

Mining.

THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.

Send \$2.00 and receive it postage paid for one year.

THE Megantic Mining Company (Lim.), has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$250,000.

MAJOR STEWART, of the Cascade coal mines, says their output will soon reach 600 tons daily, and that the intention is to supply San Francisco and the Pacific coast.

In searching for coal on the Pipestone river a shaft 60 feet deep has been sunk, and experienced miners express the opinion that a paying seam of the fuel will eventually be reached.

THE Hibbard antimony mines, at Lake George, N.B., were recently sold at Fredericton, under an order of the Equity court, the New Brunswick Antimony Mining Co. being the purchaser.

MR. T. P. PIERCE has purchased the property of the Cobourg, Peterboro and Marmora Railway and Mining Company, and will apply to Parliament for authority to build the road and operate the mines.

THE Carleton Gold Mining Company, according to the Halifax Critic, sent to Yarmouth a few days ago a shipment of 60 ounces of gold, taken from that mine and valued at about \$1,200—the result of crushing 32 tons of quartz.

THE discovery and actual working of new mines in territories along the Rocky Mountains range is rapidly increasing the production of the precious metals. The yield of 1886 was \$35,000,000 gold, and \$50,000,000 silver—an increase of \$3,200,000 gold, and \$2,000,000 silver, over the yield of the previous year.

Few people have any idea of the great richness of the Lake Superior mineral districts. According to a report of an agent of the United States geological survey, the total copper product for the year 1886 was 156,373,421 pounds, and of this 79,728,838 pounds came from Lake Superior. The output from that district is steadily increasing.

THE shipments of crude and refined Canadian petroleum, reduced to crude equivalent, during February 1887 amounted to 50,858 barrels, the shipment in January being 51,524 barrels. For January 1886 the shipments were 34,536 barrels, showing an increase for the first month of this year of 17,168 barrels. During the month of February 1886 the output was 37,517; showing for the second month of this year an increase of 13,441 barrels.

SIR A. T. GALT, according to the Montreal Witness, has recently taken to that city samples of coal taken from the Bow River mines, of which concern he is the head. The coal is represented as being of excellent quality in several grades, emits a fine, glowing heat, and appears to be equal to any obtainable from the Lower Provinces. It is being used to a considerable extent by the Canadian Pacific Railway, west of Port Arthur, and is finding a good and expanding market in Winnipeg.

THE Hartsfeld Portable Smelting Furnace Co., of Newport, Kentucky, U.S., desire correspondence with those interested regarding their mining, desulphurating and smelting appliances. This company have recently obtained Canadian patents on these devices, and are prepared to furnish patterns, blue-prints, working drawings, and specifications of them. They claim that by this method for preparing the ore and smelting it in one operation, 90 per cent. of rebellious ores, such as sulphides, sulphurets, sulphates, chlorides, bromides, pyrites, etc., 90 per cent. of pure metal is obtained.

At a recent meeting of the managers of the British Iron Trade Association, the increasing consumption of hematite iron ores by the United States and other countries was considered. From a report submitted by the secretary, it appeared that the deposits of high-class iron ore in Algeria and the island of Elta were becoming rapidly exhausted, and that, as there was an increasing demand for the hematite still left in the north of Spain, British ironmasters would in the future probably require to draw large quantities from other sources.

THROUGHOUT the Dominion are scattered 97,000 square miles of coal fields, containing at a low estimate 100,000,000,000 tons of coal. These beds are found in the Maritime Provinces, the North-west Territories and British Columbia, but not in Ontario or Quebec. In 1885 the collieries at Wellington and Nansimo, B.C., produced

360,000 tons of excellent coal, which was shipped to San Francisco, and Honolulu, or consumed in the Province. Great lignitic coal beds have been found along the valleys of the Saskatchewan and the Souris rivers. In Nova Scotia there are three distinct coal basins, Cape Breton, Pictou and Cumberland. The Sydney mine in Cape Breton was begun in 1785 and has been in constant operation since. During the past year 1,430,000 tons of coal were shipped from Nova Scotia.

