

NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

high to compete with the phosphates of Florida and Tennessee, which can be cheaply mined with steam shovels.

The shale overlying the coal measures in the Grand Lake district, in New Brunswick, which has to be removed in mining the coal, is very suitable for the manufacture of highly finished facing brick, sewer pipe, mantels, and other vitrified products. It takes a very fine glaze, and becomes extremely hard. Treated in a different way it could be used for many purposes where a semi-refractory brick is called for, such as boiler settings, coke-oven blocks, stove linings, etc. At present it is a waste product, piled up in great dumps near the coal mines, but Mr. J. K. Keele, of the Canadian Geological Survey, submitted it to numerous tests with highly satisfactory results.

In Ontario there are a number of important pyrites deposits in Hastings county, and several mines are being operated. They are also found in many localities north of lake Superior, and are being mined in the Michipicoten district. Part of the ore is used in sulphuric acid plants in the province, and part exported to the United States.

Granite is quarried in Hastings, Leeds, Muskoka and Parry Sound, in Ontario; marble in Hastings and Lanark; sandstone in Carleton, Halton and Peel; trap rock in Peterborough county, near Bruce mines, on the north shore of lake Huron, and in the vicinity of Thunder bay; while slate has been found near New Liskeard, in the Nipissing district. In Nova Scotia granite is quarried near Halifax and at Nictau in Annapolis county. Very fine sandstones for building purposes are quarried in Cumberland and Pictou counties. New Brunswick is noted for its building stones. Granite is quarried near St. George's, Charlotte county, and at Hampstead, Queens county. Northumberland and Westmorland have sandstone quarries.

Discoveries of mercury have been reported at Field, in the mountains, and at Sechart, on the west coast of Vancouver island. Small quantities of mercury were mined some years ago at the western end of Kamloops lake. Small quantities of platinum have been recovered from many of the gold placer deposits in British Columbia. Clay for the manufacture of bricks is widely distributed throughout Canada. Fireclay suitable for the manufacture of firebricks has been found at Shubenacadie, in Hants county, Nova Scotia. Millstone grit is quarried in Pictou county, Nova Scotia, and manufactured into grindstones of excellent grades, ranging in size from very small stones to those used for the grinding of woodpulp, which weigh about two-and-a-half tons each. Grindstones are also manufactured in New Brunswick, in Westmorland, Gloucester and Northumberland counties, from millstone grit quarried in the neighbourhood of the works.

It is not pretended that this is a complete account of the minerals of Canada. In a new country of vast area discoveries are being made almost every day. Sometimes development work shows that the surface indications of mineral wealth were misleading. In other cases expectations are more than justified.

The writer has given a more complete description of the natural resources of the Dominion in the book "Canada the Country of the