

company has been organized, and operations have been begun which appear to promise success ; but the value of a new method of treating gold ore cannot be proven in a day. Of the Algoma and Lake of the Woods locations nothing can be definitely asserted, excepting that rich specimens have been obtained from them. None of the properties have yet been developed to a satisfactory extent. The silver veins of the Lake Superior region give promise of far better things. The Silver Islet vein, discovered in 1868 and sunk upon to a depth of 1,260 feet, has yielded ore to the value of \$3,000,000, and it is probable that the mine might be working yet but for the mistakes which characterized its management. Several other properties have been operated in the vicinity of Port Arthur, but none of them have been productive on a paying scale. The mines which are being worked at present are situated between Rabbit Mountain and Whitefish Lake, south-west of Port Arthur, the first discovery of silver in this district having been made in 1882. The veins are found in the black shales of the Animikie formation, in widths ranging from two to six feet, and at several mines they have yielded large quantities of silver. The greater number of the properties are owned by American companies, but English capital is also being invested, and more is likely to follow in the near future. Those best able to express an opinion do not hesitate to say that this is one of the most hopeful of the mining districts of Ontario, and when the railway now under construction from Port Arthur is completed to Whitefish Lake opportunities for working the mines upon an economic basis will give a healthy stimulus to operations. The history of copper mining in the Province is almost of a piece with that of iron mining ; it is a record of failures. At Bruce Mines, at Mamainse and on Michipicoten island operations were carried on many years ago, with varying success. At the two latter places capital was wasted under bad management, and but little ore was raised. The Bruce Mines locations were opened about the year 1854, and work continued upon them down to 1876. The ore was moderately rich, and had the business been carefully