The most important mines of the district south of Trondhjem, are the copper mines of Röraas and its neighborhood, the chrome mines on the Dovrefjeld, and the nickel mines of Espedal.

The rocks around Röraas consist of micaceous slates, partly chloritic, and partly argillaceous. They graduate into glossy clay slates, and are sometimes described simply as green slates. These frequently assume the character of fahlbands, being impregnated with pyritous minerals, and weathering red. The deposits of Röraas, which have been worked since 1744, seem to partake of this nature. They form layers in the slates, varying from one to fourteen feet in thickness; the whole of which, however, by no means consists of cupreous minerals, but usually of many small pyritous beds, lying side by side; these being again divided into smaller ones, separated from each other by scales of chlorite schist. The preponderating ores are copper pyrites, and iron pyrites, which are sometimes mixed with magnetic pyrites and zinc blende; while chlorite, brown mica, quartz, garnet, actinolite, and asbestos, also accompany the metallic sulphurets. The ores, as they are delivered to the smelting houses at Röraas and Foldal, average only five per cent., and frequently are as low as three per cent. They are roasted in heaps, and then smelted to regulus in shaft furnaces; little or no flux being required. The resulting regulus is roasted repeatedly upon hearths, (stadeln) and again smelted, when black copper is obtained, which is refined on the small gahr hearth. The copper is principally sold for home consumption, but part is also sent to the Hamburg market, where it is known as "Drontheimer" copper.

The chromic iron mines of Röraas in Sundal, and in Lessöe, have been, and still are wrought with very considerable success. They all occur in serpentine, and in one year as many as 100 have been worked. Some of these are large and regular deposits, and others are of less extent. The most important of them are situated in the districts to the east of Röraas, Röhammerne, and Feragsfjeldene, and are owned and worked by the proprietors of the chromate of potash manufactory at Leren. Three different sorts of ore are produced at the mine, : No. 1, the best, which is exported to England, although its content in chromic oxide is much beneath what is usually contained in the Baltimore ore; No. 2, an inferior sort, which is worked up into bichromate of potash at Leren; No. 3 is a still poorer quality, which is stamped and washed, the products being also used in the manufacture of