

## Department of the Interior.

### MINERALS OTHER THAN COAL.

The revenue from this source for the calendar year 1894 was \$1,896.55. The total area of mining locations sold up to the 1st of January, 1895, was 2,481.87 acres, from which was realized \$12,892.24.

The total sum received for mining lands in the railway belt in British Columbia up to the 1st of January, 1895, was \$9,042.20, and the sum received from the same source during the last year was \$1,693.25.

The entries for mining locations exceeded the number granted last year by seventeen, the number for the calendar year being 28.

No change has been made in the mining regulations since the 25th of August, 1891, with the exception that the length of a river claim in the Yukon district has been extended from 100 feet to 500 feet; and the fee for an entry for a claim of the last mentioned class has been raised from \$5.00 to \$15.00.

The change referred to in the preceding paragraph was the result of a report received from Mr. Charles Constantine, an inspector of the North-west Mounted Police, who last summer was detailed by the President of the Privy Council to visit and report upon that section of the Yukon district in which mining for gold is being prosecuted, and amongst other duties imposed upon him was that of acting as agent of the Department of the Interior for the district mentioned.

### COAL LANDS.

The revenue from coal lands during the last calendar year was \$2,053.50. The total area sold up to the 1st of January, 1895, was 15,451.96 acres, and the total sum received therefor was \$156,478.53, over \$10 per acre on the average.

No change has been made in the coal regulations since my last report.

Coal mining has been carried on in the North-west during the past year with energy, especially at Anthracite, in Alberta, where the output has greatly increased. About 4,000 tons of the coal from this place were sold at Winnipeg during last year. The sales of the Lethbridge coal in the Winnipeg market reached 5,120 tons, at a price of \$7.00 per ton, and the coal from Anthracite sold at \$8.25 per ton—not greatly in excess of the prices ruling in the eastern portions of Canada for the same class of fuel. Over 14,000 tons of coal were mined in the Souris coal fields. It was sold at the mines for \$1.00 per ton to settlers, and from \$3.50 to \$3.75 per ton on the car at Winnipeg and other points in Manitoba. Indeed, so largely does the article produced from the mines of the North-west now enter into consumption by the people of Winnipeg that the sales of United States coal in that city dropped from 27,000 tons in 1893 to 18,300 tons in 1894.

### SCHOOL LANDS—MANITOBA.

During the past year all the claims under the provisions of the Act 56 Victoria, chapter 18, some fifteen in number, to homestead entry for certain school lands through occupation prior to the 1st of January, 1880, have been settled. Thirteen of these have been approved and homestead entry allowed the applicants, and two have been disallowed, the claimants not having fulfilled the requirements of the Act with respect to residence and cultivation. In order to recoup the school endowment for the loss of the lands disposed of as homesteads, an equal area has been