

Q. Would that not operate against the diamond drill in boring it, because if the rock is corrugated, it might be reached and still be missed?—If you take an angle of 45° you would cut the leads.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You think that the principal rules which govern these deposits ought to be determined by the Government or by the Geological Survey?—Undoubtedly.

Q. Would you give the Committee your opinion as to the value and importance of procuring and preserving mineral statistics in some office like that of the Geological Survey?—That would be of the greatest advantage to practical miners like myself, to get a report of what has been done in each of the mines and put it before the public, and it would be just the thing to induce capitalists to invest their money. The only visit ever paid me from the Geological Survey was last summer, by a Mr. Torrance, who was equipped with very poor tools—I might say they were not fit to send a man to the field with—and, to the present, I have heard nothing of the results of his operations. I think the people of this country ought to get the benefit of this information at the exact cost of printing and publishing, and there should be no commissions on it to book-sellers to increase its cost.

*By Mr. Dawson:*

Q. Would it not be greatly to the advantage of the phosphate industry if people going to the Geological Survey were able to get reliable information regarding it, and would it not lead to the development of the country if strangers and capitalists coming here were able to get reliable information?—That is just what we want, and would greatly facilitate our work. So far we have had a hard time of it, in working up the business and showing that there is money to be made at phosphate mining by practical work. One thing, however, that would greatly aid us in inducing capitalists to invest, would be to make use of our refuse. Something must be done in this direction; I have spoken to several capitalists about it, and they seem willing to take hold of it. I am speaking of the manufacture of fertilizers, super phosphates, and other powders, that could be manufactured along with the same business. There is a large amount of phosphate, from 60 to 65 per cent., which is at present wasted, and if this were manufactured into these fertilizers, we could make our quality much higher and much more uniform for shipment. If this refuse or waste were utilized in this way, it would almost pay the working of the whole mine. Another which might be mentioned is that we have large deposits of copper pyrites, which contain a good deal of sulphur, and which is very injurious to the vegetation close by, and this might be used in the manufacture of fertilizers, if some encouragement were given to a company in the way of a site for the buildings, free from taxation, and their machinery be allowed to be brought in free of duty. In the Province of Quebec a large quantity of superphosphates was brought from France by the Provincial Government, and distributed round to the farmers, but I am sorry to say it was of poor quality, and some of it is lying at the stations yet. If the Government, after a company was established here, would take so much of the manufactured article and distribute it round to the farmers and get a direct report as to the benefit of it, they would open up a market for the manufactory, after it got into good running order. Our farmers here are not educated to use fertilizers, and that is why I think that method should be adopted to establish a sale of the article, and in doing so they would be greatly assisting in the development of the phosphate industry.

Q. You have no reason to suppose that phosphate extends beyond the region or tract of country you have mentioned?—I have no reason to doubt it.

Q. It might extend up the Ottawa here?—We cannot tell. There is said to be some back of Quebec. Of course my statements are all practical and of my own knowledge.

Q. And you have reason to believe that the area over which it extends is much greater than you have mentioned?—I have no doubt it extends over a much greater area.

*By Mr. Holton:*

Q. Are you a geologist?—Nothing more than what I have read.