

The past year's production of gold in the province shows an increase over that of 1884, the output being estimated, approximately, at 20,000 ounces, as against 16,000 ounces for the preceding year.

The gradual but steady growth of the coal sales in Nova Scotia may be represented by the tables of years as follows:

Years.	Tons.
1791-1800.....	51,918
1801-1810.....	76,432
1811-1820.....	91,527
1821-1830.....	139,829
1831-1840.....	829,281
1841-1850.....	1,522,719
1851-1860.....	2,299,829
1861-1870.....	4,227,219
1871-1880.....	7,227,424
1881-1884 (3 years).....	6,691,256

NEW BRUNSWICK.

A deposit of *stibnite*, carrying sixty per cent. of *antimony*, has been discovered in Albert county, and miners will be at work on it in the spring to test its extent.

Discoveries of rich deposits of *manganese* have been made during the past few months in several localities in the province, and it is expected there will be a large production of this mineral during next summer.

It is probable that mining operations will be resumed in the spring at the *manganese* mine at Hopewell, Albert county. The mine has been inspected by a competent mining engineer, who has pronounced it capable of yielding a large annual output under intelligent and efficient management.

QUEBEC.

The Anglo-Canadian Asbestos Company are proceeding with active operations at their mine at Black Lake, and will not, hereafter, suspend work during the winter months as has been the custom.

The *Tillamere* mica mine in the township of the same name, Ottawa county, is yielding a steady output of very fine mica. The mine is now fairly opened and is capable of producing a large annual supply.

Dr. James Reed has purchased the South Ham mines, Lake Nicolet, Wolfe county. This property includes *asbestos*, *antimony*, *copper*, *iron* and *chromic iron* deposits, and embraces an area of 2,000 acres.

The phosphate mines in the de Lièvre district and in Templeton are giving employment to a large force of miners and laborers, and ore is being brought to the surface in great abundance. The mines were never so productive as at the present time.

Coal work has been accomplished during the past few months by the St. Onge Gold Mining Company at their mine on Slate Creek, Beauce. The drift from the bottom of the shaft is now in ground that carries coarse gold in paying quantity and is some feet above bed-rock. This company's prospects are very bright.

ONTARIO.

Phosphate mining in the Kingston and Perth districts has not been engaged in during the past two years as actively as formerly; the attention of miners having been attracted to the larger deposits in the county of Ottawa.

The only mica mine now being worked in this province, that we know of, is near Sydenham, in the township of Loughborough, county of Addington. The mica is dark amber in color and is produced in quantity.

A new mining company composed of Toronto, London, Ont., and United States capitalists is being organized for the purpose of purchasing mining options on claims in the Thunder Bay district, and placing them on the market.

Ontario has sent to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition the largest and best exhibit and the greatest variety of iron ores that will be forwarded by any other province of the Dominion. It would be difficult to collect a better display of iron ores from any part of the world.

(Thunder Bay District.)

Some good silver ore has been taken from the *Porcupine* mine, and we hear that *Silver's rock* mine is producing a quantity of native and black silver.

The proposed line of the Lake Superior Mineral Railway runs through the silver district passing close to all the working mines on its way to the Huronian mine in the gold region.

The Beaver and Rabbit Mountain companies have given contracts for the erection of mills at their respective mines. It is expected that the mill will be in operation at the *Beaver* by the 1st July next.

The vein of the *Rabbit Mountain* is said to be dipping, with a strong incline, under the *Rabbit Mountain Junior* property, while the vein of the latter dips towards the former property. It is a question which will carry the other when the two veins meet.

Within twenty-five miles of Port Arthur there are five working silver mines, viz: the *Rabbit Mountain*, *Beaver*, *Silver Creek*, *Twin City* and *Rabbit Mountain Junior*. They are within three miles of each other and are connected with Port Arthur by wagon and winter sleigh roads.

Gold and silver were discovered last summer on the east shore of Lake Nipigon. A winter road has been made from Nipigon Station on the line of the C. P. R., a distance of 15 miles, to the location, and miners are now at work proving the discoveries. A car load of ore will be shipped to New York for a practical mill test.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

About four tons of quartz from Ireland mountain, Cariboo district, have been crushed and found to yield \$25 per ton.

The total exports of gold from the province for the year 1885 amounted to \$394,782.52 as reported by Wells, Fargo & Co.

It is expected there will be considerable squabbling over claims on Granite Creek and tributaries in the spring if they should prove valuable, as no doubt many are held illegally.

Work was shut down on Granite Creek towards the end of November. Extensive preparations have been going on during the winter for spring work, which will be resumed about the end of the present month and continued until the June or July freshets set in. When the water again subsides there will be no interruption for the balance of the year.

If capital were forthcoming to develop the quartz ledges which exist in Kootenay district there is little doubt as to the result, the richness of these ledges being well known.

The Quesnelle Quartz Mining Company are doing good work in Cariboo. They have twenty men employed, including an expert and many practical quartz miners.

The total yield of the Cariboo district for the year 1885 is in the neighborhood of \$350,000. It has been said by some that Cariboo is played out. Others, however, are of opinion that it has not yet seen its palmyest days.

Upranis of \$100,000 worth of gold has been accounted for as having been taken from Granite Creek the past season. There are now wintered in the district about 800 white miners and 200 to 400 Chinamen, and there is no poverty among them.

At Lorne Creek authentic reports show that the yield for 1885 has been considerably less than for the previous year. Gold mining was first started in 1884 on Lorne Creek, which is a tributary to the Skeena River, and the gold taken out of it is valued at \$17 per ounce.

Fresh discoveries have been made on what is known as the South Fork of Granite Creek and in some smaller creeks. Champion Creek is also a recent discovery, emptying into the Talameen river, about twenty miles above the mouth of Granite Creek. Several claims have been located on it and the prospects for gold are very promising.

The following is the total output of coal from the Wellington and Vancouver mines for the year 1885:

Wellington mines (tons).....	279,040
Vancouver " ".....	137,518
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	416,558

These two mines furnish employment for over a thousand men.

UNITED STATES.

The production of copper in the United States in 1885 reached about 155,050,000 pounds of fine copper, as against 115,000,000 pounds in 1881.

The product of copper ingot from the Calumet and Hecla mine from 1875 to 1885, both years inclusive, was not more than 4.80 per cent. of the ore mined.

A short time ago a shaft was sunk to a depth of 1,100 feet in Livingston County, N.Y., when a vein of pure rock salt was struck 18 feet in thickness. The salt produced from the seam is 29.37 per cent. of rich chloride of sodium.

The gold bullion produced by the mines of the Plymouth Consolidated Gold Mining Company, California, for the year 1885, was \$380,527.11; operating expenses amounted to \$319,750.91, leaving a profit of \$60,776.20.

It is now an established fact that the Calumet and Hecla Copper Company is to have smelting works at Lake Linden. The new works will be erected by the Detroit and Lake Superior Copper Company, for the smelting of Calumet mineral.