

Over a great part of its extent this bed is denuded of the overlying strata making it accessible over large areas for open-cut mining.

QUANTITY OF ORE.

The area of the lower bed upon Bell island is $817\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Counting 10 cubic feet of ore to the ton and considering the bed 8 feet thick, which is a fair average.

$$\frac{817.5 \times 43560 \times 8}{10} = 28,488,240 \text{ tons.}$$

The area of the upper bed is 240 acres and its thickness 6 feet.

$$\frac{240 \times 43560 \times 6}{10} = 6,272,640 \text{ tons.}$$

This gives a total upon the island of 34,760,880 tons.

As will be seen from the sketch of the outcrop this quantity can be legitimately considered to be in sight.

The outcrop inland and the exposures in the cliffs give access to the beds from all sides.

SHIPPING FACILITIES.

Conception Bay, to the north-east of Bell Island, opens gradually towards its mouth into the Atlantic ocean, so that with northerly winds the side of the islands on which the ore is situated could not be used for shipping purposes, consequently shipping has to be done on the south side. A small beach near the east end and the situation of the island itself form a perfect shelter from northerly winds, and the mainland being close to hand on the south and east no ocean swell is to be feared from that direction; consequently the pier is so situated as to be perfectly safe with the wind from almost any quarter of the compass.

The waters of the bay are deep and free from rocks and shoals, the bottom being mud near the pier affords admirable anchorage.

Near the island the admiralty charts show from 8 to 14 fathoms of water on the southern and from 6 to 20 fathoms on the northern shore.

The bay is navigable from 8 to 9 months in the year.

EQUIPMENT.

The ore being obtained by open cut work from the outcrop an elaborate mining plant is not necessary. Two systems are employed for