

working of less intrinsically valuable minerals requiring for their proper utilization a greater amount of labour and skill. Mining industries of the last-mentioned class can scarcely be undertaken successfully elsewhere than in well inhabited districts or at points on the coast to which free access may be obtained by sea. Such industries, therefore, in a new country, extend with the spread of settlement and occupation of the land. They are of slower growth, but more permanent, and in all parts of Canada where railways, roads and water routes have opened up, industries of this class are now being rapidly established.

It is intended here to give briefly the more important facts in this development, pointing out where ores and minerals of the various kinds are being produced, and in what directions activity of the kind is extending, with a few notes on the history and characters of the mineral industries. Particulars respecting the representative specimens comprised in the Canadian Exhibit at Paris, must be sought in the special Catalogue of this exhibit separately printed; while much detail in regard to current mining operations in the several provinces will be found in the reports of the provincial mining departments, as well as in the annual report of the Section of Mineral Statistics and Mines and in the Summary Report of the Geological Survey for 1898, for which enquiry may be made.

Some facts may in the first place be given in regard to the distribution of the more important economic minerals of Canada as a whole, coupled with a statement of the output of each of these for the last calendar year.

Coal, is abundant and extensively worked on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, its occurrence facilitating over-sea trade and local traffic on both oceans. The more important mines are situated in the provinces of Nova Scotia and British Columbia. New Brunswick produces small quantities of coal for local use, and coals and lignite-coals are largely developed in the Northwest Territories, east of the Rocky Mountains. There is no available coal in Ontario or Quebec, but in the first-