

IMPORTANCE OF COAL.

"Coal is entitled to be considered as the mainspring of our civilization. By the power developed in its combustion all the wheels of industry are kept in motion; commerce is carried with rapidity and certainty over all portions of the earth's surface; the useful metals are brought from the deep caves in which they have hidden themselves, and are purified and wrought to serve the purposes of man. By coal, night is, in one sense, converted into day; winter into summer; and the life of man, measured by its fruits, greatly prolonged. Wealth, with all the comforts, the luxuries and the triumphs it brings, are its gifts. Though black, sooty, and often repulsive in its aspects, it is the embodiment of a power more potent than that attributed to the Genii in Oriental tales. Its possession is, therefore, the highest material boon that can be craved by a community or nation.—*Prof. J. T. Newberry.*

"Maritime Provinces."

Says Charles Marshall, in his work, the "*Canadian Dominion*":—

"The Maritime Provinces in confederating with Canada, have augmented its power in a degree immensely exceeding the mere proportion of their population, or extent of their territory.

"They have given her an ample seaboard, thickly studded with excellent harbours, coal-fields nearly as extensive as those of Great Britain, a merchant marine capable of commanding the North American carrying trade, and many thousands of hardy, skilful seafaring men, who, to use the language of Governor Andrews, in his report to Congress on the British North American Provinces, 'from their superior intelligence and bodily vigor, and their experience in the navigation of the cold and stormy coasts, are the best of seamen and well qualified to maintain the honour of their flag on every sea.'"

"Coal-fields of immense extent occur on the very seaboard (Nova Scotia) to add the natural advantages of position possessed by the Province for securing the direct trade between the old world and the new."