locations is as detrimental to the progress of the country as it is to the interests of the owners. The explorations are carried on over too great an area, they are desultory, are not easily superintended, and seldom yield any definite result.