

# Resources of British Columbia.

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## OUR COAL MARKET.

San Francisco, being an important manufacturing center, is our principal market for coal, and a slight review of the quantities and kinds consumed by the various industries of that city will show the foothold we have there, and that we compete very successfully with all the other coal producing localities. The *Scientific Press* in an article on this subject says: Our own coal supply in the State is from the Mt. Diablo mines, but is not liked for domestic purposes, being mainly used for making steam. The Coos Bay coal field in Oregon gives us a large quantity as does the mining region of Washington Territory, and British Columbia. Vancouver Island shipments last year were 300,000 tons, and Washington Territory shipped 164,986 tons. The Mt. Diablo mines yielded in 1883, 76,162 tons. From Tacoma, W. T., we received last year 137,420 tons. We get coal also from Australia, Great Britain, and the Atlantic Coast. When we have a heavy crop of grain, we get a great deal of foreign coal, the ships coming here for grain, bringing the coal. With a short crop our foreign coal imports always fall off. The statements, given below, will serve to indicate the consumption of the several varieties of coal at San Francisco. The principal sources of supply, are from Mt. Diablo, in the immediate vicinity; from Coos Bay and Renton in Oregon, and the ports in Washington Territory; from Vancouver Island, from Australia and Great Britain as also Cumberland and anthracite from the Atlantic coast.

Qualities.	Tons, 1883.
Foreign—Australia.....	150,316
English, Welsh and Scotch.....	135,162
Vancouver.....	117,822
Eastern—Anthracite.....	25,725
Cumberland.....	16,555
Domestic—Mount Diablo.....	76,162
Coos Bay and Renton.....	24,525
Seattle, W. T.....	161,380
Tacoma, W. T.....	137,420
Total.....	829,615

Frederick E. Saward, of New York, issues each year a little work on the coal trade, giving statistics from all over the world. The following table, taken from it, shows the total receipts of coal at San Francisco for the past three years:

Qualities.	Tons, 1881.	Tons, 1882.	Tons, 1883.
Foreign—Australia.....	126,296	158,001	150,316
English, Welsh and Scotch.....	251,313	188,771	135,162
Vancouver.....	158,629	157,762	117,822
Eastern—Anthracite.....	13,667	24,988	25,725
Cumberland.....	24,382	14,890	16,555
Domestic—Mount Diablo.....	103,665	113,255	77,162
Coos Bay and Renton.....	21,246	14,533	24,525
Seattle, W. T.....	152,893	151,611	161,380
Tacoma, W. T.....	.....	51,627	137,420

The production of coal in the United States for the year 1883 is as follows:

States.	Tons.	States.	Tons.
Alabama.....	1,400,000	Montana.....	50,000
Arkansas.....	75,000	New Mexico.....	250,000
California.....	200,000	Ohio.....	8,229,429
Colorado.....	1,000,000	Oregon.....	60,000
Dakota.....	50,000	Penn. anthracite.....	31,793,927
Georgia.....	200,000	Penn. bituminous.....	24,000,000
Idaho.....	10,000	Tennessee.....	1,000,000
Illinois.....	10,508,791	Texas.....	100,000
Indiana.....	2,400,000	Utah.....	250,000
Indian Territory.....	175,000	Virginia.....	225,000
Iowa.....	3,881,300	Washington Territory.....	290,000
Kansas.....	850,000	West Virginia.....	2,250,000
Kentucky.....	1,650,000	Wyoming Territory.....	700,000
Kyrgyzstan.....	2,306,172		
Maryland.....	135,000	Total.....	96,159,719
Michigan.....	225,000		
Missouri.....	225,000		

Below will be found the analyses of some coals found in British Columbia:

PLACE.	Thickness of seam in feet.....	Water.....	Combustible Matter.....	Fixed Carbon.....	Ash.....	Sulphur.....
Queen Charlotte Island.						
Anthracite coal.....	3 to 4	1.60	5.02	85.75	6.69	.....
Vancouver Island.						
Newcastle coal.....	3 to 4	.....	35.49	32.57	11.94	.....
Wellington—Dunsmuir seam.....	4 to 6	.....	34.70	35.59	9.80	.....
Brown's River—Comox.....	4 to 5	.....	21.57	73.14	4.34	.....
Trent.....	3 to 8	.....	92.59	62.76	7.82	.....
Union Mine.....	5 to 10	1.70	157.17	68.57	2.81	.....
Baynes Sound.....	5 to 6	.....	9.55	61.70	5.75	.....
Mainland British Columbia:						
Nicola River.....	15 to 3	.....	21.51	74.58	3.91	.....
Hat Creek.....	42 to 46	8.60	35.51	95.54	9.60	.....
Chilliwickek.....	5	.....	35.73	63.86	1.41	.....
United States:						
Seattle coal, Puget Sound.....	11 to 60	35.49	45.97	6.44	.....	.....

We find the following analyses of Coos Bay and Astoria coals compared with Nanaimo and Bellingham Bay:

	Astoria Coals.	Coos Bay	Nanaimo.	Bellingham Bay.
Water.....	2.56	20.00	2.98	8.39
Volatile matter.....	46.29	32.59	32.16	23.26
Fixed carbon.....	48.49	41.98	46.31	45.69
Ash.....	2.74	5.34	18.55	12.66

The coal production of the world in 1882, from the best sources, was as follows:

	Square Miles of Coal Area	Tons.
Great Britain.....	11,000	156,499,467
United States.....	192,000	81,849,846
Germany.....	1,770	65,333,925
France.....	2,086	20,833,332
Belgium.....	510	17,590,989
Austria.....	1,900	19,000,000
Russia.....	20,000	3,600,000
Spain.....	3,500	900,000
Nova Scotia.....	300	1,265,811
Australia.....	24,840	2,100,282
India.....	2,000	4,000,000
Japan.....	5,000	800,000
Vancouver Island.....	300	335,000
New Zealand.....	.....	370,000
Chili.....	.....	50,000
Sweden.....	.....	90,000
Italy.....	.....	220,000
Total.....	.....	379,718,162

With regard to wages paid for digging coal in the United States, it may be stated that the highest price is paid at Lerdo, Texas, an 18-inch coal being \$1 50 per ton. The lowest figure is at Latrobe, Pa., 26 cents per ton.