

Lake Ontario by rail. In the townships of Bedford, South Crosby, Sherbrooke and Hull, the magnetic ore of iron is also found in abundance. It is, however, to the important deposits in the townships of Belmont, Marmora, and Madoc I desire to call your attention this evening. The forges of Marmora are supplied from the township of Belmont, where the ore occurs with occasional beds of crystalline limestone and talcose slate to a thickness exceeding one hundred feet. In Madoc the bed of magnetic iron ore has a thickness of 25 to 30 feet, in South Sherbrooke a thickness of 60 feet, and in Crosby on the Rideau the beds are nearly 200 feet thick. "At Hull, on the Ottawa, a bed of ore 100 feet thick is exposed by an undulation of the strata forming a sort of dome, so that the ore is wrought with great facility. These ores are for the most part pure magnetic oxide of iron." With the bed of ores of Hull an instructive illustration of foreign enterprise is mentioned by Sir W. Logan:—

"Within the last two years I have been repeatedly called upon by a gentleman of the name of Forsyth, from Pittsburg, who has made most minute enquiry in regard to all the beds of every description of iron ore that are known in the Province. I supplied him with copies of all the late reports, but it is in the earlier ones, of which no copies are to be had, that the beds which appeared to interest him most, are mentioned, hence his repeated visits to get *vice versa* what he could not find in print. He informed me that his attention was first attracted to our iron ore by accidentally meeting with one of our reports on board of a steamboat in the course of his travels, and I find that he and several partners have lately established themselves at Bytown and made arrangements to work the great bed of magnetic iron ore in Hull. A few months ago I received a letter from the firm (Forsyth & Co.), strangers to me except in so far as their enquiries have made them known, and after several additional enquiries they say: 'We cannot close our letter without expressing our warmest thanks for the kind manner in which you have afforded us information relative to the mineral wealth of Canada; and hope that our present enterprise is but the pioneer to others. Ours, we must say, has been entirely brought about by yourself.'"

The same gentleman, in his report for the year 1851—'52, notices the effect produced upon the British miner and smelter by the specimens which were conveyed from the beds just enumerated to the Great Exhibition at London:—

"The vast supplies of iron with which the collection (at London) gave evidence that the colony is enriched, appeared to arrest the attention of all. The British miner, accustomed to follow into the bowels of the earth beds of ore of six inches to one foot, containing between thirty and forty per cent. of this important metal, naturally regarded with surprise huge blocks of it from beds of 100 and 200 feet in thickness, and yielding sixty to seventy per cent.; the British smelter did not fail to admire the masses of ore, but directing his enquiries to the fuel required to extract the metal, and being informed that no mineral coal existed in the vicinity of the ore, he did not appear to apprehend that any competition would arise to interfere with the supply to the Colony of those qualities of iron which are made in the United Kingdom from the deposits of the carboniferous ore.

* Sketch of the Geology of Canada.