

was gold. This find was on what was afterwards named the Richardson mine. Other discoveries in the same and neighboring townships followed, and caused a violent attack of the gold fever in the towns to the south. Probably less than \$100,000 worth of gold was obtained in all from the region, and five times as much was sunk in useless plant. The failure seems to have been due partly to the pockety nature of the deposits, partly to the refractory character of the ore; for instance, near Deloro, where it is arsenical pyrites, but largely to ignorant and extravagant management. In 1871 gold was found by the McKellars in the western part of the province at the Huronian mine. Since then the yellow metal has been discovered at many points between the Madoc region and the Manitoba boundary. In fact it may be said that few gold producing countries in the world can boast of so wide a stretch of territory that has been proved to be more or less auriferous. Wherever the Huronian rocks appear there is a probability of the occurrence of more or less gold in them.

In spite of all this but one mine, the Sultana, near Rat Portage, can be said to have proved itself a paying venture, though several others begun within the last year or two promise well. The richest specimens come from the Ophir mine and Shoal lake on the Lake of the Woods, and from Wahnapiæ; but up to the present mines showing less brilliant specimens seem more likely to prove of permanent value.

The most hopeful portion of the Ontario gold mining region at present is the Lake of the Woods, where at least two mines, the Sultana and Regina, are producing their bricks of gold with great regularity. The Rainy Lake region, after a year of blank depression, is beginning to revive, and there is a probability that some of the true fissure veins on Shoal lake will be worked energetically during the coming year.

The Manitou region is attracting much attention, but is still only in the prospecting stage. The Harold lake property, opened up by the energetic Wiley Brothers, is also a producing mine and seems to have passed the experimental stage.

In and near Moss township, which has the once famous Huronian mine in its centre, interesting gold discoveries have recently been made, and a very large deposit of gold bearing quartz is being explored by the McKellars near Jackfish bay, on the north shore of Lake Superior, with results that promise well.