

The chief feature of the mining annals of Canada during the past twelve months is the introduction of British capital, several of our best mines having passed into the hands of English companies. We may now look with interest for the application to Canadian mines of wealth and skill sufficient to ensure sustained and well directed effort.

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

Gold.—The gold mines of the Chaudière Division have been idle during the past twelve months, but will probably not remain so long. Strong companies are in course of formation in Europe and elsewhere for the purpose of working them. The mines have now been sufficiently proved to justify our looking to them as a permanent source of industry when fairly taken in hand.

Two gold mines, the Gatling and the Williams, are profitably worked in Marmora, but we have failed to obtain statistics of their operations.

Silver.—The value of the Silver Islet Mine will appear from the subjoined statement, kindly furnished by Mr. Macfarlane, showing its products from the beginning:—

Total Value.	\$
	23,115 85
Value per ton.	\$
	1,646 80
	1,175 80
	1,148 04
	1,322 44
lbs. of Ore.	
	27,073½
	155 548
	971,921½
	1,151,537½

Under Montreal Mining Co.
 Under Silver Islet Mining Co. (1870).
 Do do (1871).

This mine was sold by the Montreal Mining Co for \$250,000. The purchase money was therefore trebled in two years by the product.

The "Thunder Bay Silver Mines Railway Company Act," and the "Thunder Bay Silver Mines Telegraph Company Act," were passed last Session to admit of the construction of a railway and telegraph connecting Thunder Bay with the railway and telegraph system of the United States.

Copper.—The West Canada Mines (Bruce and associated) have produced as follows:—

1869—2,180 tons, 19½ per cent. ore.
 1870—1,945 " do.
 1871—1,852 " do.

The capital of the company is £60,000 stg. 200 hands are employed.

The Consolidated Copper Company of Canada have acquired the Harvey Hill and the Ives Mines. The progress of these mines up to the present time, and their prospects under their new proprietors, are worthy of being considered at some length.

Work was commenced at Harvey Hill about twelve years ago by the English and Canadian Mining Company, who have so conducted their works as to make the mine the best proved and in the most advantageous position for profitable working in the Dominion.

The ore occurs principally in three great parallel beds, varying in thickness from four to eight feet, and bearing four per cent. of copper as a minimum. There are also three principal lodes, one averaging three feet in width, with a minimum of twelve per cent. of copper. The underground work consists of seven shafts, from twelve to forty fathom deep, and an adit driven into the hill side 248 fathom, intersecting the three cupriferous beds. There are all necessary tramways, waggons, &c. The surface works are crushing and concentrating works, capable of treating eighty tons of ore daily, with engine power sufficient to admit of that capacity being doubled at small cost; jigging, drying and other dressing houses; and two furnaces with apparatus for applying the Hunt & Douglas patent hurried process to the lower grade ores.

It is expected that the Harvey Hill Mine will shortly be in a position to send to market annually 2,000 tons of metallic copper, worth at present prices £225,000, and this rate of production may be materially increased in future. One year's yield of the Harvey Hill Mine alone would, therefore, nearly pay the purchase money (£245,000) of both that mine and the Ives, and also of others that may yet be discovered on the new company's extensive property. Speaking of this, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:

"For £245,000, certain disinterested Canadians have disposed of the richest copper mines in the Province of Quebec, extending over some 4,400 acres. At the present price of copper—and rates tend to raise rather than fall—the directors estimate that the annual return will be £244,417 per annum. In this case again, the property has been acquired for one year's purchase, and that without computing the value of the sulphur which exists in certain places in large quantities. Assuming a fall in copper to the lowest rate known for many years, the worst the shareholders will have to look to is a dividend reduced to 41 per cent. At the best, and by the introduction of some of the cheap and simple improvements of modern mining science, the returns will be "immensely enhanced."

The *Pall Mall Gazette* seems staggered by this example of Canadian disinterestedness, and appears to doubt the great value of the property so cheaply parted with. But we are familiar with instances of this kind. Witness Silver Islet.

In the Ives Mine, as in the Harvey Hill, the ore occurs largely in interstratified beds, two of which average six and eight feet in thickness, with variable thickness, sometimes as much as twenty per cent., the average, from wet assay, being 5.24 per cent. The wider bed is laid open for a