chief producers, while the latter is almost exclusively obtained from New South Wales. Of tin, however, the British empire supplies nearly two-thirds of the whole supply, due chiefly to the large output from the Malay States. Tasmania is also a fairly large producer of this metal. With reference to other important minerals, it may be noted that the empire produces nearly one-fouth of the world's supply of salt, and that small quantities of petroleum are obtained from Canuda and India.

Rossland Mining News,

Rossiand, B. C., March 25.—The output for the past week owing to a temporary mishap to the big holst at the Le Rol has not equalled that of the previous week. The corrected shipments of which were 9,277 tons, instead of 9,174 tons. The correct shipments, therefore, for the year up to, and including March 10, were 78,472 tons.

and including March 10, were 78,472 tons.

The autput for the week ending Saturday night was 8,610 tons, for the three previous weeks the shipments have averaged 0,000 tons per week. The Le Roi No. 2 has done especially well during the past week, having shipping 000 tons. This is a record week for the Prince, as the Le Roi No. 2 is called.

Following are the shipments for the week ending March 23, and for the year to date: Le Roi for the week 4,230, for the year 44,232; Centre Starfor the week 2,230, for the year 25,471; War Eagle for the week 700, for the year 8,154; Le Roi No. 2 for the week 900, for the year 4,840: Great Western for the week 350. Tor the year 1,838; Iron Mask for the week 90, for the year 1,838; Velvet for the year 563; I. X. L. for the year 92; Evening Star for the year 74; Spitzee for the year 60; Giant for the year 53; Portland for the year 87,682.

American Steel Combine from an English View-Point.

In the mind of the London Iron and Coal Trades Review "a consolidation of producers will be more likely to produce cheaply than an individual. That the steel meanufacturers of the United States will be able to produce more cheaply by their united action is more than probable. L'union fait la force. But how about the consumers? How, also, about the outside markets of the world, which it is the hardly-veiled aim of the American manufacturers to occupy to the fullest possible extent. There is not a little reason to suppose that if the schemes of American manufacturers and financiers are not defeated by internal dissensions European countries will find it more difficult to struggle against American competition with the new forces arrayed against them. It is not at all improbable that the new arrangements, resulting from these combinations will enable American manufacturers and inspections will enable American manufacturers in the competition will enable american manufacturers and manufacturers and manufacturers and manufacturers and financies are not defeated by internal dissensions. European countries will find it more difficult to struggle against them. It is not at all improbable that the new arrangements, resulting from these combinations will enable American manufacturers and and the competition manufacturers and the competition of the competition of the competition of the competition and the competition of the competition of the competition of the competition of the competition and the competition of the competition and the competition of the competition of the competition and the competition of the

American competition with the new forces arrayed against them. It is not at all improbable that the new arrangements, resulting from these combinations, will enable American manufacturers to produce steed 10s per ton chesper than would otherwise be portable. One authority assigns a saving of 5s to 6s per ton to the single fact that changing rolls will now hardly be necessary. There are other obvious and more or dess considerable economies which must profoundly modify the old conditions. It, therefore, becomes worth while to consider how our own country is likely to stand in relation to this new movement. "The total quantity of pig fron produced in the United Kingdom in 1899 was over 9,300,000 tons, and the total quantity exported as pig iron, and as finished iron and steel, allowing 10 per cent, for waste and loss in commission, would probably be about 4,100,000 tons, leaving 5,200,000 tons, es pig, to be consumed in the United Kingdom. To this is to be added the imports of iron and steel into the United Kingdom, which for 1899 were about 500,000 tons in terms of that commodity. It is obvious that if the government of the day were to consent to the imposition of import duties on the same scale as those levied in the United States, the manufacturers of the latter country could not materially affect, and would not in any way be able to control, this major quantity—at least not directly. It could only be affected by competition in shore branches of manufacture into which our home consumption of iron and steel enters, such as shirs, armor, holders, engines and machinery of all kinds.

"If, therefore, the American plan of campalian were likely to drive us into

a tight place, we should unquestionably be justified in looking to the government to do something to protect our great industry from threatened ruin. But many things are likely to happen before then. We may even adopt the America system at home, and "better the instruction." If consolidation is to be the final solvent and determinant of cheap production, and the retention of foreign markets, the system need not be limited to American experience. There were strongmen before Agamemnon, and Mr. Andrew Carnegle has no monopoly of astuteness and business capacity. But we prefer to believe that the latest American scheme is entirely too vast, too cumbersome, too unnatural, and too subversive of public and vested interests generally, to hold together for any length of time."

An Influx of Gold.

An Influx of Gold.

Prof. N. S. Shaler, a noted geologist of Havard University, predicts that there will be an influx of gold within the next forty years which is likely to produce serious economic complications. He bases his statement on the recent improvements in mine dredges, which make it possible to work thousends of square miles of gold-bearing territory which cannot now be profitably mined. Prof. Shaler, lecturing on the subject a week since, said that, according to his certimates, there are from 4,000 to 6,000 square miles of alluvial plains in America which will bear vast quantities of gold under the new dredging system, and he stated that it was practically certain that the quantity of gold in the world would be quadrupled within the next forty years. The quantity would, he said be increased tenfold were it not for the fact that the price of labor will advance with the increase of gold and make the working of the rockbeds and more expensive mines impossible. Prof. Shaler stated that there is \$50,000. make the working of the rockbeds and more expensive mines impossible. Prof. Shaler stated that there is \$30,000,000,000,000 worth of gold to be taken from the earth within the next century. Silver, he believes, will ultimately come to express international value, as it is buried not in alluvial plains, but deep down in the earth, where it can only be mined at a given rate.—Bradstreets.

The Loss of Gold.

The Loss of Gold.

"The annual loss of gold is very great. The amount of gold currency lost annually by wear and tear alone is considerable; McCulloch estimates it," says Chambers' Journal, "at 1½ per cent. of the total amount in circulation, or £7,500,000 for gold and silver combined. On this basis it may be calculated that the annual loss which actually takes place in gold alone by wear and tear is about £4,-000,000. Gold is lost in many other ways, vast quantities are hoarded (especially in foreign countries) and a large proportion of this is subsequently lost, as shown by the quantity of treasure trove which comes to the surface every year, though it probably represents but a small part of that which has been concealed, and every ship which founders at sea takes a certain amount of gold with it, which may a jount anywhere from a few years ago, when the annual production was about £24,000,000, it follows that the amount used in this way is about double that which is used as currency."

A. W. Ross, who was a prominent figure in Winnipeg in the early days of this city's history, died at Toronto on Saturday night last.

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