

ARTICLE II.

In our last, we glanced at the present encouraging prospects of the Chaudière gold fields, lightly touching at the same time upon a few of the more salient causes which are believed to have militated against their more thorough development, and dwelling *en passant* upon the great urgency of early measures in their interest viewed from the standpoint of their importance and value to the Province. But, to more fully appreciate this value and importance, it is primarily essential to understand the extent and character of the gold-bearing formation, of which the past and actual workings only from a very infinitesimal part. We therefore propose, in this issue, to devote our remarks to this necessary view of the subject, and this more particularly because it is, in some sense, desirable to combat two very common, but mistaken impressions on these heads, which unfortunately seem to have too long prevailed to the destruction of much public confidence in all or any efforts to render available the mineral resources of the Chaudière Valley. The first of these fallacies is that the gold of that region is, in a great measure, if not wholly, confined to a few rich pockets or deposits on the Gilbert, where the original discoveries of the precious metal were made; and the second, that these placers being exhausted, it will not pay to search for it elsewhere, as the cost would exceed the production. In other words, the generally accepted notion among the indifferent or the uninformed since the great rush to the mines in 1863-4-5 is that there is no more gold to be had on the Chaudière or that, if there be, it will not pay to look for it. Both these disparaging estimates of the capabilities of our gold fields are obviously unjust and seem to have been originally based on nothing more substantial than the hasty and ill-advised reports of unsuccessful adventurers. Indeed, the one is wholly wrong, and

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