

THE DISTRICT.

The district discussed in this report lies in that part of the province of Quebec which is southeast of the St. Lawrence river and south of the city of Quebec. It comprises the counties of Stanstead, Sherbrooke, Compton, Beauce, Sutton, Broms, Shefford, Richmond, Wolfe, Arthabaska, Megantic, Lotbinière, Bagot and Drummond. Being the first part of southeastern Quebec to be surveyed into townships after the English manner of survey, instead of division into parishes according to the custom that prevailed during the period of French rule in Canada, the district is commonly known as the "Eastern townships." As will be shown on a later page, this district is distinguished from the rest of the province by a difference of physical features, as well as by the accident of the mode of survey, and so is a natural division of the country.

The settlement of the Eastern townships began about the beginning of the last century, but it was some fifty years later that the hilly portions became sufficiently opened up by settlement for their mineral resources to be made known. By that time a single line of railway, the Grand Trunk, had crossed the district with a line leading from Montreal on the St. Lawrence to Portland on the Atlantic, and a branch line from Richmond, about the central point of the Eastern townships, had also been extended to Quebec.

I.

COPPER MINING IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

The occurrence of copper in the Eastern townships was known as early as 1841. In that year Sir William Logan examined a copper bearing property at Carbuncle mountain, Brompton lake. This was one year prior to the organization of the Geological Survey, of which Logan was the first Director.

In 1847 the Geological Survey report called attention to the deposits at Upton, and the reports of succeeding years mentioned or described other localities, until a compilation of these in 1866 gives a list of about five hundred localities in which copper was known to occur in the district. This mineral was vigorously sought for, and extensively mined between the years 1859 and 1866. With the de-