THE CARTOON CHRONICLE OF COPPER CLIFF
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Copper Cliff, Ontario
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'Twas eighteen hundred and fifty-six,  
When first old A.P. came to town,  
A.P. Salter was his name,  
Surveying Creighton was his game.  

He noticed his compass beginning to spin  
The rocks, he concluded, had iron within.  
He reported this find to his boss, Alex Murray  
Who examined the rocks in a dreadful hurry.  

He published the find,  
But response was unkind...  
"Who cares about nickel?"  
they said, full of rue,  
"Unless you find gold,  
don't call us, we'll call you."

It was eighteen hundred and eighty-four,  
When Worthington's crew came to survey some more  
They were looking for land for the railway,  
(The great dream of our own Sir John A.)
Before we go further, let's hear from a man who was there. He can tell the story as no other can.

"Da railway, she came in '83. We had a blast rock, and we had a blast tree.

Da supplies, she was hauled by da horse in da mud,

It wasn't no fun, I'm telling ya, bud!

Da road, she was rough,
And da going was tough!

Dere were men by da thousands, ever' colour and creed,
Bread, beans and potatos was da stuff dat dey'd feed.

Sometimes we 'ad salt pork, canned beef, or some tea,
When da booze, she was smuggled in, happy we'd be.
Laying ties, breaking rock, da work, she was hard,
And da cabins, dey smelled 'cause for light, we burned lard!"
Now back to our tale, of adventure and glory,
This was no ordinary surveying story!
One man, Flanagan, discovered a hill,
That was with iron and copper filled.


The news of his find spread like dry forest fire,
The number of prospectors coming grew higher.

The Murrays, with Loughrin and Abott were first.
For adventure and riches, they all had a thirst.
Rinaldo McConnell and Joe Riopelle,
Adventurers both, they too fared quite well.
Frood, Stobie and Crean were three more
Of mineral wealth, they found quite a store.

A number of little towns started to grow.
The one we're concerned with is Cliff, as you know.
Our town was named for the ore on the hill,
Called Copper Cliff then, it remains that still.
The Canadian Copper Company, or Can. Cu. Co., was founded by Ritchie, a man with big dough. When Sam. J. learned from Sir Thomas Tate, "There's ore in them thar hills!", he couldn't wait.

Sir Tate showed Sam J. a piece of that ore, found in C.C., and Sam J. wanted more!

The demand for nickel was quickly rising, so Can. Cu. Co., being enterprising, started working their #1 mine, on Mayday, 1889.

(Actually, it was '86, but six just won't rhyme with nine!)