

ships, are themselves a large inducement to the miner. Throughout several counties hydro-electric power is obtainable at very moderate rates, and the prospecting chances are excellent. Labour is not expensive. Supplies can be readily obtained. Hence with the marked advantages such as good transportation, equitable laws, and accessible markets, there is every reason to think that Quebec is the "real tip."

We quite realize that it is impossible to give specific directions to the investor, yet it is quite within the bounds of editorial propriety to suggest certain lines of activity. And our suggestions can be made without the least element of invidiousness. We are convinced that the investor who knows his business sufficiently well to employ a properly qualified engineer, need take less chances in Quebec than in any other part of the continent. We say this advisedly.

By the same token this remark applies to Eastern Ontario, to portions of British Columbia, and to large areas of Nova Scotia. The success of one company means much to any community. It also has its bearing upon analogous ventures in other parts of the Dominion. The Weedon mine, as an example, may be looked upon as the keynote of the mining situation in the Eastern Townships.

Apart, however, from the purely commercial phases

of mining, there is much to be learned about all countries. Quebec in a sense is terra incognita to the public. It is our privilege to publish the first authentic series of articles dealing with the mineral resources of the province. We hope and believe that the information collected for this issue of **The Canadian Mining Journal** will prove acceptable to our readers. This special number is one of several that we intend to publish during the current year. Each Province will be given all warranted publicity.

It is our good fortune to have friends upon whom we may call. Dr. James Douglas, the Hon. Mr. Devlin, Mr. Theo. Denis, Mr. J. Obalski, Mr. John E. Hardman, Mr. Fritz Cirkel, Mr. James Ross, and several others have contributed to these columns. To them our hearty thanks are due. Each has willingly done his utmost to assist us. If from all the other Provinces of Canada we receive the same whole-hearted support that Quebec has given us we shall be fortunate indeed.

It is a matter of sincere regret that space limitations prevent us from publishing several very timely articles that have been submitted to us. These articles will appear in later issues, and will, we hope, lose nothing in not being included in this number. Their non-appearance is altogether a question of printer's exigencies.

## A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF GOLD AND COPPER MINING IN QUEBEC

Written for the Canadian Mining Journal by Dr. James Douglas.

A historical sketch of Canadian mining should really begin with Jacques Cartier's mining for gold at Cap Rouge, and carrying back with him to France either some crystals of pyrites or flakes of mica, to be there disabused of the idea that all is gold that glitters. Talon, the great Intendant, sent Jolliette to confirm the Jesuit stories of native copper from the shores of Lake Superior. His enemies claimed that he was really promoting his friends' and his own dishonest traffic in furs under the guise of developing the national resources. How curiously history repeats itself!

The first real attempt to work the copper of Lake Superior was made at the instigation of the famous trapper, Henry. Unfortunately, Townsend, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who framed the famous stamp act policy, lost money in the enterprise, and may thereby have been prejudiced against America, its people and its resources.

The only mining and smelting done under the French regime was on the bog ores of the St. Maurice. They continued to attract capital up to our own day. The story of their exploitation has been often and well told.

It was not until the close of the first half of the past century that there was any mining excitement in Canada. It was really started by the discovery of a nugget of gold on the Chaudiere River by a French girl, and the narration of her find by Captain Baddeley in Silliman's Journal. Some years elapsed, however, before

any active gold washing was prosecuted on the tributaries of the Chaudiere. The greatest success was secured by a brother of Sir William Logan at the mouth of the Du Loup. The right to mine for gold was secured from Mr. De Lery, the seignior who had obtained a perpetual patent to mine for gold on his property, and transferred his rights to the Chaudiere Mining Co. It operated quite extensively, but unprofitably, on the gravels of the River Gilbert, or Tuffe de Pina. Subsequently the rights were secured by my father, Dr. James Douglas, but all work done was under license by the habitants themselves, and particularly on the gravels from the bed of the Des Plantes stream. All these streams flowed into the Chaudiere from the west. The present hydraulic gravel washing on a large scale is on the River DesMeulles, which flows into the Chaudiere from the east. The banks of the Gilbert and the Des Plantes above usual water level were known to be auriferous in the early days, and in places the gravels were rich enough to be worked by the Long Tom and the cradle; but the quantity of gravel available was not at that time deemed great enough to warrant the introduction of hydraulic on the California model.

The great quartz veins which are exposed at the Devil's Rapids in the Seignory of St. Francois, and at the falls above the junction of the Chaudiere and the Du Loup, offered a tempting inducement to engage in quartz mining; but, although gold bearing, the average