

What 'Peter Patterson' of the U. M. W. doesn't know about the coal trade to Nova Scotia would fill a letter to the Herald. Peter in his bland way, in a letter to the Labor Herald says:—"I would like to ask why there should be any rivalry between the working-men of the two countries, when there is none between the capitalists, and the sooner the workmen understand this the better for themselves and their families."

Why so Peter. What harm has the lack of this knowledge ever done. Will you please go a little more into details and tell us why it would be better for themselves and families if they could but get it into their craniums, that there was no rivalry between the capitalists of the U. S. and N. S. The fact of there being no rivalry between the capitalists of the two countries is not to the point Peter. If you want to produce an argument in favor of the absorption of the P. W. A. by the U. M. W. you will have to go a few paces further, and tell us that the N. S. coal operators are quite willing that their affairs should be managed by the operators of your country. Do you think our men would do that Peter? If you do, you don't know them, really you don't. The United States operators have not, so far as is known,—I am sure they have not, asked the N. S. operators to co-operate with them, let alone hand over their affairs to be managed in the U. S. And why have they not done so? Because they know there can be no real co operation between rivals: because they know that the interests of the N. S. operators and theirs are not identical, not by a 'long chalk'. But had they been asked the reply of the N. S. operators would be 'Oh no, we prefer to holler in our own water barrel'. And it is a surprise to me Peter, really it is, that when you asked the N. S. miners to come and play in your 'back' yard, they did not turn turk and tar you. You say further, Peter, that there can be no rivalry as your coal and ours goes to the natural markets of both countries. Well, that is only a half truth. If Ontario is a natural market for your coal, then you have it all. But where do we come in. Where is our natural market at your end. True, we send some slack coal to Boston but that is only by way of an oblige ment. Your natural market embraces all the country fifty miles west of Montreal. We have from there eastward. We have been trying for years, Peter, to get a slice off your market, ours being small, but with but poor success. Now, while we have been unsuccessful in invading your 'natural' territory, you have been successful in encroaching upon our preserves. You are actually this year supplying the Quebec Central with your coal, and listen, Peter, if the N. S. miners are so silly as to allow you to absorb them, b-o-t-s and body, I wouldn't be surprised after a while to hear that you had managed to secure a big slice of the G. T. R. and C. P. R. contracts, and then where would our natural markets be?

Coal Shipments MAY, 1908

—DOMINION COAL COMPANY, LTD.,—

—Output and Shipments for May, 1908—

—Output— —Shipments—

Dominion No. 1	49 339	
Dominion No. 2	65 594	
Dominion No. 3	36 271	
Dominion No. 4	36 759	
Dominion No. 5	63 651	
Dominion No. 6	22 544	344 225
Dominion No. 7	3 749	
Dominion No. 8	19 851	
Dominion No. 9	34 770	

	332 588	344 225
Shipments May 1907...		279 374
Increase " 1908.....		64 851

Shipments 5 mos. 1908.....	1 122 516
" 5 " 1907.....	999 736
Increase 5 " 1908.....	122 780

CUMBERLAND RAILWAY AND COAL CO.

Shipments May 1908.....	24 710
" " 1907.....	35 560
Decrease " 1908.....	11 850
Shipments 5 mos. 1908.....	169 238
" 5 " 1907.....	142 220
Increase 5 " 1908.....	27 018

INTERCOLONIAL COAL CO.

Shipments May 1908.....	22 623
" " 1907.....	21 813
Decrease " 1908.....	2 190
Shipments 5 mos. 1908.....	112 678
" 5 " 1907.....	109 553
Increase 5 " 1908.....	3 125

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.

Shipments May 1908.....	67 758
" " 1907.....	43 348
Increase " 1908.....	24 410
Shipments 5 mos. 1908.....	223 495
" 5 " 1907.....	163 627
Increase 5 " 1908.....	59 868

INVERNESS RAILWAY & COAL CO.

Shipments May 1908.....	29 429
" " 1907.....	21 044
Increase " 1908.....	8 385
Shipments 5 mos. '08.....	98 120
" 5 " '07.....	74 975
Increase 5 " '08.....	23 145

ACADIA COAL CO.

Shipments May 1908.....	25 483
" " 1907.....	24 047
Increase " 1908.....	1 436
Shipments 5 mos. 1908.....	131 898
" 5 " 1907.....	112 255
Increase 5 " 1908.....	19 643