less intelligent, less skillful, and less energetic, and that the methods of getting coal are primitive rather than progressive, and slatternly rather than systematic and scientific. All of which charges are without foundation. In Mining science Nova Scotia is not a whit behind the best. Why, the one surviving expounder of the free trade principles—as applied to coal—propounded by certain railway corporations—and by them sought to be disseminated through the agency of an unincorporated body originally composed of some six souls, with the rather taking title of Free Coal League, in his 1904 Encyclical speaks by the book for once when he asserts that "The plant and equipment of some of our mines cannot be surpassed anywhere for the facilities they afford for the mining and shipping of coal."

Conditions are against us and some of these are:

Steeper seams and deeper mines.

More water and more pumping.

Heavier and more expensive machinery.

Tenderer roofs and more timbering.

Better ventilated and safer mines and therefore costlier supervision.

Severe climatic conditions: Short water shipping season.

More friable coal; more slack, affecting appearance.

Inability to use Mining Machines in many mines.

Much winter banking,—adding largely to cost.