

is being worked is 40 feet in thickness, of which about 36 feet is solid Coal. In these three mines there are at present employed between 8 or 900 men and boys,—the average pay of the colliers during the last year having been about 9s. 4½d. currency a-day; ordinary labourers getting from 4s. to a dollar. The mines are being worked very extensively with steam engines and all proper appliances. The General Mining Association have a Railway about seven miles in length, which has been in operation for upwards of twenty years. The gauge of this Railway is four feet eight and a half inches, and they have upon it six engines and five hundred and seventy trucks. These trucks are loaded with the Coal at the mouth of the pits and are taken to a point on the river, where ships of the largest size can come alongside the wharf. The quantity of Coal which has been shipped by the Mining Association for some years past has amounted to about 200,000 tons annually. The price of the Steam Coal at the point of shipment is about \$2.50 per ton, and of Small Coal about \$1.50 per ton.

Freight from Pictou to Boston would range from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a ton, the same rates, or thereabouts, being charged to Montreal. This Company owns four square miles of Coal land, and they have also, in the vicinity, land containing very large quantities of Iron Ore, as well as Lime.

The other Mining Company, which has lately been started, is called the Acadian Mining Company. They have one seam six feet thick now opened, out of which they are getting coal, and they have just opened another seam, which they will begin immediately to work, and which has a thickness of 20 feet.