and the like, over long railway lines, independently of the expense Now we feel convinced that, after Con h leration, the result of this will be the establishment in the Lower Provinces of an extensive winter trade to our products and those of the Western States Montreal and Quebec will continue to be the distributing points in summer, and Halifax and St John will be so in winter. In the fall, vessels bearing produce, passing through our canals and inland waters, will convey cargoes to the Lower ports, to be thence distributed wherever a market offers—Europe, the West Indies, South America-instead of lying unprofitably in our warehouses; our exporting merchants will have partners and agents in the principal cities of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; and, thus, a state of things will arise which will operate to the mutual bonefit of all parties concerned. But it will be said that all these benefits may be effected irrespective of Confederation. We do not believe Without Confederation we cannot have the Intercolonial Railway, and without the railway we cannot have the trade of which we speak Easy, direct, and speedy intercourse with regular and reliable postal facilities, is a necessary condition of its existence; and we should remember that the causes of national increase and commercial prosperity are often as imperceptible as those which govern the growth of the fruits of the field. Add, then this important incident to the future that is in reserve for us, as we attempted to describe it our last publication, and we imagine that few thoughful men in the Maritime Provinces will not hesitate before they throw impediments in the way of the working of a Union which is calculated to be attended with so many advantages to all within its pale. Above all, it should not be forgotten that this is not a party question, but one in which the welfare of every inhabitant of British North America is deeply involved.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK DUTY ON TIMBER CUT IN MAINE.

1 3. DERBY, in his recent report on the state of Il the Colonies, quotes The Lear Book as an authority for the statement that the New Brunswick export duty replaces a stumpage duty formerly levied in that Province, and jumping rather hastily to the conclasion that this export duty was levied on lumber cut in Maine, suggests that this export duty was levied in violation of the Ashburton Treaty.

The facts are , recisely what The Year Book asserts In addition, as the question has recently assumed fresh interest, we may state .-

That under the Ashburton Treaty all logs, timber, scantling, &c., not manufactured, the produce of those parts of the State of Maine, watered by the River St. John or its tributaries, have constantly been sent by the St. John River to the sea-board, and shipped thence to the United States free of export duty.

The shipper has been required to make an affidavit of the following form:-

SAINT JOHN, N.B , 1st February, 1867. Shipped by John Smith on board the schr. "Rough namond," Whelpley, Master, for Boston, Mass.

Shipped by John Smith on board the schr. "Rough Damond," Whelpley, Master, for Boston, Mass Burthen, 123 tons.

Pine Lumber, Masts and Spars. Spruce, Juniper, and Hardwood Timber Masts and Spars. Saw Logs and Sawed Lumber, seventy-one thousand six hundred superficial feet Pine Boards and Plank.

I, John Jones, do swear that I am authorized by the shipper of the above named cargo of timber and lumber, and that the quantity shipped by John Smith is correctly described, and contains no more than as above stated, to the best of my knowledge and belief Produce of that part of the State of Maine watered by liver St. John or its tributaries, and floated down to this port.

this port.
TREASURY, SAINT JOHN, N B, (Signed.)
181 February, 1867.
Sworn before me,
(Signed.) B. ROBINSON.

DUTY.

Tons Pine Timber, at 20c per ton, \$
"Spruce, Juniper, Hardwood, &c., at 15c. per ton
71,600 superfic'l ft. Sawed Lumber, at 20c per M. Free

FREE.-Lathwood, Laths, Shingles, Clapbards, Sash Pieces.

When the Reciprocity Treaty came into operation in 1854, the Governor of New Brunswick made proclama. tion that under the treaty lumber sawn in mills at St-John from logs cut in the State of Maine, would be allowed to be exported to the United States free, and the privilege continued until the 26th of February, when the Solicitor-General of New Brunswick directed the Treasurer of St. John (an office answering to our

Collector of Customs; to collect the duty on timber and other lumber out in the State of Maine as before the issuing of the proclamation, dated the 11th Nov., 1851, giving effect to the Reciprocity Treaty." Of course, this means that lumber sawn or manufactured in mins at St. John, even if cut in the State of Maine, shall be liable to export duty.

It will be seen that Mr. Derby a random suggestion was curiously enough made previous to the levying of the duty, and we should not be surprised if it was the means of drawing the attention of the New Brunswick neonle to the subject.

Since then, Mr. Jewett, an American citizen, sln per of St. John has retained counsel to dispute the charge and try the question, and the authorities at Washington, with that desire to support American citizens under all circumstances, which it would bo well for our Government to imitate, have informed him that his interests would be protected.

We cannot doubt that the matter has been considered in Council, at Fredericton, and that the New Brunswick Covernment have carefully kept within the Ashburton Treaty, although the original intention of the export duty, viz., the replacing of the stumpage, has been departed from since lumber cut in Maine can nover have been liable to it.

MINING IN NOVA SCOTIA.

