

COAL MINES AND COAL MINING COMPANIES

—Continued.

This company employs 1,500 men. The rates of wages being : For miners, \$3 to \$5 per day ; to other hands, from \$2.50 to \$3.50. The present daily output is 1,900 to 2,000 tons. San Francisco takes most of the coal exported, other shipments being made to the Hawaiian Isles, Portland, Ore., and to Alaska.

From the Protection Island mines, shipments from the upper and lower seam are now being made from the new wharves. As a domestic coal the lower seam is superior to any coal hitherto mined at Vancouver Island.

The head office of the company is in London, England, J. Galsworthy, Esq., President. The company's land property covers some 30,000 acres and is being rapidly improved and settled up. Their city property is of course very valuable and is sold on monthly payments.

THE EAST WELLINGTON COLLIERY.

The East Wellington Colliery, of which Mr. W. S. Chandler is superintendent, is situated about three miles to the north-west of Nanaimo. There are shafts No. 1 and No. 2, but the latter is the only one in operation. The coal produced is of a hard bituminous nature. The colliery is connected with Departure Bay by a narrow gauge railway. Mr. Richard C. Chandler, of San Francisco, the principal owner of the mines and a large dealer, controls the output, which generally averages 150 tons per day.

The "longwall" system of working is followed in this colliery. No. 1 shaft is 270 feet deep ; No. 2, 200 feet deep. About 150 men are employed.

THE WELLINGTON MINES.

Owned by R. Dunsmuir & Sons, employ between 800 and 900 hands, and consist of pits 1, 4, 5, and 6. The output of these mines in 1892 was 290,370 tons of coal, of which 238,400 tons were exported principally to San Francisco. In connection with the mines there are five miles of railway with sidings and branches, six locomotives, and 250 coal cars. There are also thirteen stationary engines, nine steam pumps, and the company own four wharves with bunkers for loading vessels. The mines are connected by rail with Departure Bay, where the shipping is done. The coal from the Wellington mines is famous all over the Pacific coast, and, therefore, find a ready market wherever shipped.

ALEXANDRA MINE.

This mine belongs to Messrs. Dunsmuir & Sons, and is about one mile south of the Southfield mine, of the Nanaimo Colliery, and only a few yards from the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway. There has not been any work done here during the past year, but the company renewed operations at the beginning of the year, and it is hoped there will be a good account of this mine at the close of 1894.

TUMBO ISLAND COAL MINING COMPANY.

This Company, having made considerable exploring and boring on this island, are continuing to energetically prospect their seam.

UNION COLLIERY.

The Union Coal Mines are situated near Comox, about 60 miles from Nanaimo, the principal owners being the Dunsmuirs. There are four shafts and tunnels in operation. No. 1 and No. 2 tunnels being adit levels, no machinery is required. The mode of working is on the longwall system. These levels are now in : No. 1, 700 feet ; No. 2, 1,200 feet.