made in the work of excavation and there is still no apparent diminution of the cupriferous rock—it does not appear to thin out as it penetrates the strate in which it is embedded. That it occurs in masses of irregular thickness along the strike of the underlying limestone and thus has the character of nodular matter rather than of a regular aqueous deposit is obvious. It is not improbable that at the period of the infiltration of the copper, disturbances and alteration of the associated strate took place to a considerable extent, reducing them into their present abnormal state. It is only therefore by actual experiment that the real character of this cupriferous deposit can be ascertained. It may underlie in workable quantities, the whole of the space within these nelinal of Acton and Upton and thus prove to be one of the most extensive and valuable copper regions in the world. But it may only be found in detached pockets of greater or less extent, and irregularly distributed throughout the valley; even in this case it will be of great value and amply repay for many years to come skilful and judicious labour.

"The proprieters are about to open shafts and to erect suitable machinery for working them to the north of the present mines. These operations will determine in some measure the extent and character of the deposits. Before another year closes we may therefore hope to present to our readers a more definite account of the geological character of the Acton mines. It is evident that they are in the hands of enterprising men and are being worked with intelligence and vigour. At present they present a busy scene of active life. About 200 men, women and boys, are engaged at good wages in the various departments of the works. The strong men are busy boring and blasting and carrying off the precious fragments from the mines. Others are breaking the masse of rocks into small pieces, and then a multitude of boys and girls are washing, picking, and arranging the pieces according to the quantity of copper they contain. Other workmen fill the barrels with the broken washed and selected ore; and from the mines to the Railway atation at the village, there is a constant traffic of Canadian carts laden with the metallic spoils.

"Several thousand tons have by this time been shipped to the market at Boston. The assays of the best quality of the ore give from 25 to 30 per cent of copper. This is a large percentage and must prove highly remunerative to the fortunate owners. When the requisite machinery is

orected for mining, crushing, washing and smelting the rock, much that cannot now be removed from the locality on account of the cost of transit to lioston will yield a workable profit, and the copper of the richest ores will become more immediately available. The quality of the Acton copper is already coming into notice and is reckeded only second to that of Lake Superior.

"By the enterprise of a few intelligent men, there has thus during the past year been opened up to Canada a source of industry and wealth that will not only benefit the parties immediately concerned but also the country at large. Whatever of value we can extract from the earth is a real addition to our wealth, increases our available means for the employment of human labour, and for the extension of our agriculture and commerce. The descovery of the Acton mines, will we doubt not, become an important epoch in the history of our national industry."

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

Statement of the Correspondence of the Department of Education from the 1st of January to the 31st December 1860.

	January.	Felmany.	March.	April.	Max	June.	July.	Auzust.	September.	October	November.	December.	Totals	Total numb. of lefters recenced
Letters and doe received Letters &c des- patched	1	اِ ا	<u> </u>					1						10000

Table of the Apportionment of the Superior Education Fund for 1860, under the Act 18th Vic., Cap. 51.

LIST No. 1.—UNIVERSITIES.

								
NAME OF INSTITUTION.	Number of pupils.	Annual grant.	Grant for building.	Total of the grant for 1856.	Annual grant for 1857.	Annual grant for 1858.	Aunual grant for 1859.	Annual graut for 1860.
McGill College		£ s. d. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 500 0 0	£ s. d. 1000 0 0	£ s. d. 700 0 0	\$ cts. 2730 00	\$ cts. 2661 75	\$ cts. 2661 75
Bishop's College		450 0 0		450 0 0	450 0 0	1950 00	1901 25	1901 25 5234 07