

cumber the walls of the Art Room are to-day noticeably absent. A selection of paintings has been made, the work of Canadian artists, which no one need be ashamed to take visitors to see. Furthermore, the loan collection is a welcome and happy feature, the effect of which in gratifying the sense of beauty and stimulating taste is worth all the intelligent pains taken by the management to secure it

### ONTARIO MINERAL PRODUCTION.

The aggregate value of the mineral production of the Canadian Province of Ontario for 1903 was \$12,870,593, a decrease compared with the previous year of about 4 per cent. This decrease was altogether in metals, the non-metallic minerals showing a decided gain over 1902. Iron and steel were the principal losers, largely owing to the cessation of operations at the Soo and at the Helen iron mine. There was also some diminution in the yield of precious metals. In two items, however, there is shown a considerable increase in production, namely in nickel and in copper, which, owing to the better facilities, both in regard to mining and treatment at Sudbury, established a record. Among non-metallic minerals, petroleum shows a noteworthy advance in production, though only in value, for the yield of oil was smaller. Lime, salt, stone and brick improved their comparative position both in prices and output. Portland cement is another article which made a long stride forward. Corundum and mica also made gains.

We are told in the report of the Bureau of Mines that prospecting, particularly for iron ores, was active during the exploring season of 1903. Much work of this nature was done on the various northern iron ranges. The extension of railroad facilities into the Temagami district is likely, it may be remarked, to lead to a good deal of systematic testing of some of the large outcroppings of banded ore in that region as soon as the necessary appliances can be put into operation there. The following table will give a summary of the mineral production of 1903 in comparison with the two previous years. The total of 1900 was \$9,298,624, and of 1899 it was \$8,416,673.

#### Ontario Mineral Production, 1901 to 1903.

| Product.  | 1901.               | 1902.               | 1903.               |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Metallic:</b>  |                     |                     |                     |
| Gold .....  | \$ 244,443          | \$ 229,828          | \$ 188,036          |
| Silver .....  | 84,830              | 58,000              | 8,949               |
| Copper .....  | 589,080             | 680,283             | 716,726             |
| Nickel .....  | 1,859,970           | 2,210,961           | 2,499,068           |
| Iron ore .....  | 174,428             | 518,445             | 450,099             |
| Pig iron .....  | 1,701,703           | 1,683,051           | 1,491,696           |
| Steel .....   | 347,280             | 1,610,031           | 304,580             |
| Pig lead .....  | .....               | .....               | 1,500               |
| Molybdenite .....   | .....               | 400                 | 1,275               |
| Zinc ore .....  | 15,000              | 11,500              | 17,000              |
|   | <u>\$ 5,016,734</u> | <u>\$ 7,002,499</u> | <u>\$ 5,678,929</u> |
| Less value Ontario ore smelted into pig iron, and pig iron converted into steel ..... | .....               | 745,000             | 436,354             |
| Total metallic production .....   | <u>\$ 5,016,734</u> | <u>\$ 6,257,499</u> | <u>\$ 5,242,575</u> |

| Product.                             | 1901.               | 1902.               | 1903.               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Non-Metallic:</b>                 |                     |                     |                     |
| Actinolite .....                     | 3,126               | 6,150               | 1,650               |
| Arsenic .....                        | 41,677              | 48,000              | 15,420              |
| Brick, common .....                  | 1,530,460           | 1,411,000           | 1,561,700           |
| Brick, paving .....                  | 37,000              | 42,000              | 45,288              |
| Brick, pressed and terra cotta ..... | 104,394             | 144,171             | 218,550             |
| Building and crushed stone .....     | 850,000             | 1,020,000           | 845,000             |
| Carbide of calcium.....              | 168,792             | 89,420              | 144,000             |
| Cement, natural rock...              | 107,625             | 50,795              | 69,319              |
| Cement, Portland .....               | 563,255             | 916,221             | 1,182,799           |
| Corundum .....                       | 53,115              | 83,871              | 87,600              |
| Feldspar .....                       | 6,375               | 12,875              | 20,046              |
| Graphite .....                       | 20,000              | 17,868              | 20,636              |
| Gypsum .....                         | 13,400              | 19,149              | 7,910               |
| Iron pyrites .....                   | 17,500              | 14,993              | 21,693              |
| Lime .....                           | 550,000             | 617,000             | 520,000             |
| Mica .....                           | 39,780              | 102,500             | 102,205             |
| Natural gas .....                    | 342,183             | 199,238             | 196,535             |
| Peat fuel .....                      | .....               | .....               | 3,300               |
| Petroleum products ....              | 1,467,940           | 1,431,054           | 1,586,674           |
| Pottery .....                        | 193,950             | 171,315             | 160,000             |
| Salt .....                           | 323,058             | 344,620             | 388,097             |
| Sewer pipe .....                     | 147,948             | 191,965             | 199,971             |
| Talc .....                           | 1,400               | 930                 | 2,625               |
| Tile, drain .....                    | 231,374             | 199,000             | 227,000             |
| Total non-metallic production .....  | \$ 6,814,352        | \$ 7,134,135        | \$ 7,628,018        |
| Add metallic production .....        | 5,016,734           | 6,257,499           | 5,242,575           |
| Total production ..                  | <u>\$11,831,086</u> | <u>\$13,391,634</u> | <u>\$12,870,593</u> |

It will be noted that the output of gold shows a steady decrease, and the causes for this as attributed by the compiler of this report, are worth bearing in mind. As a rule, the gold-bearing ores of Ontario seem to be low-grade in character, and, to yield a profit, must be worked on a considerable scale by concerns with sufficient capital to be able to spend large sums in thorough development work. In the past, mining companies have often, in their haste to obtain large returns, spent too large a proportion of their funds in above-ground works, thus exhausting their capital before the existence of payable ore bodies has been fully proven. Hence, discouragements and a bad reputation for gold mining. Other causes contributing to failure have been want of judgment, and even in some cases want of honesty on the part of promoters and directors, as well as a lack of competent management. However, the conclusion is arrived at that the free-milling ores of Ontario will yet be worked with a profit when the operations are superintended by men of skill and good training.

### FALL MILLINERY OPENINGS.

There was just as large a crowd of buyers this week in Toronto as usual for the fall millinery openings, which began on Monday, and, so far as could be judged from an outside view, trade has been exceptionally heavy. In Montreal, there were a great many milliners at the openings from near-by points and the city; many dry goods buyers, too, from places more distant, and a good trade was done.

No particular form of head-gear can be picked upon as representing the style for the coming season; there are too many in evidence to warrant