

exportation. The troubles in the United States have, however, so far diminished the exportation of iron ores that while their value in 1859 amounted to \$25,765, in 1861 they fell to \$2,430. The same influences diminished the exportation of pig and scrap iron to the United States, most, in all probability, originally of foreign origin, from \$75,373 in 1859, to \$5,759 in 1861.

Copper.

The Bruce Mines, on Lake Huron, opened in 1847, have yielded about 9,000 tons of eighteen per cent. The quantity obtained in 1861 was 472 tons, containing 17 per cent. of copper. Smelting furnaces were erected at this mine in 1853, the fuel used being the bituminous coal from Cleveland, on Lake Erie. After a trial of three years the Montreal Mining Company ceased smelting, and leased their works. The Wellington Mine belonging to the West Canada Mining Co., is going on much more favourably. In a report of a meeting of the shareholders, held in London, in May last, a profit for the year 1861 of £7,501 sterling was announced. If the American markets at New York and Baltimore should show no depreciation, this mine will become very valuable, and the copper of the North Shore of Lake Huron may yet grow to be of great importance to the country. The number of workmen at the Wellington and Copper Bay Mines is supposed to be about 260. The already celebrated Acton Mines, in Lower Canada, had exported to the end of 1861 about 6,000 tons, holding on an average 17 per cent. of copper. In a recent number of the English *Mining Journal* the following paragraphs have appeared:—

“THE ACTON MINES, CANADA.—With reference to these mines, concerning which much interest is felt in this country, Messrs. Willson and Robb write that the ore, in consequence, apparently, of complicated dislocations of the strata, occurs at the surface in a series of bunches of exceeding richness, which have now, for the most part, been extracted by open quarrying; but on tracing this ore in depth, these bunches appear to be connected with regular veins, which afford promise of being permanently productive, although by a different and more satisfactory mode of working. In the absence of full official returns, it may be safely estimated that the Acton Mine has, up to this date produced not less than 6,000 tons of ore, averaging 17 per cent. produce, worth about \$400,000, at a cost of about one-fourth that sum. Although as yet, with the exception of Acton and Harvey Hill Mines, no very great progress has been made in the production of ore for the market, the results so far have amply justified the anticipations. Deposits of the sulphurets of copper, more or less promising, have been found to exist on upwards of 150 distinct lots in the various townships. On nine or ten locations, at great distances apart, shafts have been sunk to a considerable depth, and in as many instances large sums have been expended in costeaning and trenching; and in almost all cases the deposits, when traced in depth, have been found rapidly to improve in all the qualities

requisite for permanent and profitable mining; and we have at the present time, many sets which appear only to await the application of a moderate capital to become permanently productive.”

In 1859, the total value of the copper ores exported from Canada amounted to \$340,686; in 1861 it reached \$440,130, shewing a favorable increase in this ore, and one which promises to become rapidly augmented.

Lead.

Of Lead the yield has yet been small in Canada. At Indian Cove, Gaspè, about six tons of ore, of sixty per cent. value, have been obtained. At the Ramsay Mines, in 1858, twenty-six tons of ore, which yielded eighty per cent., were raised. A fifty horse power steam engine has been erected at the mine, and the works are progressing. In Lansdowne, a vein of Galena was opened in 1854, but the results were not satisfactory; other veins in the same locality have been struck, and works are prosecuted. At Bedford shallow trial shafts have been made, but the results are not publicly known. Of lead in sheets we imported \$12,262 in 1861, so that the home production is probably very insignificant as yet.

Gold.

The auriferous area of Eastern Canada is estimated to be about 15,000 square miles. Authentic details respecting the profits of the different gold mining companies which have been formed since 1851, are very difficult to obtain. The workings of the Canada Gold Mining Company in 1851 and 1852, yielded 4987 dwts 30 gr. of gold: the value being \$4323.15; but the wages of the company amounted to \$3532, so that the profit was only \$690.

Peat.

Our importation of Coal and Coke for fuel is very considerable; and, in the neighbourhood of large towns, wood is becoming expensive. We paid for Coal and Coke in 1861, not less than \$732,212, or nearly equal to double the entire value of the exports of our minerals. It is gratifying to know that a very considerable area of peat exists in Canada, which may one day become very valuable. The peat at Chambly was at one time cut pressed, and sold, as fuel; but in consequence of the cheapness of wood and coal, it was not remunerative. There are about 100 square miles of peat on the Island of Anticosti. Large peat bogs occur between the Ottawa and the River St. Lawrence, and also on the south side of the last named river.

Miscellaneous.

PLUMBAGO.—The workable beds of this mineral occur chiefly on the north side of the Ottawa. Little has yet been done with them.