

Gold Hill mines, are now giving profitable results. Should intelligent prospecting, followed up by the judicious expenditure of capital and directed by a thorough knowledge of gold-mining, be ever brought to bear in this direction, I have little doubt the result will some day bear out the supposition that gold-mining will become one of the industrial resources of the island.

Nickel.

The frequent mention of the occurrence of magnetic pyrites (Pyrrhotite), though in small quantities only, is significant. This mineral does not afford much iron of value, nor can it ever take the place of the ordinary pyrites as a sulphur-producing ore, but the frequent presence of nickel in greater or less quantity associated with it is a matter of very great import. The now celebrated nickel mines of the Sudbury district, north of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron, yielded, according to the Canadian mining statistics for 1890, nickel to the value of \$933,232. The ore producing this metal is a nickeliferous pyrrhotite, which yields on an average about 3.52 per cent. nickel, while it ranges from 2 to 5 per cent. Though no large deposits of this mineral were met with last season, its presence in small quantities, chiefly disseminated through quartz veins at several points along the line, should prove an incentive to search for the ore. Large deposits occur in several places around Notre Dame Bay especially in association with some of the copper ores. A suspicion of their nickeliferous character induced me last winter to send a few specimens of these ores to Canada to have them tested. Through the kindness of Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, the then Director of the Dominion Survey, they were submitted to the Assayist of the Survey and returned. The result showed the presence of nickel in small quantity in each specimen, and though not sufficient to make the mining of the ore remunerative, should at least be an inducement to mining prospectors to look more closely after this class of ore, hitherto totally neglected.

The following are the assays referred to, the percentage of nickel given being in proportion to the whole mass of the specimen both rock and ore:—

- No. 1 Nickel: 0.33 per cent. cobalt trace;
- No. 2 Nickel: 0.14 per cent. cobalt trace;
- No. 3 Nickel: 0.08 per cent. cobalt trace.