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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.

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There are, at the present time, substantial indications that capital is seeking investment in mines and mineral lands, and those mines and mining locations that possess real value will be favourably regarded. Unquestionably good properties are in demand, but as capitalists have learned to discriminate, valueless properties need not be presented to them.

The discoveries that have been made during the year just closed indicate, in some degree, the magnitude of the mineral resources of this Dominion. In the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, the North-West Territories, and in British Columbia, important discoveries have been reported and verified, and it is to be hoped that the fortunate discoverers will see how greatly it would benefit themselves and the mining industry of Canada were they to offer reasonable inducements to capitalists to come forward and assist in developing these mineral deposits in order that they may be made productive and profitable.

On another page will be found an interesting summary, by Edwin J. Ball, Ph. D., of the progress made in mining during 1885. Mr. Ball's reputation as a Metallurgist and the position he occupies in the Royal School of Mines, London, England, must render anything from his pen of interest to our readers.

We had hoped to have been in possession, before now, of a complete statement of the asbestos mining industry of the Eastern Townships for the season of 1885, including an account of the operations at the various mines, their total output and the exportation. It has not yet reached us, but will undoubtedly appear in our next issue.

Towards the closing of the past year there were indications of an upward movement in the iron market of the United States. Between the 1st and 7th of December there were enquiries on the Cleveland, O., market for 60,000 tons of pig iron, of which 40,000 tons were Bessemer. Under this active demand prices advanced materially, and are still steadily creeping up.

In the same market, during the year just closed, more iron ore was sold than in any former year in the history of the trade.

The Colonial and Indian Exhibition to be held in London, England, commencing on the 1st of May next, will afford Canada a great opportunity to exhibit to the world at large the vastness and variety of her mineral resources. If there is not a creditable display of the product of Canadian mines, the mine owners will be held responsible, as the Minister of Agriculture, through the Geological Survey Department, has extended to them every facility for forwarding exhibits free of charge.

The fact is beginning to dawn upon the minds of men that the production of mineral is the only legitimate object and purpose of mines or mining operations, and that a sale is not the chief thing to be considered in locating and developing a mining claim. Men also realize that there is a vast difference in the comparative values of a mine and a claim. Capitalists discovered this fact some time ago, and when miners and owners have the same convictions the march of improvement and prosperity will begin.—*Mining Review, Chicago.*

The Metallurgical Association, Limited, is the title of a new company, registered in London, with the large capital of £300,000, in £1 shares, to acquire and work patents. Here is the long-desired "opening" for all metallurgical cranks. The notice speaks of £300,000 as a "large capital," but it should have been at least £300,000,000; for even that would be a small sum, compared with the inventors' valuation of a few of the grand metallurgical inventions brought to our personal notice, and which have been held back, waiting for just this opportunity to "revolutionize science." We would recommend that the capital be at once increased to at least the figure we have mentioned, and that rules be adopted to secure the equitable and safe division of the dividends, and, in the interest of the strictest economy and safety, that no inventor shall be paid in cash more than ninety per cent. of his own estimate of the value of his invention. The company should have an expert board of managers, composed exclusively of inventors upon whom unappreciative, cold, and heartless scientists have frowned.—*Eng. and Min. Journal, N.Y.*

THE PHOSPHATE TRADE.

The last shipments of phosphate for the season, from Montreal, were made by Messrs. Wilson & Green and Lomer, Rohr & Co. on the 11th November, in S.S. Grassbrooke, to London, amounting to 629 tons, 419 and 210 tons respectively. We give below a statement of all the shipments from the opening to the close of navigation, from which it will be seen they have aggregated 23,908 tons, an increase of 1,765 tons over shipments for 1884. There has been a falling off in the amount forwarded from the Perth and Kingston districts, while the output of the Ottawa County mines has increased 2,055 tons. The prices realized for the year's production have been satisfactory to miners, some of whom have already made contracts for delivery next year at the current prices of the past season, which would indicate that they have been satisfied with the margin of profits these prices have afforded them. The increase in the annual production has not been as great during the past four years as there has been reason to expect, but there has been a steady increase, nevertheless, and it is not unlikely that it will be at a much larger ratio for the season of 1886. The production for the past five years has been as follows:—

1881.....	15,601 tons.
1882.....	17,181 "
1883.....	17,840 "
1884.....	22,143 "
1885.....	23,908 "

showing but a small increase for 1885 over 1884; but it may be said that the output for the season just closed, aggregating close upon 24,000 tons, has been of a higher standard than has ever before been forwarded from the phosphate mines of Canada, the analyses showing it to have analyzed over 80 per cent. Certain shipments from no less than four of the heavy producing mines have assayed upwards of 85 per cent. tribasic phosphate of lime, and we doubt if such results have been obtained at any other phosphate mines in the world.

The American Consul at Ottawa, Mr. T. W. Hotchkiss, in a recent report on the phosphate industry of Ottawa County, addressed to the State Department at Washington, says of Canadian phosphate: "When it was first introduced in the market it was looked upon with suspicion, through a want of actual and reliable knowledge of its value as a fertilizer; but to-day this state of things is entirely reversed, every pound of the output being contracted for by foreign buyers in advance of production. Being a more concentrated phosphate than is known to exist in any other part of the world, the product of Canadian mines is sought after to bring up fertilizers to a high percentage of phosphoric acid. Regarding the value of this apatite as a fertilizer, a reliable authority states that Canadian apatite contains 91.91 per cent. of tribasic phosphate of lime, according to the most scientific analysis. A comparative table of the composition of certain fluorapatites shows that, with the exception of three limited deposits in the West Indies and one in Spain,

CANADIAN APATITE RANKS HIGHEST.

It may now be said that from no other phosphate mines in the world have shipments been made of so high a standard as have been forwarded from Canadian mines during the past season."

The American Consul refers to recent foreign reports as showing that in those portions of Europe where sugar beet is extensively cultivated—France, Belgium and Denmark—no fertilizer has been found to equal the mineral