THE Report of the Chief Commissioner of Mines for the Province of Nova Scotia, for the year 1860 is the Province of Nova Scotia, for the year 1866, is already printed. Like its predecessors, it is divided into two parts, the first treating of gold mines; the eccoud of mines other than gold

Respecting the gold mines, the interesting fact appears that more gold has been produced to each hand employed than in any previous year, although the total yield is somewhat less than in 1865. The figures are :-

 $\frac{11}{27} - \frac{88}{30.963}$ Quartz and gravel crushed, tons

der statement, as a system of dishonest gold-pilfering has been commenced by persons pretending to be pediars, who buy gold at half-price from dishonest miners, thus cheating both the mine owners and the government. A strict enforcement of the law and the employment of several detectives is recommended. To show what resources the government obtains directly from the gold mines, applicable to such preventive measures, we copy the Gold Balance Sheet of the mining department for the 12 months ending, Sep. 30th 1866.

\$18202 EXPENDITURES:

Salaries and Surveys....\$7068
Returns of Rents & Royalty. 2654
Royalty Commission.....669
Lands......1220

\$11591 Net Revenue . The state of the Coal mining industry is very remark

6611

able.

year. What is more important, the exports of coal to the relighbouring North American colonies have increased by 54,000 tons. These figures, however do not sufficiently explain the matter; the annual export of coal to the neighbouring colonies has more than doubled within the past year, and present indications warrant the belief in a rapid and continued increase in the trade. * * I see no reason to doubt that by the close of the incoming year the sales of Nova Scotlan coal will have attained as great an amount as they would at the same period, had the Reciprocity Treaty continued in operation."

We have couled this extract, not only for its in

We have copied this extract, not only for its in trinsic value, but also as showing that the same spirit prevails in Nova Scotia as in Canada with reference to the commercial isolation from the States, to which we are being forced; viz., that it is an evil, but by no means an insupportable or uncompensated one.

It only remains for us to give the statistics of the Nova Scotia coal mines for 1866, which are:-

Hands employed 3,043 No. of days labour. 665 fe8 No. of horses emgloyed 460 No of fengines, 46, horse power 1,555

The receipts of the mining department were \$68,110. and the expenditures \$1296, leaving the large net reyenue of \$56 814.

The only other mine worked, besides the gold and oal mines, was the Iron mine belonging to the Weadon Company, which produced 2053 tons of Fig

MINERAL RESOURCES OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

(Continued.)

BITUMINOUS SHALES.

HE Bituminous Shales of New Brunswick are spread over quite a wide extent of country; they have been recognized at Dorchester in Westmoreland, and extend from thence to Apoliaqui, in King's Co. a distance exceeding fifty miles. At this latter place, according to Mr. G. S. Matthew, there are 'beds of bituminous shale and seams of Albertite in sandstone, and further up the valley thick deposits of bituminous shale and limestone." The largest area however in which they occur, is probably in Albert Co. There are two varieties, those known as the Albert shales, and another as the Baltimore shales, but as they do not differ materially in their composition or properties, the distinction is comparatively animportant. As far as we can learn no systematic efforts have as yet been made to turn this source of wealth to account. And we therefore think that a brief description of its nature, properties, and the uses to which it is capable of being applied, may appropriately find a place here.

Dr Dawson and Sir Charles Lyali have both pro nounced opinions upon the geological character of these shales; and Professor Hind describes them as being of a calcareous bituminous nature, "containing a great number of fossil fishes in a remarkable condition of preservation, every scale being in place, although the fishes are flattened by pressure; they have also their fins perfectly preserved. . . . Some specimens which I took from the parent rock near the Albert mines, resemble a fine calcarcous mud, stratifled in extremely thin layers, each layer being serpaated by a coating of bitumen. I counted up-wards of one hundred of these layers in an inch." The state of the Coal mining industry is very remarkable.

The total sales of coal were 601,302 tons, or 51,552 tons less than in 1865. 'The cause of the decrease,' says the Commissioner, "must be patent to everyone" "The abrogation of the so-called Reciprocity Treaty with the United States, and the imposition in the latter country of a somewhat heavy duty on coal, has of course had its damaging effect upon our coal trade, as the United States was our largest customer. Still the effect has not been so great as might reasonably have been expected, and the aspect of affairs at the close of the fiscal year, after the abrogation of the treaty. The great demand for coal during the late war, and the depressing effects of that war upon productive industry in the United States, gave a great stimulus to our coal trade, and one which did not cease with the close of the war. Again, when the abrogation of the treaty was imminent, a further stimulus was offered to that trade, efforts being made to force as much coal as possible into the United States, and as the abrogation in which our coal trade, and one which did not cease with the close of the war. Again, when the abrogation of the treaty was imminent, a further stimulus was offered to that trade, efforts being made to force as much coal as possible into the United States, have a great stimulus was offered to that trade, efforts being made to force as much coal as possible into the United States, and the other side of the accountable to the direction in which our coal trade has increased—the United States, bave been looking about them for new markets. The home consumption has increased—the largers a amounting to about 10 per cent. Within the