Journal of the Canadian Mining Institute, Vol. VII.

UNDEVELOPED MINERAL RESOURCES OF ONTARIO.

By Willer G. Miller, Provincial Geologist, Toronto, Oni.

Toronto Meeting, March, 1904.

Complaints, whether just or unjust it is not our province to determine, are often heard to the effect t' our neighbors to the south have usually gotten the better of us 1 the various treaties and conventions which have been held between the two countries from 1776 onwards, but it is recognized by few that certain natural agencies, even before the time of Adam, were working in behalf of our neighbors, in an agricultural sense at least, and against us. A large part of the soil, which undoubtedly covered our now rocky areas at the end of the Mezozoic era, was transported to the southward, across what is now the international boundary, in the succeeding era by the ice sheet which completely covered the territory which we now call Ontario. What would have become, long ere this, prosperous homesteads and rich agricultural communities, were forever rendered impossible by the movements southward of the great glaciers, whose effects, greater than those produced by the greatest of invading armies, are to last through all time. While the Canadian agriculturist may regret that many a fertile plain and valley in the great Republic owes its prosperity to the stealing of our soil by the ice kings, his brother, the miner, rejoices that old mother nature in that far distant time was working for his benefit. By carrying away the soil she exposed the ore-bearing rocks to his view.

We hear a great deal of what heated waters and volcame action have accomplished in the formation of ore deposits, but no one has yet come forward to campion the glaciers, to whose action in many parts of the world the mineral industry is so much indebted. They seem to have concentrated the gold in the farfamed Klondike; they have scoured many a mountain and plain, exposing the treasures in the rocks beneath; they have furnished