

PRODUCTION OF GAS, AND QUALITY OF GAS AND COKE, FROM VARIOUS COALS AT THE PICTOU  
GAS-WORKS.

(FROM NOTES OF MR. ALEX. THOMPSON, MANAGER.)

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Company shipped by, and name of mine.	Cubic feet of gas (per ton of 2240 lbs.)	Illuminating power (candles.)	Bushels of coke per ton.	Character of coke.	Remarks.
<b>Results of trials at Pictou.</b>					
<b>GENERAL MINING ASSOCIATION.</b>					
Foord Pits, (1869 shipments.)	8,000	18	35	Good.	Coke unsaleable.
Ablon (Old) Mines.....	7,700	16	34	"	
Forster Pit.....	6,000	13	32	Not good.	
Dalhousie Pit.....	7,500	15	32	Good.	
Cage Pit, (old shipments)....	7,800	17	34	Good.	
<b>ACADIA COAL COMPANY.</b>					
McGregor workings.....	7,600	14	34	Fair.	Coke firm, but sulphurous.
Fraser Mine, stellar coal....	11,000	36	.....	.....	Coke worthless.
" oil-shale.....	8,000	30	.....	.....	" "
Acadia Colliery, west slope.	7,000	12	32	Not good.	Coke granular.
<b>INTERCOLONIAL COAL COMPANY.</b>					
Drummond Colliery.....	7,700	15	34	Good.	
<b>NOVA SCOTIA COAL COMPANY.</b>					
Nova Scotia slope.....	7,000	14	32	Fair.	Coke saleable.
<b>MONTREAL AND PICTOU COAL CO.</b>					
Montreal and Pictou pit....	6,000	12½	23	Not good.	
<b>PICTOU COAL MINING COMPANY.</b>					
Marsh Colliery.....	6,000	14	25	"	

Of the coals named in the above list, that from the Foord pits appears to give the best result in gas-making, from its large gas-content, the high illuminating power of the gas, and the superior coke produced in its carbonization.

Value  
different coals.

The Drummond coal, and the coals of the Old mines, Dalhousie and Cage pits, appear to stand next, the value of the other coals for gas purposes falling slightly below these. The stellarite and oil-shale of the Acadia mines are most valuable for mixing with the coals, to increase their illuminating power, but would not be of great value if used alone, for two reasons: because their cokes are worthless, (being merely a cinder, with but a few per cent. of fixed carbon, and therefore useless in heating the retorts); and because the gases produced in carbonizing them are too carbonaceous for use with ordinary burners. Good coke is not only valuable to the gas-manufacturer as a merchantable product, but also is used for heating the retorts, and therefore canals, and substances like torbanite, stellarite, and albertite, though producing a large amount of highly carburetted gas, are seldom used in gas-manufacture, except in mixture with coals furnishing a good coke.

I shall now proceed to give such facts as it has been possible to procure concerning the value of the different coals of this district in gas-manufac-