

made as respectable as any other branch of commerce ; also, that men of high position and business respectability may in this country, as they now do in *England*, engage in mining, either as officers or private stockholders, without impeaching their integrity, or tainting their standing.

In *England*, mining has become one of the most popular modes of investment, and every new scheme finds abundant means and the best class of men for its management.

Our country is one vast bed of mineral wealth, yet in its whole extent there are but few paying mines, and those few are the only instances where capital has been judiciously expended, and skill properly applied, in developing the veins of ore. We do not know of a single instance in this country where a good mine, with a sufficiency of capital and properly-applied energy, has failed to be productive ; and wherever good mines have failed and been abandoned it will be found that ignorance and want of energy were the causes of such result. It is a notable fact in *England* that some of their richest mines have been those which have been abandoned as unworkable by some previous company.

Metals are now higher in price than ever before known during this century, and mining never so remunerative as now.

The great increase in consumption of copper, lead, silver, zinc, and tin, has already called forth comment in the *London Times*, for it is feared the home supply will soon be inadequate to their own wants, and they are now casting their eyes towards the United States as the only country that can be counted on for an increase of the supply, even in sufficient quantities for the actual wants of the two countries. With this state of things to encourage us, it seems quite time to bestir ourselves and devote a part of our energies to internal development. There is not a State in the Union but might add a large annual increase to its wealth by properly applying a portion of their energies to the working of their mines, and I believe we all feel that we ought to supply our own wants from our own resources, without paying annually so many millions to foreign countries for that which is so abundant at home.

The English mines are worked at great depths, and in no other country in the world is mining carried to such a degree of skill and perfection ; and small as their territory is, they have more active mines than the rest of the civilized

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