

if not ignorant of the existence of the Survey, are, at least, unacquainted with what it has achieved.

"The Annual Reports are presented to Parliament and buried in the Journals of the House, except a few hundred copies, which are distributed by Members amongst their friends, so that the Reports of two consecutive years fall into the same hands. Professor Chapman complains of the difficulty of procuring them; Mr. Lovell speaks of the frequent applications to him for complete sets, both at home and from abroad; and Mr. Bell says that so much is this want felt, that it has been proposed to reprint them in New York. Were it not for additional copies which Mr. Logan orders at his own expense, and kindly distributes, it is doubtful whether (apart from the Journals) there would be a hundred complete sets in the Province. Mr. Logan also speaks of the demand for the Reports, the imperfect knowledge in the country of what they contain, and the consequent verbal and written applications which are made to him for information."

Seven witnesses were examined, most of whom were professional and scientific men; but your Committee deemed it also advisable to procure the evidence of persons of practical experience in mining operations.

Your Committee directed enquiry to the following points embraced in the Order of Reference, together with the other subjects above referred to:—

1. The extent and resources of the Copper Mines on the north side of Lakes Superior and Huron;
2. Best mode of developing the same;
3. The extent of sales made, and to whom, at what prices, with conditions of sale, &c. (This information may be obtained by referring to document marked B, hereunto annexed);
4. What work being done for developing the properties sold by Government;
5. Information respecting capabilities of country for settlement and agriculture.
6. Character, quantity and quality of timber in the country;
7. What other minerals exist besides copper;
8. Means of access to the mineral region;
9. Land, and location system, as compared with the American system, pursued on the south shore of the lakes;
10. Harbours on the north shore, their character, frequency, &c.

From the Reports of the Geological Survey, and the evidence adduced before your Committee, the copper-bearing region would appear to embrace a large area of country on the north side of Lakes Huron and Superior; but the full extent of the mineral region has not yet been explored. Copper, however, has been found at the following places on the north side of Lake Huron:—In rear of Sault Ste. Marie; at the Bruce, Wellington, and Copper Bay mines; on the River Thessalon and its chain of lakes; on the Mississaga River, on the Serpent River, on the Spanish River, the White-fish River, the Maganitawang River, and at the Portage des Rats, near Killarney.

"The lower copper-bearing series on Lake Huron extends from the neighborhood of Sault Ste. Marie to Shebahahnung, or Killarney, a distance of about one hundred and thirty miles, with an average breadth, as far as known, of probably fifteen or twenty miles, giving an area of about two thousand square miles.

"On the north shore of Lake Superior the Canadian mineral region extends from Pigeon River to the eastern extremity of the Nipigon Archipelago, a distance estimated at about one hundred and twenty five miles, with a breadth of from ten to twenty miles, from which nearly one half is to be deducted for the waters of Thunder Bay, Black Bay, and Nipigon Bay, leaving an area of from one thousand one hundred to one thousand two hundred square miles. This area belongs chiefly to the Quebec group, or upper copper-bearing series. To it is to be added the Island of Michipicoten, about seventy-five square miles, and patches on the east coast of Gargantua, Mamaiuse, and Point aux Mines, about as much more, making altogether about one thousand three hundred square miles of this series. Of the Huronian, or lower copper-bearing series there is a triangular area extending on each side of the Pic River, and probably thirty miles up it, giving, with the Slate Islands, between four hundred and five hundred square miles, to which are to be added two narrow strips west of Michipicoten River, and a small triangular area at its mouth, giving seventy five square miles. Another area occupies fifty square miles on Batchewahnung Bay and the Goulais River, making altogether of the Huronian about six hundred square miles."