THE Lake Superior mining regions of Michigan made an excellent showing in 1886. The total output was estimated at 3,562,015 tons of ore, against 2,427,337 tons the year preceding. The total product from the opening of the mines in 1854 up to the end of 1886 was 31,120,702 tons. Of this amount the Marquette range has yielded 23,376,352 tons and the Menominee range 6,240,991 tons. The balance was distributed between the Gogebic and Vermillion ranges and some old and abandoned mines. Of the total product in 1886 of 3,562,015 tons, the Marquette range produced 1,636,996 tons, the Menominee range 888,880 tons, the Gogebic 731,743 tons and Vermillion 304,396 tons. The shipments for the year were: Marquette range, 1,609,118 gross tons; Menominee range, 872,201 gross tons; Gogebic range, 756,281 gross tons, and Vermillion range 304,896, making a total of 3,541,996 gross tons.

In the Canadian Parliament, on a recent date Mr. Barlow Cumberland pointed out that since the United States imposed a duty of 75 cents on Canadian coal the export of coal from Nova Scotia had decreased from 450,000 tons in 1865, to 34,000 tons in 1885. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the output of coal had increased in Nova Scotia, a market having been found in Canada to the extent of some 334,000 tons in the port of Montreal alone. If the canals were deepened so that coal could be taken through to Lake Ontario without transshipment, the coal trade of Ontario would also be opened to Nova Scotia. The distances between Cleveland and Duluth and between Pictou and Montreal were the same. Coal was carried from Oswego to Duluth at the same rate as that charged from Cleveland, with the cost of transport through the Welland canal added. The distance between Oswego and Cleveland was the same as that between Toronto and Montreal, and on this analogy coal could be delivered on Lake Ontario for just the cost of tolls on the St. Lawrence canals. The cost of transshipment, and the damage done to the coal by the change from one mode of transport to another, prevented the use of Nova Scotia coal in Ontario. If the Ontario coal supply were secured for the Eastern province it would mean an annual increase of 498,000 tons, that being the amount used in Ontario last year. He looked upon the deepening of the canals as a patriotic project, and one for the advantage of the whole Dominion.

THE mining law of the United States, so far as it relates to government land, is a source of infinite litigation and much complaint. Under the general mining law the discoverer of a vein on government land has a right to take up a claim of 1,500 feet by 600 feet on the vein and to follow the vein wherever it may go, whether it passes out and under other claims or not. It is necessary, however, that the locator possess the "apex" of the vein within the limits of his claim, or if not, he cannot hold the mineral that passes through his claim, even though his location may be older than that having the "apex." When the mineral, as in the case of placer or gold gravels, is not "in place," then the law limits the rights of the discoverer to an area bounded strictly by his surface lines. Much dissatisfaction has been found with the working of the lode claim law, and it is probable that before very long the law will be changed so as to limit the miner's rights strictly to what underlies his surface location. This is known among the miners as the "square location law," not because the location is necessarily square, but because the proposed law calls for a rectangular figure. The advantages claimed for the old law by its advocates are that it stimulates prospecting by making the prize larger when found, and that it facilitates the disposal of mines by "honest miners;" for everyone knows that the miner has a firm belief that every vein grows larger and richer as it goes down deeper, and consequently from a small body of ore in a prospecting pit he can conjure up a vast bonanza at some depth that "his means will not allow him to reach, but that the capitalist can count on realizing." Of course experience shows that, as a rule, veins grow smaller and poorer rather than larger and richer in depth; but what does experience weigh when hope and avarice oppose it? To countries, if any there be, that think of adopting these mining laws, because we are now the greatest mining nation in the world, we would repeat Punch's famous advice to a friend on marrying—"don't."—*Australasian.*