MINING.

NOTES ON MANGANESE IN CANADA.

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(CONCLUDED).

Many other deposits, both of crystalline ores and wad, are known to exist throughout the island. One of these on Boulardarie island is said to be quite extensive, and the character of the ore may be judged from the following assays:

	I.	II.	III.
Manganese peroxide	25.42	11.04	44 33
Iron sesquioxide		12.49	35.50
Insoluble matter		57.76	10.00
Water	33.52		

I and II by G. C. Hoffmann, Chemist Geological Survey. III by E. Gilpin, Jr., Trans. Royal Society of Canada, Vol. 11, sec. IV.

Ontario and Quebec.—Outside of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick but little manganese is known to occur, and where noted is usually of low grade. In Quebec several small deposits of wad have been noted, the largest, perhaps, being that in Stanshead township, where on lot nine, range ten, the ore covers an area of about twenty acres, and has a thickness of about twelve inches. That this deposit has but slight commercial value is evidenced by the fact that the washed ore contains only 37 per cent. of peroxide. Another deposit, similar to the above, occurs on lot twenty, range twelve of Bolton, the ore there assaying 26 per cent. Many similar deposits might be mentioned, though probably none as important as those mentioned above.

Manganese has also been noted as occurring on the Magdalen islands, a small group in the gulf of St. Lawrence. Of these deposits Mr. James Richardson in the report of the Geological Survey 1879-80, writes: "Immediately under Demoiselle hill, on Amherst island, numerous blocks charged with peroxide of manganese, or pyrolusite, occur among the debris of the fallen cliffs. They are in pieces varying from one pound to ten or fifteen pounds in weight. There can be little doubt that they are derived from a deposit more or less regular in the hill side, but which is now completely concealed by the fallen debris. At a place bearing nearly due west from Cap aux Meules, at a distance of about a mile, and close to the English Mission church, similar pieces to those above described are very frequently picked up." Assays of this ore, in the same volume, gave:

Manganese dioxide	45 61 per cent.
Water, hygroscopic	0.10 "

In Ontario manganese has been reported from Batchewaherung bay, Lake Superior. The ore is manganite and is said to assay as high as 60 per cent. of peroxide; of the extent and exact situation of the deposit it is not possible to write.

An interesting discovery of a manganiferous spathic iron ore is reported by Dr. R. Bell in the report of the Geological Survey 1877-78, wherein he states that a band of about twenty feet of the ore, carrying 25 per cent. metallic iron and 24 per cent. carbonate of manganese, occurs in the Nastapoka islands, a group off the east coast of Hudson Bay. The ore is easily accessible and will no doubt eventually prove of value, the high percentage of manganese contained making it eminently suitable for the manufacture of speigeleisen.

According to articles which have been making the rounds of the press, the American Waltham Watch Company, on leaving the building in which they had manufactured gold watch cases for thirteen years, had a clean-up made of the flooring, and, indeed, all the woodwork of the building. The yield of the ashes after the wood had been burned amounted to, it is stated, over $65,000. While this total may be somewhat exaggerated, we believe that when the greatest care is used where the precious metals are handled losses necessarily occur, a portion of which may afterwards be recovered, as in this case.

These losses are not confined to industrial establishments, but occur in even larger quantities in our mills and smelting establishments. The tendency of gold amalgam to escape through a small crack in an iron mortar is well known. Clean ups at old mills have been made at which thousands of dollars have been realized from the treatment of the earth surrounding the battery and the amalgamated copper plate sluices. The woodwork of the sluices has been burned and more gold recovered, and the earth under the retorting and melting furnaces is often a veritable *bonanzita*. In chlorination works the wood of the tanks, when they are being rebuilt or abandoned should be burned, and the gold recovered. This is sometimes overlooked and in one case to our knowledge some $12,000 was made by an individual who purchased an abandoned plant. The hearths of these reverberatory furnaces have a tendency to absorb bullion of any kind, and this, or even matte, has been known to penetrate not only the hearth and foundation but even the surrounding earth, without the knowledge of those in charge. Now adays engineers are acquainted with this elusive tendency of the precious metals, and take pains to guard against these losses.——*The Engineering and Mining Journal.*
