

Also, though \$995.75 certainly is the average of the results of these five assays, as I find on computation, still this fact was not mentioned by me—it is certainly misleading and has no value at all. Altogether, it seems to me to be an impossibility to obtain an average of a vein in five specimens.

Re the Rabbit Mountain mine, my report states that silver ore was showing in the drift and cross cut. I did not state that any of it was being extracted.

Yours, etc.,
W. H. FURLONGE.

March 23rd, 1885.

We regret that Mr. Furlonge should have been misrepresented in our notes on the Lake Superior mines, published in the last issue of REVIEW. These reports came to us, precisely as published, from an occasional correspondent of Port Arthur, and although we had misgivings as to the accuracy of the figures they contained, time did not admit of our waiting for their verification. We are indebted to Mr. Furlonge for his promptness in correcting these errors.—Ed.

British Columbia Notes.

Mr. Baillie-Grohman has contributed an interested paper to the *Canadian Gazette*, descriptive of the resources of Kootenay

A petition addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor has been circulated in Barkerville for signatures praying that the geological surveyor employed in the province by the Dominion Government be requested to survey the district of Cariboo. There is a great deal of money and much energy expended annually in prospecting, and as very little is known regarding the extent of the gold-bearing belt, both money and energy are liable to be wasted in the absence of a geological survey.

The output of the several Nanaimo and Wellington Collieries for the year 1884 amounted to 395,900 tons, 87,388 tons of which was used in this province, and 308,512 was exported to the Pacific Coast States and Sandwich Islands and China. In 1883 the total output amounted to 216,184, and in 1882, the largest output of any year before 1884, it amounted to 282,000. In 1883 the home consumption was 64,786 tons, and in 1882, 56,161 tons as compared with 87,388 tons in 1884. The total output of 1884 is 179,184 in excess of 1883 and 113,900 tons in excess of 1882. To mine this 365,900 tons of coal it is estimated that 300,000 pounds of blasting powder was used. The material increase during 1884 was caused by the Vancouver Coal company energetically working their new mines on the Esplanade and at South Field. It is to be hoped that the year 1885 will show a material increase over 1884.

A meeting of miners was held in Victoria early in February with Mr. P. Smith chairman and Mr. R. Smith secretary. The following resolutions were adopted unanimously by the meeting: 1. That, owing to the insolvent conduct and threats of the Indians on Lorne creek last season, this meeting is of the opinion that the Government should take immediate action with regard to the protection of the life and property of miners situated in the aforesaid locality. 2. That this meeting deprecates the action of the Dominion Government in commuting the sentence of death passed on the murderer of Voemans, as it will be the means

of inciting and encouraging the Indians to commit more murders and depredations. 3. That the protection of miners and their interests is urgently demanded, and if neglected by those who are in authority over them they alone must be responsible for the consequences of inaction and apparent partiality.

The mineral exhibits for the International and Colonial Exhibition at Antwerp, forwarded from the Province of British Columbia, are as follows:

Three blocks coal from Vancouver Coal Company mine Nanaimo—4 cwt., 2 cwt., and 1 cwt.—to form a pyramid.

A block of Jarvis Inlet granite, Newcastle sandstone, and Beaver Cove Marble, to form another pyramid.

Specimen of Queen Charlotte anthracite. Blocks of iron ore magnetic and red hematite from Sooke.

Piece of Eureka mine silver ore from Hope. Another piece from the Sterling mine, Cowichan. Specimens of Jarvis Inlet copper.

Specimens of argentiferous galena from Kootenay.

Five specimens of Cariboo quartz from Burns Mountain, supplied by Messrs. Oppenheimer Bros., of this city, and valued at \$250.

Petroleum in the North-West Territories.

