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The CANADIAN MINING REVIEW is devoted to the opening up of the mineral wealth of the Dominion, and its publishers will be thankful for any encouragement they may receive at the hands of those who are interested in its speedy development.

Visitors from the mining districts as well as others interested in Canadian Mineral Lands are cordially invited to call at our office.

Mining news and reports of new discoveries of mineral deposits are solicited.

All matter for publication in the REVIEW should be received at the office not later than the 20th of the month.

Address all correspondence, &c., to the Publishers of the CANADIAN MINING REVIEW, Ottawa.

It has already become a well recognized fact that the Colonial and Indian Exhibition has been the means of bringing Canada forcibly to the notice of the old world, and her very creditable display of the resources of the Dominion has earned for her a prominent, if not a foremost, place among the British Colonies. Of all her exhibits, however, none appears to have attracted more attention, or created more astonishment, than has the display which represents our vast mineral resources.

Significant evidence that much benefit will accrue to mine owners and owners of mineral lands is in the fact that, since the opening of the Exhibition, we have been recipients of innumerable letters of enquiry from manufacturers and capitalists in all quarters of Great Britain and Europe, asking for information regarding the importance of the mineral deposits of the country and the capabilities of the mines in operation.

In order that such enquiries may be replied to in an intelligent manner, it is absolutely necessary that those people who are most concerned in the development of Canada's mineral resources and the expansion of the markets for the product of her mines, should keep us continually advised on all points of interest in these connections; reporting to us every important discovery, the result of development work, and what has been achieved at working mines.

Visitors to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition who take an interest in mining matters must be struck with surprise and greatly disappointed when they learn that the Dominion of Canada furnishes no official

record of mining statistics, and up to date has neglected to publish any authentic information regarding the mineral resources of the country. With this fact before them, how can it be expected that capitalists will be induced to aid us in developing and extending our mining industries, the importance of which the Government has so utterly disregarded.

A desire for speculation and investment in distant and unknown countries has hitherto been a craze among English and European capitalists. Canada possesses some of the best mining fields in the world, and her mineral deposits are sufficiently rich, varied and extensive to invite investigation at least. If the monied men of England who are seeking investments in the mining fields of other countries are skeptical or incredulous as to the richness and vastness of our deposits, we most respectfully request that they examine carefully the display of Canadian minerals at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition and from it draw their own conclusions.

We learn that among other recent visitors to the Mineral Court at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition was Mr. Percy Gilchrist, the well-known English ironmaster and metallurgist, who inspected the exhibits in his capacity as one of the committee appointed by the Iron and Steel Institute to inquire into the iron and steel producing capabilities of the various Colonies represented at the Exhibition. Mr. Gilchrist acquired much valuable information regarding Canadian Iron Ores and was furnished with numerous samples of the ores and pig-irons. These he purposes having analyzed for publication in his committee's report to the Institute.

"A curious bit of experience," says the *American Manufacturer*, "has been had recently at one of the leading steel mills in the United States. A quantity of material for a bridge was rejected by the inspector of the buyers, much to the surprise of the producers. The manufacturers decided to make an independent investigation, which resulted in showing that the rejected material did come up to the specifications. Further research followed, and developed the fact that, for a given number of hours after the material had left the rolls, its physical qualities gradually changed, reaching a period of rest only after a certain time had elapsed. If these facts are borne out by the experience of others a good deal that is mysterious in steel may be explained."

Mr. L. Tietjens, of Stassfurt, Germany, has recently patented a very ingenious method of damming back the flow of water in shafts by the application of the well known fact that certain salts increase their volume very materially by the absorbing of water of crystallization in hardening. To accomplish this, he takes either calcined soda, anhydrous alum, kieserite, or oxychloride of magnesium, mixes them into a paste, and then immediately injects them through a suitably arranged pipe into the fissures through which the water flows. As this paste hardens, it swells enough to fill all the interstices of the rock and to render it thoroughly water-tight.

THE PHOSPHATE TRADE.

Little or no change has been reported in the condition of this industry during the past three months. The foreign market continues inactive and prices are lower than we have known them within the past four years. Miners, however, have not been discouraged by the fall in values and have not allowed activity at the mines to relax, being confident of a rising market before the close of the shipping season. For this reason also they have been in no hurry to forward their output, as is shown by shipments to date compared with those of last season. While the year's production has not fallen off, the shipments up to and including August have aggregated but 11,256 tons crude, and 1,562 bags ground, as against 14,590 tons crude shipped to same date last year; whereas, the shipments for the month of August just past amounted to 4996 tons against 3053 tons for the same month in 1885.

As our quotations show, in the subjoined report, prices have fallen as low as 11 pence for 80 per cent. with one-fifth of a penny rise; but this condition of things is not likely to last, as high grade phosphate is becoming scarce and a *Canadian* must, therefore, command a higher price so soon as this fact is realized. There has been a shrinkage in values of all commodities, but apart from the effect of this, and the general agricultural depression, the price of phosphate has been further reduced by competition among the sellers of *Carolina* which is in such large supply that it regulates the market in a great measure. These people have been ruining each other and we have received information that they have become tired of the contest and are planning a combination to raise prices, so that an upward movement for all grades is anticipated for next season.

Indications of a firmer market are apparent already and better prices may be looked for this fall for *Canadian* though the improvement is not likely to occur in any marked degree.

The popularity of Canadian phosphate is now very general with manufacturers, and there is no longer any question as to a large future demand for it in Great Britain and on the Continent. A demand for the ground article is also expanding, and if this is furnished in satisfactory form its use will be speedily extended. The Northern United States must furnish a large market in the near future and Canada, too, must awake to the necessity of using our mineral phosphate as a fertilizer.

An eminent authority in London, Eng., referring to the Canadian deposits, says:—"There is one thing to be relied on; there will be always a large and increasing demand for mineral phosphates. Nitrogen can be obtained from wood and a multitude of other substances, but the only largely available and cheap source of phosphoric acid is from these minerals."

The facts above enumerated go to show that there will be no falling off in the demand, but that it will increase in proportion to the increased production of our mines, and, referring to the supply of