

lodes on the properties than to careful management and a thorough knowledge of mining on the part of those under whose immediate supervision the operations at the mine have been conducted.

There are many mining companies in Canada at the present time owning valuable properties and carrying on operations at a heavy loss to the shareholders owing to deplorable mismanagement. Such properties might become sources of large revenue if those having control would see that mining operations were prosecuted on scientific principles and would study economy and good management. If such a system could be inaugurated it would, beyond a doubt, give an impetus to, and effectually ensure prosperity for, our mining industries at large, as it has done in the case of the Oxford Gold Mining Company.

### ASBESTOS MINES OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

The rapidly increasing demand for the mineral has become a forcible incentive to the owners of asbestos properties to develop the deposits, in order that they may avail themselves of the present advanced price that is being offered by manufacturers in the United States and abroad. An almost unlimited quantity of asbestos of very fine quality is distributed throughout the serpentine belt, traversing a portion of the County of Megantic, which appears to attain its greatest prominence in the Townships of Thetford and Coleraine. In the Township of Broughton, as well, some valuable deposits have been worked to some extent. At the Boston Asbestos Packing Company's Mine, in the first named township, about 70 men are employed; a depth of 75 or 80 feet has been reached, covering a large area, and the daily output averages 2 tons. The "Johnson," "King" and "Ward" mines, also in the Township of Thetford, are being actively worked, and when the snow will have disappeared in the spring, it is not improbable that mining operations will be begun on the Read property in the Township of Coleraine. Some New York capitalists, have, within the past few days, purchased a location in the Township of Broughton from which a fair quantity of mineral has already been shipped, and owing to its superior quality the owner received the highest price for the shipment that has been paid for many years. A firm of Turin, Italy, has recently made a bid for a portion of the output of this district, but as the American manufacturers are offering a much higher figure—about \$25 per ton more—the Italians are not likely to be supplied at present from Canadian mines. New uses, to which this mineral can be applied, are being almost daily discovered in various

quarters of the globe. Its value will increase correspondingly with the demand, and the outlook for owners of asbestos mines in the above named district was never brighter than at the present time.

### MICA.

Latest reports from Mr. Allan's mica mine in Burgess are of a very satisfactory nature. As lower level is reached in the different shafts that are being sunk the crystals increase in size and number and the quality steadily improves. A fair force of miners are employed, and, although it was but a few weeks ago that work was started, a considerable quantity of high grade mica, very clear and cut into sheets running as large as 10x6, has been already shipped to dealers in the United States and Canada.

Mr. Allan has just completed the purchase of another mica property in the County of Ottawa, and will begin work just so soon as the snow disappears. Samples of the mica received are very white and clear, and of good size.

### ALMANDITE.

An extensive deposit of this mineral, which is a variety of Garnet, has recently been discovered in the Township of Rawdon, Province of Quebec, and has become the property of some enterprising gentlemen identified with the mining industry of Canada. The owners purpose opening up their property without loss of time, and are already in negotiation with New York parties for the sale of their output.

This garnet rock is extensively used as a substitute for emery, being almost equal to it in hardness, and is a valuable mineral. The present sources of supply are the States of North Carolina and Georgia where the few deposits that have been discovered are said to be very profitably worked. It is supposed that the emery mines in Asia are working out, and if this be so, it is only a question of time when such substances as garnet and sapphire stone, etc., will be almost exclusively used as a substitute. It is therefore a source of gratification to learn that deposits of this mineral have been found to exist in Canada in workable quantity.

### THE HAYCOCK IRON MINE.

Since the last number of the REVIEW was published, earnest enquiry as to the cause of delay in the negotiations in England for the transfer of this property has failed to elicit any information beyond the fact that there is a hitch, the nature of which, however, has not yet been ascertained. It is to be hoped that nothing has occurred to alter what had appeared to be a positive decision on the part of the English company

to accept the terms upon which the property was offered to them. It is a great pity that this mine and the company's plant should continue in its present deserted state year after year and, at a time when the public were led to expect early resumption of operations, mysterious delays, or, for aught they know, definite abandonment of negotiations, are very disappointing.

### A Fatal Mistake. (Wall Street News.)

The president of a New Mexico mining company—headquarters in Boston—entered his office the other day to find everything and everybody in a hubbub, and his demand to know the cause was replied to with:

"Our mine has been turning out ore."

"No!"

"It's so! Here's a telegram announcing that we have actually struck it rich!"

"Great Scots!" gasped the president, as he sank back into a chair. "What did those idiots want to go and discover ore for just as we had got ready to levy an assessment of \$2 per share to dig a three-mile tunnel to drain our hole. Why, stockholders will be kicking like steers in less'n a week."

### MINING NOTES.

#### GOLD MINING.

Mr. Allan of this city and Mr. Humphrey of Quebec are sinking a shaft on the old bed of a river near St. George East, Beauce County. The shaft is now down about 135 feet and properly timbered. Bed rock has not yet been struck, but pay dirt has shown itself, and it is safe to predict that when a 10 ft. lower level has been reached the richness of the dirt will have much increased, and the value of the property will be established.

It is stated that an American Company has purchased a portion of the Canada Gold Mining Company's property in Beauce, and will organize at once for early mining operations.

The Barker claim in Cariboo District, B.C., continues on good paying ground. On January 22nd a wash-up for two day's work produced 62 ounces. On 26th, another wash-up gave 102 oz., making a total for one week of 164 ounces, and ground continuing good paying. The work of the week previous produced 90 ounces and as much as \$6 to one pan was washed up. It is stated that on other claims down the creek miners have commenced taking out pay.

News from Cassair, B. C., states that at the gold mines at McDame's Creek the snow is 17 feet deep, and that in November the thermometer registered 40° below zero. There are 80 men at the mines—whites and Chinamen—and on account of the severe cold the latter were obliged to tuck in their shirts. *Fools if they didn't.*

In the Halifax *New Era* it is stated that the Bridgewater gold mines are improving very rapidly, the richest lode, giving about 11 oz. to the ton, increased from 8 inches in thickness to 15 inches, and in going down 80 ft. shows the same ore all through.

A report of progress in operations at the Canada Consolidated Gold Mining Company's property, in Hastings County, Province of Ontario, will be gratefully received.—[Ed.]

#### PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

The returns thus far received by the Director of the mint indicate that during 1883, the production of gold in the United States amounted to \$30,000,000.

### Mining in Canada—Sulphur Ores and Phosphate.

(From the N. Y. Engineering and Mining Journal.)

Time works marvels in the lives and interests of individual citizens, but much more so in the history of manufactures and of states. We live on the eve of great changes, and the wisest among us, not blinded by political bias, can see that the probable reform of the tariff in the near future must bring with it certain radical alterations in our manufactures and commerce. Whether serious changes in the trade of the two countries occur or not, there are raw materials in Canada which are now valuable, and will speedily become more so as our consumption of sulphuric acid and fertilizers increases. Except coal, sulphur ores, and phosphates, the minerals of Canada possess but little interest for the American investor. Now and then, he may meet with something worth notice in other directions, but not often. In the case of sulphur ores and phosphate, it is not so; for outside of our Carolina supplies of phosphate, there is none so near or so rich as the apatite of Canada, while our available sulphur ores are widely distributed.

It is not many years ago since Canada phosphate began to attract notice in the United States and Europe. Of late years, Americans have kept a steady lookout for property in Canada which they could work themselves for the requirements of their own factories. The importance of the fertilizer trade in its present condition, and the proportions it promises to assume in the near future, are the principal causes of this diversion of interest. It is not many years ago that the home manufacture was expressed in five figures; now it takes seven. This change has