

dentally, having met this gentleman, Capt. Retallack, at Rideau Hall, and whose name had been mentioned to me by Col. Dennis, who was then asking my advice and opinion about some mines he was taking up in the Rocky Mountains.

Q. Was Col. Dennis then Deputy Minister?—No; he had resigned.

Q. It was quite recently, then?—Last year. I said I never met Capt. Retallack until I met him at Rideau Hall, and I associated him in my mind as being a Cornish mining Captain. Shortly after his name had been mentioned to me by Col. Dennis—I, supposing, of course, that he had had been brought out by Col. Dennis—I was introduced to him at Rideau Hall, when I found that he was a military man and had been an A.D.C. in Canada. I had a long conversation with him about mines in general, and I asked him if he would not come and visit the Museum next day. He did so, and we had a very long conversation about mines and about the English capital invested in mines here. Incidentally the Haycock mine came up, and he asked me my opinion about it, which I gave him. I did not know then that he had ever seen it, but it turned out that he was the expert whom Mr. Simpson wished to keep away from me. He listened to all I had to say, but he did not tell me that he knew the Haycock mine or that he had anything to do with it. Shortly after he met Dr. Dawson, to whom he said: "If what Mr. Selwyn says about this mine is true, it is a very serious matter; I am heavily interested in it." Dr. Dawson said to him that he did not know anything about it, but he would look him up everything he could find on the subject, and I believe he did so. At that time Capt. Retallack had in his possession a prospectus marked "private and confidential," which was issued in London, and in which Capt. Retallack's and Mr. Haycock's names appeared, and also which my name was most unwarrantably used.

Q. As dooming the mine?—No; as speaking highly in favor of it.

Q. Whereas you doomed it?—Most decidedly.

Q. The mines of the Eastern Townships, for instance, do not owe much to the Geological Survey, for they have been adversely reported on and represented as consisting of pockets in rocks folding back on themselves, and so disturbed that no continuous lode could be found. Yet these are now yielding handsome returns and giving employment to a large number of people. Is not that the case?—I deny that altogether. I am not aware that it is the opinion of geologists.

Q. The other day we had evidence from a very high source that these mines were now being worked at an annual expenditure of a quarter of a million of dollars, and that some of them had proved very valuable?—What mines are those?

Q. I do not know the names of the mines; but I think they are near Lennoxville. The Haycock mine itself might prove very rich, might it not? We have instances of that kind in Lake Superior?—That is all supposition.

Q. Yes; I fancy there is a great deal of supposition?—That is the opinion of certain geologists, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it.

Q. But the Silver Islet mine was reported against, and still they have taken a good deal of valuable ore out of it?—Will you state what report?

Q. I am not here to answer questions, but to ask them. It was generally supposed that there was nothing to be found there, and then Mr. Macfarlane went up there and reported on the mine, taking with him \$15,000 worth of specimens down to Montreal. He and Col. Sibley came and developed the mine, and they took out three or four millions of dollars?—Has that anything to do with geology?

Q. The country generally was run down there?—I cannot refute the statements of geologists generally.

By Mr. Wood:

Q. Has the Haycock iron mine been worked or developed at all, since?—No; it is standing still, as far as I know. Large sums of money have been expended upon it, but not since the period I have spoken of.

Q. Not since you gave that opinion?—No.

Q. Then there is no means of ascertaining from actual experience whether your information with regard to the mine is correct or not?—That can only be done by further sinking.