

Hematite.—Admiral island was the only place visited by the writer which showed hematite. Grey and green schists, associated with jasper, carrying some small bands of hematite, which in places seemed to change into magnetite, were, however, all that could be seen.

Limonite, or bog iron ore, has been found in several points at the north end of Vancouver island. For further description see page 17.

DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICTS.

Sooke District.

At a distance of about twenty miles from Victoria, on the southwest end of Vancouver island, Sooke harbour is situated. The east Sooke peninsula, with Mount Maguin, lies to the south of this harbour.

The country rocks here are mainly made up of igneous and metamorphic rocks, carrying in places chalcopyrite, magnetite, and pyrrhotite. In 1900 the Pacific Steel Company took a bond on several claims on lots 79 and 83, and did some development work, consisting chiefly of stripping, and open-cuts, at various points on the slope of a hill. The ore has, however, a very irregular shape, and shows no sign whatever of permanency. The workings expose, as a rule, a dark-green metamorphic rock, containing much hornblende, and patches of magnetite and pyrites. The claims seem, therefore, not to be of any practical value for an iron industry.

East of these claims, on lot 3, a short distance back from the beach, and about 100 feet above sea level, an outcrop of pyrrhotite and magnetite was observed. A shaft has been sunk on the outcrop, and a tunnel driven into the hill, but it did not go through the surface soil. On the dump there was a pile of magnetite, containing a notable percentage of pyrrhotite and some copper pyrites.

Gordon River District.

The Gordon river flows from the north into Port Renfrew, or Port San Juan as it is locally known, which is about sixty miles from Victoria, on the west coast of Vancouver island. Up this river, and its principal tributaries, the country rocks are chiefly crystalline limestones, and igneous rocks, of which granites and diorites are most in evidence.

Rose claim is situated on the north bank of the Gordon river, about five miles from salt water, and is connected therewith by a good trail. On a small outcrop of magnetite considerable development work has been done, mainly consisting of sinking a shaft, and drifting from it at different levels. The shaft was full of water at the time of my visit, but Mr. Carmichael, Provincial Assayer of British Columbia, who visited the place during the summer of 1902, gives the following report on the claim: "Close to the camp, a shaft had been sunk about 300 feet, on a magnetite outcrop, which appeared to dip into the hill. At about 100 feet down this shaft, a cross cut drift of 40 feet had been run to the north. This drift was