

Q. What assistance, to your knowledge, has the Geological Survey of Canada ever rendered towards inducing either foreign or domestic capital to be invested in the development of the phosphate interests?—None, to my knowledge. I find it one of the greatest difficulties to induce capitalists to come here without showing them the practical results of my working. We have nothing of the kind to refer them to, to get reliable information, in the way of reports made by scientists or anything of that kind.

*By Mr. Dawson :*

Q. If they come to the Geological Survey here they could get no information?—No; I knew of some parties who came here, and they went away disgusted.

Q. They would be just as likely to throw cold water upon it as not?—I never saw these parties afterwards. There have been scientists there exploring, surveying, mapping, etc., and I cannot get any information that is worth anything to me, nor can I get any report with anything in any part of the volumes issued by the Geological Survey. The only two I know of are Dr. Harrington and Mr. Willimott, and their work was devoted to East Wakefield and East Templeton. So far as the Rivière aux Lièvres, where the biggest deposits and the largest works are, is concerned, I cannot find anything in the Geological reports of any benefit. There was a Mr. Vennor, who labored in Buckingham, but I cannot find any report. They have whole pages written on private properties, but there is nothing to attract the attention of capitalists, either in England or the United States. Last year our company made a special business of bringing it before the Americans, and I have written several letters to the *Mining Record*, of New York, and also to my principal, Mr. Williams, and I see, at a meeting held in the United States, Dr. Hunt read a report on the Canadian phosphates, which will do a great deal of good. He has given some practical information which he got from the Manager of the High Rock Company, which produced as much as all the others together, until last year. It is difficult to get information from any other source than from these companies themselves. They have brought scientific men from the State of Pennsylvania to report upon it. So many people have been led astray by false statements, that we want something in the form of reliable reports, that could be relied upon by the investor or purchaser, and to which we could refer them. I noticed these remarks of Dr. Hunt, and I thought they would do a great deal of good.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. This essay by Dr. Hunt was recently read before the American Society of Mining Engineers, and had no connection whatever with the Geological Survey of Canada?—There is one other thing to which the attention of the Survey should be directed—at present we have to do it amongst ourselves, and we do not propose to do it for the benefit of the whole country—and that is, to ascertain the extent of the phosphate deposits. That question has often been asked me, and has never been answered yet.

*By Mr. Dawson :*

Q. You mean the extent of country?—Yes; and also the depth. It has been found to the depth of 150 feet, and the desposits are, to my own experience, larger as we go down. Although they are intersected every 12 or 15 feet by rock, they are in pockets, and get larger as they go down.

Q. You have no reason to believe that they die out?—If experiments were made which would lead to the putting in of expensive machinery, my impression is that we might go down 300 or 400 feet as easy as we now do with the whim and horse. In order that this difficulty might be overcome, test holes might be made with the diamond drill, in the vicinity of where the largest deposits have been found, to the depth of 500 to 1,000 feet; it would not be very expensive, and it is really a thing which should be done by the Government, in the general interests of the country.

Q. Do the leads go pretty uniformly down?—Where you get into the centre of the hill, the deposits go down pretty vertically.

Q. Do they keep a uniform shape in going down?—There is no such thing as a phosphate vein. It occurs in deposits or pockets, and is found in the leads of pyroxene rocks.