

gold, to a small extent, which is more than balanced by expenditure in police! From the accounts of the provinces named, from 1880 to 1886, the following is given as the revenue and expenditure under this branch of service:

Nova Scotia.		
Year.	Revenue.	Expenses.
1880.....	\$ 49,294.11	\$ 6,000.00
1881.....	70,602.82	6,638.79
1882.....	101,768.28	10,161.90
1883.....	198,977.84	10,785.36
1884.....	122,024.20	10,000.00
1885.....	100,692.50	10,720.75
1886.....	119,367.03	10,538.65
Total.....	\$972,726.78	\$64,844.86

British Columbia.		
Year.	Revenue.	Expenses of Provincial Secretary and Minister of Mines.
1880.....	\$18,966.50	.....
1881.....	43,813.60	.....
1882.....	46,098.70	.....
1883.....	38,197.75	.....
1884.....	32,652.50	.....
1885.....	37,642.60	.....
1886.....	70,500.00	\$13,390.00
Total.....	\$287,811.65	\$13,390.00

Ontario.		
Revenue from Sale of Mining Lands in Unsurveyed Territory.		
Year.	Revenue.	Expenses.
1880.....	\$ 938.98	.....
1881.....	120.00	.....
1882.....	1,820.00	.....
1883.....	12,073.00	.....
1884.....	12,213.00	.....
1885.....	3,551.00	.....
1886.....	9,023.00	.....
Total.....	\$39,738.98	.....

Quebec.			
Year.	Sales, Woods and Forests.	Revenue from Gold Royalty.	Expenses of Collecting Royalty and Police.
1881.....	.....	\$ 893.00	\$ 432.30
.....	Mineral Lands	.....	.....
1882.....	7,905.85	2,908.00	3,133.57
1883.....	15,907.48	1,620.00	4,037.30
1884.....	27,012.15	1,000.02	4,926.02
.....	Mineral Land	.....	.....
1885.....	1,966.60	525.00	4,078.53
Total..	\$52,792.08	\$7,091.32	\$16,607.72

Recapitulation.		
	Average Annual Revenue from	Average Annual Expenditure.
Nova Scotia—Rent or Royalty.....	\$96,103.82	\$9,263.55
British Columbia—Rent or Royalty.....	41,114.52	say 10,000.00
Ontario—sales.....	5,676.99	no figure given
Quebec—sales.....	13,128.02	3,321.54
Average royalty.....	\$1,418.26.	.....

It is, therefore, apparent that Nova Scotia has an average annual income from royalty or rent of minerals equal to \$96,103, collected at a cost of \$9,263, and British Columbia also receives yearly from rent or royalty \$41,114, at a cost of say \$10,000, while in Ontario and Quebec the mining interests are so mismanaged that little or no revenue is derived from rent or royalty, but the future welfare of the mining industry is sold unconditionally to speculators and farmers by the Local Legislators of the last mentioned provinces, "having no care for the future and letting the future of the mineral wealth of these provinces take care of itself."

The Mowat administration has a supreme contempt for "Old Tomorrow," and does not lay up treasure in the development of the mines and minerals of the country, although the Hon. Mr. Pardee writes an annual report in glowing colours of the great mineral wealth of the province, but sells as mining lands for a small sum to such of his unbelieving friends as do lay up treasure in the unconditional ownership of the miner's portion. What must our admiration be of his glowing reports which describe unbounded mineral wealth while no means are taken to make it a source of provincial revenue or advancement, but as is proved by the figures and doings of that department, this is placed in the hands of those who are party friends or agents, and held in reserve for these party agents even when applied for by prospectors and explorers? Hence the necessity for the location of a mineral discovery on the ground by the discoverer and then in the Land Office, and thereby avoiding the present legalized system of abuse—we had almost used a stronger term. The Hon. Mr. Pardee does not even condescend to state how much is actually received from mining land sales, except those in unsurveyed territory. Why is he ashamed to do this? Does he dread the exposure of the names and thousands of acres of mineral lands held by political friends possessing the special qualification of calling themselves "Reformers," but whose principal "reform" is to appropriate legally under the present unjust system of granting mining lands, the hard earned labour of such unfortunate explorers or prospectors as fall into the trap laid for the innocent and unsuspecting. Nor yet is the hon. gentleman content with writing a glowing mining report, but he has special agents. It would be interesting to know what the qualifications and remunerations are of these employees of the Ontario Crown Lands Office. Do they consist in *slaughtering* the interests of prospectors and miners who desire to earn an honest living? or of *sticking* and *bleeding* capital due to early trade experience which shows a strong hereditary tendency to develop, or *butchering* a good mining prospect? Or *fleeing* a good mining company which has to pay for errors and blunders due to ignorance or inexperience in the business? Does the Mowat Government do such an agent justice if they merely print a very self-interested report, and can such an expenditure of personal advertising be considered a wise expenditure of the people's money? We regret, exceedingly, the state of the Hon. Mr. Pardee's health, and trust that for his own sake and the good of the mining interests of the province he will retire into the sweet shades of private seclusion where he will better aid by his absence from office the interests of the mining community, and we sincerely trust that his successor will not encourage the present system of locking up large sections of our mining lands for party friends and special agents or reporters on mining matters.

In the Province of Quebec the condition of the mining laws is equally unsatisfactory with that of Ontario, and it is to be hoped that the present Government will consider this matter at least from a point of self-preservation if not from the higher motive of the greatest good for the largest section of the community, and not in the special interests of a few partisans as is the case in Ontario. In the report for 1880-81 it is stated "The Quebec General Mining Act was sanctioned on the 24th July, 1880, and consequently was not in force during the whole of the period embraced by the present report. However, during the short space of time which has elapsed, it has already begun to produce the two-fold effect which the Legislature had in view in adopting it namely, increasing the revenue and more especially developing the mining resources of the country. In proof of this statement I have but to refer to the figures given above and to the statement annexed hereto."

In 1885, however, the mineral land sales only amounted to \$1,966.60, so that the speculation in mineral lots was not even benefitted by the Quebec General Mining Act, as was expected. The craze for speculating in phosphate lands during 1882, 1883 and 1884 having collapsed in 1885, and in the report for that year it is stated that "a sum of \$525 for mining licenses was levied on the parties engaged in mining. The corps of police employed to collect these fees and maintain order in the Chaudiere mining division cost the province \$4,078 53!" When such is the state of affairs in Ontario and Quebec, is it not time that the example of the sister provinces of Nova Scotia and British Columbia was introduced? Mining statistics we hold to be within the supervision of the respective provinces, and is only a little closer related to geological work than is the agricultural industry, and if so why not open experimental mines for the development of the mining industry in new or unproved districts with free or convict labour?

Ground Phosphate.

A conviction of the utility of the application of crude phosphate to the soil is steadily gaining way. Experiments with Canadian phosphate at Newport during the past season have shown a marked effect upon grape vines in hot houses, and its effect upon garden plants has been established beyond dispute. Many small manufacturers are glad to get the ore in the pulverized state for treatment with acid, and there seems to be much encouragement for the erection of grinding mills.

The mills at the Basin du Lievre have been kept busily at work and a shipment of 300 tons of the ground ore has been made to Hull, England. In the future it is probable that the high grade ore will be selected for shipment abroad in the crude state and all the low grade ore will be ground and raised in quality by