

THE COST OF ANTHRACITE.

There is often a great deal of controversy in print and otherwise, in regard to the cost of a ton of Anthracite at the mines. The following is submitted to us as the result at a colliery in the Wyoming region shipping over 150,000 tons per annum:

	Outside Expenses.	Inside Expenses.	Total.
Labor.....	\$.496	\$1.174	
Supplies.....	.046	.310	
Repairs.....	.019	.030	
Total.....	\$.561	\$1.514	\$2.075

The coal at this colliery is mined from the top and bottom splits of the Red Ash vein, averaging respectively seven and six feet of good coal. The above cost does not include the expense incurred in driving gangways, airways and tunnels, nor the amount expended from time to time in improvements nor royalty. At another colliery, producing white ash coal in the same district, it is said that the cost of putting Anthracite coal on the cars at the breaker under favorable circumstances, from a seam of advantageous size and hardness, would be for labor and materials from \$1.30 to \$1.40. To this should be added royalty and sinking fund charges, running all the way from 30 cents to 50 cents additional. These figures are based upon the entire output of the mine, including Pea, Buckwheat and Rice coal, and include no charge for interest. There are undoubtedly favorable cases where the results may be considerably less than the figures given, but there are others where they would not. Freight to New York is about \$1.75 to \$2.00.

ANTHRACITE GROWTH—25 Years.

In 1869 the Anthracite tonnage was 13,866,180 gross tons, divided as follows:

Schuylkill.	Lehigh.	Wyoming.
5,775,138	1,949,673	6,141,369

In succeeding years the figures have been :

1874.....	6,866,877	2,773,836	9,504,408
1879.....	8,960,329	4,595,567	12,586,293
1884	9,478,314	5,562,266	15,677,753
1889.....	10,474,364	6,285,421	18,647,925
1893.....	12,357,443	6,892,352	23,839,741

In the quarter of a century the tonnage has increased nearly 30,000,000 tons.