

New Glasgow, from where the coal was conveyed in lighters to the loading ground, opposite the town of Pictou, for loading it into ocean vessels. In 1839 the company began the construction of a six mile steam railroad from the mines to the loading ground. It cost \$160,000 and was the first steam railway built in Canada. With the railway completed the company extended its mining operations over a tract of land covering some 40 acres. In 1872 the General Mining Association sold all its rights in Pictou County to the Halifax Company, retaining only a territory of four square miles, situated on both sides of the East River from the Albion Mines to New Glasgow.

About this time too, James D. B. Fraser, of Pictou, discovered the well known Stellar coal. The discovery gave a new impetus to coal mining in the district. He organized the Acadia Coal Company and began working the original McGregor seam and the Acadia seam, discovered about two miles southwest of the Albion seam. With the years the company further extended its operations, while the Intercolonial, Vale, and some eight more companies were formed. All of these, with the exception of the Intercolonial, however, have been abandoned or merged with the Acadia Coal Company, which with the Intercolonial, employ about 2100 men and mine a little over 700,000 tons of coal in the county yearly, the greater part of which is sold throughout Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.

The county also has large deposits of iron. The district along

Sutherland River has a valuable deposit of spathic iron ore. Near Springville in the East River valley is a vein of Lemonite from five to twenty-five feet wide, 65 per cent of which is metallic iron. Eastward from New Lairg near Glengarry a vein of specular iron has been traced, containing from 64 to 69 per cent of metal. The county has large deposits of limestone, as well as fine fire clay suitable for brick, pottery and terra cotta products. It has an abundance of silica sands for the manufacture of glass, while moulding sand of the finest quality is plentiful along the East River and its tributaries.

Pictou is the center for the lobster trade of northern Nova Scotia. The lobster season continues from about April 25 to June 25th, and during that time about 85,000,000 lobsters are caught in Canadian waters, the greater number of which come from Northumberland Strait.

The town not only has a number of packing houses, but the Strait shore further away and the islands adjacent have some nine to ten additional factories. Of these Logan and Murdock's plant, located at Spring Point, Carribou Harbour packs about 800 cases each season. The industry includes the factory, packing plant, boarding house and dwellings for their employees and families, the former of whom numbering about 50 men. The industry with its numerous houses is very attractively located, and besides handling lobster, have a good opportunity for packing fish of which the adjacent waters offer an ample supply.

Burnham & Morrill own eleven