

(8.) *Refractory materials, Pottery Clay and Pottery.*—Plumbago or graphite, soapstone, potstone, mica rock, mica, asbestos, fire clays, sandstone (refractory), and pottery clay.

(9.) *Materials for Grinding and Polishing.*—Stone for manufacturing whetstones, hones, bath-brick, tripoli, grindstones and millstones.

(10.) *Minerals applicable to the Fine Arts and Jewellery.*—Lithographic stone, porphyrites, labradorite, albite, perthite, jasper conglomerate, amethystine quartz, agates, amber, Canadian precious stones.

(11.) *Miscellaneous.*—Sandstone for glass-making, moulding sand and clay, carbonaceous shale, artificial stone.

684. Apparently, the principal drawbacks to mining development hitherto have been: want both of capital and enterprise, and ignorance of the extent and locality of the minerals; but as the explorations of the Government Geological Survey are making these latter better known, public attention is becoming more attracted to our mineral resources.

Drawbacks to mineral development.

685. A large number of members of the British Iron and Steel Association visited the United States in the autumn of 1890, and many of them inspected the copper and nickel mines of Sudbury, and expressed themselves as astonished at the evidence of great mineral wealth they met with. It is hoped that, as a means of calling attention to the mineral resources of this country, their visit will have a beneficial result.

Visit of British Iron and Steel Association.

686. The Ontario Provincial Government, in 1888, appointed a commission to inquire into the mineral resources of that province and the best modes of developing them. In 1890 the commission published an exhaustive report, from which has been gathered the following description of the mineral wealth of Ontario:—In the central and eastern counties are magnetic and hematite iron ores, gold, galena, plumbago, arsenic, mica, fibrous serpentine, apatite, granite, marble and freestone. In the Sudbury district, copper and nickel mines are being worked on a large scale. In the township of Denison, rich specimens of gold-bearing quartz and extensive deposits of copper and nickel are found. Along the north shore of Lake Huron, from the mouth of the French River to Sault Ste. Marie, gold and silver-bearing mines, iron, copper, galena and immense quarries of marble have been discovered. North of the Height of Land and extending towards James's Bay, prospectors report a promising mineral region. North of Lake Superior, localities of gold, silver, copper, iron, galena, plumbago and zinc ores have been taken up, besides which there are inexhaustible supplies of granite, marble, serpentine and sandstone. West of Port Arthur is a silver district, which, judging from the explorations already made, promises to be an argentiferous region of

Mineral resources of Ontario.