

latest and most approved pattern, with the intention of carrying out extensive boring operations on their claims. Owing to unlooked for delay in the delivery of the machinery, and the consequent lateness of the season when all was safely deposited upon the ground, the expert concluded it would be preferable to await another season before beginning work. He has recently returned to this country and is now I believe on the ground. Great hopes are entertained of a successful issue from this present attempt, with much probability of their being realized. The three wells previously bored in this locality all showed oil in greater or less quantity. The first after being shot, is said to have yielded 18 barrels of oil in the space of some forty or fifty minutes pumping.

There can be no doubt now, that the pyro schists at the base of the Silurian series, along the Western coast of this Island are frequently oil bearing, but to what extent has yet to be determined. Judging from the few trial borings that have so far been made, they certainly give fair promise of eventually turning out productive. So far as I can learn no well yet sunk in these schists has failed to show some sign of oil, and when it is considered that in Canada even the best wells do not average a barrel per day of 24 hours (in the case of the Petrolia oil field it is less than one-quarter of a barrel daily) there is good reason to look forward with hope to the future of our local oil fields. According to the latest Canadian statistics at hand, I find that there are 7,000 wells in the Petrolia fields, 1,600 in Oil Springs field, their combined production approximating 57,000 barrels per month or about 6.63 barrels per individual well. The other smaller oil fields in the same neighborhood do not even come up to this yield, but of course the annual production of all combined is in the aggregate a large output.

PYRITE.

As has already been stated the closing down of the Pilley's Island Pyrite Mine caused a very marked deficit in the value of our mineral products last year. An attempt has recently been made to re-open this mine by the Newfoundland Exploration Co., with what results remains to be seen. The same company have leased the old Terra Nova Mine at Bay Verte, where a large body of pyrites carrying about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of copper is known to exist. It