

famed for producing some of the best iron in the world, are wrought. The abundant indications of the presence of iron in this rock are sufficient to warrant a close search here for Hematite ore, which, I imagine it is exceedingly probable, will some day be found to accompany the jaspers. On the north side of Smith's Sound a very black-weathering calcareous band occurs, which, from its great specific gravity, appeared to contain much oxide of iron also. Iron ores of good quality are becoming much sought after of late years. The possession of numerous deposits of such ores in a country like this, which affords such facilities for mining and shipping the same, especially when situated near the sea-coast, should prove of immense importance to the mining development of the future. The recent discovery of a valuable deposit of Hematite iron on the Great Bell Island in Conception Bay has attracted the attention of outside capitalists, with the result that a company has been formed to work the ore, having first thoroughly tested the extent and quality of the deposit. I have not had the opportunity of visiting the location as yet, but from all I can learn the mineral forms a regularly stratified layer of the formation, which is Upper Cambrian, or possibly at the very base of the Lower Silurian Series. It averages about twelve feet in thickness, and spreads over a considerable area of the island—being situated quite close to the surface and cropping out in the sea cliff on the north-east end of the island. It affords every facility for mining and shipping to advantage. Already the company have constructed a tramway across to the south side of the island, and have erected a pier and loading apparatus at a convenient point on the shore. I understand active operations will be commenced almost immediately.

The following analysis of the ore has been kindly furnished me by the owners of the property, Messrs. Shirran & Pippy, of St. John's. Analysis of Hematite Ore from Great Bell Island, Conception Bay, by G. T. Holloway, F. C. Sa.:—

Iron, 62.7 per cent., corresponding to sesquioxide of iron	
(Fe. 2; O. 3)	89.57
Silica (Si. O. 2)	8.30
Phosphoric Acid (P. 2; O. 5)	0.398
Sulphuric Acid (S. O. 3)	0.062
Alumina (Al. 2; O. 3)	0.13
Lime (Ca. O.)	trace.