with limestone below it, but very little ore being met with. The outlook when visited was not very promising.'”

31. Thomas Richard, Jr. mine.—“This consists of a tract of several acres, covered with ore pits and surface excavations. The ore apparently only occurs in surface soil, and does not extend to any depth.’”

32. Messinger & Woodring’s farm.—“Here several shafts have been sunk, which are now closed. The ore at the mouths of these is abundant and the appearance is promising.”

33. M. Young’s mine.—“This has scarcely been developed, beyond sinking a well and commencing to erect machinery.”

34. Samuel Lefebre’s mine.—“This was formerly leased by the Coleraine Iron Co., who took out about fifty tons of ore and then abandoned it. The excavation is now almost filled up, and is overgrown with underbrush. The ore was taken out of drift and surface soil. There seems to be a good deal of ore in the surface of the field; but is is very questionable whether it would pay to wash the surface soil for it.”

35. Bahm mine.—This was one of the largest iron mines in the Saucon Valley. It is very close to the Lehigh County line. Some smaller openings are in that county. The excavation covers about two acres and is said to have been about 100 feet deep. It is now filled with water, said to be about thirty feet deep, and is used as a private swimming pool.

The ore mined averaged about 42 percent iron. The ore is reported to have occurred largely in rather definite veins (?) or bands about ten feet wide and was marked by the abundance of the bombshell ore. Even now one can easily find many of these hollow geodes, ranging in size from a few inches up to a few feet in diameter, as they are exposed from time to time by the erosion of the clay banks. Some are reported to have weighed as much as 200 pounds. Large and small pieces of silicified limestone were encountered in the digging, which was done entirely by pick and shovel. A considerable amount of carbonate ore is said to have been associated with the limonite.

It is estimated that altogether as much as 500,000 tons were obtained here. The date of the first work is not known. On March 1, 1856 leases on the Bahm and Gangewere properties were purchased from George Probst and Charles Wittman by the Thomas Iron Co. for $15,520. The ore was mined on a royalty, which varied from 25 to 50 cents a ton. Most was credited with the higher rate.

At different times the mine was worked by the Thomas Iron Co., the Bethlehem Iron Co. and the Coleraine Iron Co. After these companies ceased to work the property a Mr. Beidelman carried on some