

mines should find some demand from local manufacturers of fertilizers, as our intelligent farmers begin to make more use of phosphates.

BARITE.

Barite has been worked at only one mine in Ontario, McKellar Island in Lake Superior, where the body of mineral is described in the Geological Survey reports as sixty feet wide, and perhaps the largest on the continent. In 1890 the product is stated to have been 1,842 tons, valued at \$7,543; but no further reports have been made, so that mining operations appear to have ceased.

GRAPHITE.

When graphite was first mined in Ontario I have been unable to discover, but in 1877 we shipped 429 tons of plumbago, having a value of \$1,553; and in the following year about twice as much. Since then the amount has greatly diminished, though late explorations with the diamond drill show important deposits that should be worked at a profit. All the mining has been done in the Laurentian of the Ottawa Valley, near the Kingston and Pembroke railway.

GYP SUM.

Most of the gypsum of Ontario comes from the vicinity of Paris on the Grand river, Paris, Ontario, being in this respect at least like the greater Paris in France whose gypsum mines have provided "plaster of Paris" for many years. The amount mined in Ontario seems to vary greatly, 8,560 tons, valued at \$11,715, being reported in 1887; but since then the amount has greatly diminished, so far as one can judge from the reports. In 1894 3,253 tons were mined, the value being \$9,760.

MICA.

This mineral is mined in the Laurentian region of the Ottawa Valley, the deposits being very irregular and the output equally so. Mica mining in our province is first mentioned in the Geological Survey report for 1870-71, but no useful statistics can be obtained until 1891, when the Bureau of Mines began its work, since the output of Ontario is lumped together with that of Quebec.

In 1891 it is reported that 240 tons of mica, worth \$31,200, were mined. In the following year only seven tons; in 1893 seventy tons,