

proper course to pursue. In conclusion, I will only add, that I consider the prospects of the mine very satisfactory, the patches of ore (for I can hardly look upon these deposits as true lodes since the character of the ore bearing rock is in no way different from the surrounding country) being numerous and rich, and following direct lines of fissure in the serpentine, and that the work which has hitherto been expended on the mine has been well advised. I would also add, that I think the erection of smelting works on the island for the present would be extremely ill-advised with the ready sale for the ore, which can be obtained.

The only dressing which I would advocate, is to spall and carefully pick the ore before sending it to the market, and this work can be done as at other places, by unskilled labour under proper supervision.

The Director of the Geological Survey,  
Wellington.

I have, &c.,  
S. HERBERT COX.

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