

## MINING REVIEW

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## Canadian Mining Review.

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*The CANADIAN MINING REVIEW is devoted to the opening up of the mineral wealth of the Dominion, and its publishers will be thankful for any encouragement they may receive at the hands of those who are interested in its speedy development.*

*Visitors from the mining districts as well as others interested in Canadian Mineral Lands are cordially invited to call at our office.*

*Mining news and reports of new discoveries of mineral deposits are solicited.*

*All matter for publication in the REVIEW should be received at the office not later than the 20th of the month.*

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OUR attention has been called by a London, England, correspondent to numerous attempts that have been made during the past year to dispose of worthless mining properties to confiding English capitalists. It would appear that during last winter London was visited by certain speculators armed with bogus reports and false statistics concerning certain phosphate locations in the Perth district and in Ottawa County, and their method of offering these properties for sale on the London market was ingenious and well calculated to deceive the unwary. Skilfully executed maps of the country, where these imaginary phosphate mines were said to exist, were exhibited, accompanying which were most exaggerated and untruthful reports, signed by some audacious individual styling himself "Mining Engineer and Expert," setting forth the enormous value of the properties that were being offered for sale, and giving estimates of the cost of production and delivery from the mines to point of shipment. As a matter of fact these very

properties are known to be worthless, by those who are familiar with their location, and the figures given in the reports, as the cost of mining and transportation, are studiously cut down quite two-thirds, with a view to showing a fictitious margin of profit on an annual output which was represented absurdly in excess of anything that has yet been accomplished in this country. Neither pains nor expense was spared in preparing the maps, the plans of the mines and the reports, and had these people succeeded in accomplishing the object of their mission among English capitalists they would have been handsomely repaid for their trouble and outlay; but, so far as we can learn, the properties in question have not, as yet, changed hands. Such attempts, as the one we have just quoted, to bring our mining industries into disfavour, should be frowned down and exposed whenever they come to the knowledge of those who are interested in the future of Canadian mines. Capital is the one thing we are in need of for the development of our mineral resources, and it is our duty to prevent, so far as it lies within our power, its being invested in wildcat and bogus enterprises. The only way to encourage capital into the country is by guiding it at the outset into channels where it will be certain to find profitable investment. At once, when we have established a value for our mineral deposits and mines, ample capital is available for their development, but to induce capitalists, by misrepresentation, falsified statements and bogus reports, to invest money in Canadian mines, is to deal a death-blow to the country's enterprises. Such a calamity we will do all we can to avert.

It is, perhaps, a natural thing that the more successful a mining company is, the briefer becomes its annual or semi-annual reports. Shareholders, content with their profits, do not care for, nor do they need, elaborate explanations on technical points, says the *New York Engineering and Mining Journal*, and that this is strikingly shown in the case of the Callao mine, of

Venezuela, which can justly boast of being the most profitable gold mine in the world, now working. From 1871 to 1883, both inclusive, this mine produced from 169,955 tons of rock, 619,506 ounces of gold, valued at 59,648,821 bolivares or francs, out of which 20,447,000 bolivares of dividends were paid. The mine is now under technical management of American engineers, Mr. H. C. Perkins being superintendent, and Mr. Hamilton Smith, Jr., consulting engineer, whose reforms are beginning to tell handsomely in increased dividends. Working 3658 hours during the six months, the 60-stamp mill, the stamps dropping most of the time 65 times a minute, crushed 14,223 tons of rock, which, together with the product of some sulphurets and concentrates, produced 96,276 ounces of gold, valued at 9,269,311 bolivares, or roughly \$1,850,000, the dividend paid out of this product being 5,280,000 bolivares, or roughly \$1,050,000, equivalent to an annual net return of 32.8 per cent. on the nominal capital of 32,200,000 bolivares. Besides the dividends thus distributed, the company paid out 800,000 bolivares for the machinery for a new 40-stamp mill purchased in the United States, and now on the ground ready to be put up, and for sinking a new shaft, and 680,069 bolivares for the machinery of the Union mine. The result of operations at El Callao during the month of September, 1884, will be found reported in another column:

## A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY.

In the Kingston, Ontario, news items of 12th November we noticed that the County Council had on that day decided to memorialize the Government to legislate so that Canadian mines can be assessed beyond the assessment of the land. This would certainly be a short-sighted policy for any municipal corporation to pursue, as it is much more to the benefit of a municipality that mining industries should be fostered and encouraged in the immediate locality than that they should be thwarted and hampered by an imposed taxation, as any revenue derived therefrom would be a mere drop in the bucket as compared with the advantages to a community that are always to be had from the employment given and the money circulated by miners. In the phosphate districts of Ottawa County the