The discovery of Petroleum in the Athabasca and Alberta districts is attracting a good deal of attention at the present time, and it is not unlikely that boring will be begun in the early spring. A strong company of capitalists of Minneapolis has been organized under the laws of the State of Minnesota, with a capital stock of \$1,500,000, to operate on the Lesser Slave and Red Deer rivers, where they have taken up extensive tracts of petroleum lands. This company, known as the Winnipeg and North-west Petroleum Company, have staid faith in the value of the locations they have selected, and have given substantial evidence of it by shipping two car loads of machinery, at a cost of over \$50,000, to Winnipeg to be forwarded to Sinclair on the line of the Canadian Pacific railway, and thence to their property on the Red Deer river, Alberta district.

It is stated that on this company's locations exist, probably, the most promising indications ever known where oil wells are not in actual operation. The crude petroleum exudes from the bank for a distance of half a mile and flows down the river, while similar indications are noticeable on the banks of the smaller streams, tributaries to the Lesser Slave and Red Deer, running through the companies locations. Petroleum gum and pools of oil on the surface of the ground occur in such quantity and of such a nature as to satisfy experts that extensive reservoirs of oil will be tapped by boring, and that flowing wells will unquestionably be struck. These locations have long been known by the North-west explorers as the "gum beds." The company is sanguine that oil will be obtained in paying quantities not far below the surface and at comparatively small expense.

Analyses of the gum taken from these petroleum fields have been made by Professor Chapman, of Toronto; Professor James A. Dodge, of the University of Minnesota; and by Ledoux and Ricketts, of New York.

PROFESSOR CHAPMAN.

Inflammable and volatile matter.....	94.53
Fixed carbon and ash.....	5.47
	100.00

PROFESSOR DODGE.

Volatile combustible matter.....	76.27
Coke.....	16.43
Ash.....	7.31
	100.00

LEDOUX AND RICKETTS.

Water.....	1.00
Oil.....	65.00
Coke.....	20.00
Light oil and Volatile matter.....	14.00
	100.00

Professor Dodge gives the analysis of the oil as follows:—

	Per cent.
Water.....	54.8
Inflammable oil.....	26.2
Inflammable gases.....	2.2
Non-volatile combustible matter.....	2.9
Incombustible matter, or ash.....	13.9
	100.00

The developing of these oil fields will be watched with much interest, and if the expectations of the Winnipeg and North-west Petroleum Company are but partially realized this will become a most important industry in the North-west Territories. People having the enterprise to inaugurate an industry of such importance to the country should receive every encouragement at the hands of the Government, and it would not be more than should be reasonably expected if the machinery necessary to operate these oil fields were admitted into the country free of duty, or at least such of it as is not obtainable in Canada. In the case of the ranchers in the North-west they have been, and still are, permitted to bring their cattle in from the United States to stock their ranches, and if they are to be thus encouraged why should not the miners be dealt with as liberally, especially those who would develop such important deposits as those of coal and petroleum?

The Victoria (Australia) Gold Product.

As reported by a correspondent of the London *Mining Journal* of the 28th February, while the gold product of 1883 was 139,108 ounces less than 1882 that of 1884 was 33,957 ounces greater than 1883. According to the aforesaid correspondent, the product for the five years below was as follows:

	Ounces.	Our valuation.
1880.....	812,692	15,560,000
1881.....	836,416	16,810,000
1882.....	879,381	16,710,000
1883.....	740,378	14,047,000
1884.....	774,330	14,712,000

Total product 1880-84.....\$77,839,000
Yearly average.....\$15,567,800

That is, the product of 1883 was below the average of the period \$1,500,800 but that of 1884 was below the average but \$855,800. For the two years of 1883 and 1884 the gold exports and coinage of the colony were as understated:

	1883, ounces.	1884, ounces.
Mined.....	399,186	562,708
Exported.....	393,413	189,866
Exported coin.....	\$11,236,000	\$6,246,000

It may be safely estimated that the product of all the other gold fields of Australia did not exceed \$9,778,000 in 1884, and that the total gold product of all the Australian colonies did not exceed \$21,500,000.—*N. Y. Mining Record.*

The most disastrous colliery explosion of recent times occurred during the present month at the Camphanen pit, near Saarbrück, in Rhenish Prussia. Out of 218 men in the pit only seventeen escaped—the remaining 201 are supposed to have perished.