

the produce of the ore in pure metal generally ranges from 60 to 70 per cent.; that of South Sherbrooke, is 63, and of Hull, 69 per cent. Where the mineral has been acted upon by the weather, it frequently breaks up with facility into grains, related to the forms of the Crystals of the magnetic iron ore, and may be easily ground and separated from earthy impurities by means of a machine, in which the action of the magnet is made available; a portion of the Hull bed is in this condition, and of this bed every fathom in length by a fathom in vertical depth, taking the breadth at one half only of what it appears to be, would produce between 50 and 60 tons of pure metal.

"Wood for fuel is in abundance near all the localities.

"Bog iron ore exists in large quantities in both sections of the Province. In Western Canada, it prevails in the county of Norfolk, where it has been used to supply the wants of the Normandale Iron Works. It occurs in many places in the Valley of the Ottawa, and specimens of it have been sent from Vaudrieul, Stanbridge, Simpson, Rivere du Chene, St. Maurice, Portneuff, St. Vallier, and other parts where in general it yields upwards of 50 per cent. of pure metal. That of Vaudrieul, within a short distance of the navigable waters of the Ottawa, yields to analysis 76.95 per cent of peroxide of iron, equal to 53 per cent of pure metal; the deposit is represented to be four feet thick. At the Forges of St. Maurice, near Three Rivers, this species of ore has been used for upwards of half a century in the manufacture of iron. The cast stoves from it bear a high character through the country, being less liable to crack than the imported ones; and specimens of the wrought iron produced there have been sent to the Exhibition. The quality of the metal—wood charcoal being the only fuel used, bears a comparison with that of Sweden, and it is to compete with this that it is manufactured."

It will be seen then that we have a pretty good supply of iron ore. It is estimated that the Hull mine alone will yield, ere exhausted, 250,000,000 tons of pure metal, of a very superior quality. The Crosby mine is believed to be double the quantity of the Hull. Mr. Billings, editor of the "*Canadian Naturalist*," says, were the whole iron mining force of Great Britain and the United States at work upon it, (that is the Crosby mine alone) 100 years, they would not exhaust it at the present rate of production. The South Sherbrooke deposit is estimated at 100,000,000 tons. The Marmora mines are supposed to contain 100,000,000 tons. These four mines would yield 1000 tons a day for 3000 years; this is, recollect, independent of the St. Maurice and other mines.

A supply of wood or coal conveniently situated to the mines, is an important matter, for the purpose of smelting the ore and making iron. In all our mining localities, wood is found in abundance. Coal we have not. No coal mines having yet been discovered in Canada. It is a popular notion that, because we are deficient in this respect, we cannot compete with foreign made iron. This is not the case. Hitherto little attention has been paid to making iron here to supply our foundries and machinists, it being found more profitable to manufacture it into articles for sale. This, however, does not prove that we have not natural facilities for making pig iron, so as to sell it to the consumer as cheap as he can import it.

At many of the mines in the State of New York, where wood costs \$2 a cord, making pig iron is evidently profitable. At one of the principal fur-