

and assure the reader that they all bear the same general features, differing only in extent and modifications of the specular and magnetic ores. These ores have little or no resemblance to the brown hematite of the Iron Ridge, in Dodge county. The Lake Superior ores are found in a different formation, and the product is superior to that of the Dodge county ores. They exist in a rock form, requiring to be quarried, and furnishing the toughest bar iron in the world, as proved by experiments of the U. S. Government.

My object, in this article, is to show the people of this valley, the character of the mineral wealth which is found at the northern end of the North-Eastern railroad, access to which must prove of immense importance to the prosperity of the whole State of Wisconsin. The extensive manufacture of bar-iron and steel, within our borders, would add a new element of wealth, and preserve many thousands of dollars among us, which now go to the support of the population of other regions.

Foster, in his report, states, that he explored a ridge of ore on the Peshakame river, and found it composed of nearly pure specular oxide of iron. It shoots up in a perpendicular cliff, one hundred and thirteen feet in height, so pure, that it is difficult to determine its mineral associations. We passed along the base of this cliff for more than a quarter of a mile, seeking a gap through which we might pass and gain the summit. At length we succeeded. Passing along the brow of the cliff, forty feet, the mass was comparatively pure; then followed a conglomerate of quartz and rounded grains of iron disseminated. This bed was fifteen feet in thickness, and was succeeded by specular iron, exposed in places to the width of one hundred feet, but the soil and trees prevented our determining its entire width. This one cliff contains iron sufficient to supply the world for ages, yet we saw neither length or width, but only an outline of the mass.

*Watertown, December, 1856.*