

It is reported that some Eighty years ago valuable minerals were unearthed in fabulous quantities at Sudbury, now the nickel belt of the world. Very few of the residents of North Victoria and Haliburton counties can recall the search for hidden minerals. Seventy-five years ago when farmers, lumbermen and mineralogists were all a flutter and excited at the prospects of becoming rich.

There are, however, a number of people who remember the copper mines which was located on the Kinmount road, near Fenelon Falls cut-off. In fact evidence of structural shafts are still to be seen.

An interesting item regarding the early seekers for minerals in Victoria and Haliburton was reintroduced a few days ago when the following story (in part) came to light in a copy of a local newspaper dated 1891. Read and be amazed. The article: Victoria and Haliburton have been long known to be rich in iron and ore of the very best quality. Lead, gold, silver, platinum, asbestos, mica and phosphates abound.

On Sam Sudaby's farm in Sommerville samples of silver ore were discovered. This was in streaks as thick as a five cent piece. In Galway Township, South Kinmount, Messrs. McArthur, Ellis, and Martin, operated silver, lead and gold mines. All were found in paying quantities on the farm of Mr. Henderson. The Orange Lodge is reported to have been situated on a gold and silver mine.

In Minden many years ago, experts tested ore on Mr. Blair's farm at Blairhampton and at that time offered him a very handsome figure simply for the mining rights.

In Lutterworth and Snowden valuable deposits of iron, lead, and silver were known to exist. In Stanhope and Sherbourne there was evidence that nickel ore as fine as that at Sudbury was found. Printed reports states: The councils of Haliburton and Victoria, therefore, send representatives to Great

Britain with a view to interesting capitalists to open up the mines.

The report continues: Mineral wealth is known to exist in North Victoria and Haliburton. Shall it remain there for another million years undeveloped? Let us send Michael Brown of Minden, a man thoroughly qualified to his native mining districts to induce Capitalists to at least examine the resources of the north country."