

My suggestions with reference to the price of lands for mining and settlement, and also for the abrogation of the tax on ore, have been since carried out; and the recommendations therein contained, incorporated with regulations for the sale of mineral lands (which have been since published).

As to the question "whether I consider that copper exists in sufficient quantities to pay the expenses of working the same, and also with reference to iron and other minerals;" I beg to state that the time at my disposal was too limited to enable me to form any correct idea as to the quantity of copper, iron, or other minerals, but refer you to the Report of the Provincial Geologist, Sir W. E. Logan, for 1863.

7. At what points are mining operations now going on, so far as you know, and with what success?—The Wellington and Bruce Mines I found to be in active operations; the former worked by an English company (the Western Canada Company, limited), produces, I was informed, profitable returns, notwithstanding a large royalty paid by the company to the original proprietors. The same company has, since my visit there, purchased the whole of the Bruce Mine, which would appear to be an indication of their success.

About three hundred families were settled in the vicinity, most of them being employed at the mines, at remunerative wages, \$1.15 per day for men, and boys in proportion.

8. What are the facilities for reaching the mineral deposits on the coast, and in the interior?—The facilities for reaching the mineral resources on the Canadian side of the Lakes are not by any means such as to encourage private enterprise, and I endeavored in my report (see answers 4, 5 and 6) to point out that the erection of light-houses, the improvement of navigation, and the encouragement of steamboat communication should receive the attention of the Government.

A canal will also have to be constructed at Sault Ste. Marie (as pointed out in my report), the site for which should be reserved through the lands along the river and islands near the village.

At present the steamer *Algoma* plies between Collingwood and Lake Superior as far as Fort William, calling at Batchewannung Bay three times a month, leaving Collingwood on the 1st, 11th and 21st of each month.

9. Are you acquainted with the mining operations on the south shore, or American side, of the Lakes?—I am not.

10. Please inform the Committee as to the character and extent of the mines there, when you visited that locality?—I have never visited the mines on the south shore.

11. Are you acquainted with the system of granting lands on the south shore; if so, please state its leading features?—

12. What is your opinion of the American system as compared with ours?—One of the features of the American system is the mode by which the survey of public lands is effected.

The surveys are given out by contract to the Deputy Surveyors at so much per mile, the result has been that numberless frauds have been perpetrated. Field notes and plans have been manufactured, shewing townships as surveyed which the contractor never so much as saw or visited; lakes, swamps and lands unfit for settlement have been thus shewn on plans, and described in field notes, where excellent land existed which was thus shut out from sale and settlement for a length of time. In other cases, in consequence of the Surveyors having found that the rates could not possibly remunerate them, the surveys were so badly and imperfectly performed as to afterwards lead to a vast amount of litigation.

An immense amount of re-surveying has thus been forced upon the American Government, greatly enhancing the cost of the survey of the public lands (see Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the year 1849). On page 293 it is stated that in seven townships, surveyed by one individual, "it was found that less than one-third of the lines and courses described in the field-notes, had any existence on the ground; the few that could be found were very badly marked, and so erroneous that an entire survey is necessary."

In one of the seven townships which have been re-surveyed, "it appears that the aggregate length of all the lines that were run therein by the original contractor does not exceed two miles or about 1-30th part of the division that he was paid for."