

always been a favorite stream with the *habitants*, it must have produced a considerable quantity of gold.

In size the gold of the Famine resembles that of the Du Loup, being smaller than that of the Touffe de Pins, where again there is much less large gold than upon the Des Plantes. From the circumstance of its only being found in rapids, the gold of the main river is uniformly heavier than that of any of its tributaries; but if the flats were washed, they would probably be found impregnated with the finest dust.

While the Chaudière Mining Company was working within its limits, the Canada Mining Company obtained the right to wash for gold on the flats at the mouth of the Du Loup. Here it carried on extensive operations in the summers of 1851 and '52. Its works were superintended by an old Cornish miner, a Captain Otey, who adopted the system used in Cornwall for washing alluvial tin. As reported in the Geological Report for 1852, "The gravel for about three-eighths of an acre, with an average thickness of two feet, was washed and yielded 2,107 dwts. of gold, of which 160 were in the form of fine dust, mingled with about one ton of black iron sand, the heavy residue of the washing. The value of the gold was \$1,826, and the whole expenditure connected with the washing, \$1,643, leaving a profit of \$182.

"In 1852, above three-eighths of an acre were washed, and the total amount of gold obtained was 2,880 dwts., valued at \$2,496. Of this 307 were in the form of fine dust mixed with the iron sand. Nine of the nuggets found weighed together 468 dwts., the largest being about 127, and the smallest about 11 dwts. Small and unimportant portions of platinum and iridosmine were found. The washing lasted from the 24th May to October 30th, and the sum expended for labor was \$1,888, leaving a profit of \$608."*

Had the same amount of labour been as systematically and scientifically employed elsewhere, there is reason to think the result would have been more encouraging: for at the spot selected the gold is so fine and so widely scattered, that it would be impos-

* *Geology of Canada*, page 371.