

trip from Charlottetown to Pictou in the summer in three hours, while the vessels of the P. E. I. Steam Navigation Co. require five hours. There is a large pleasure travel to P. E. I. through Pictou, and this is constantly increasing.

The Magdalen Island steamer "Beaver," iron, leaves Pictou once a week, every Monday, on the arrival of the noon express, calling at Souris and Georgetown, P. E. I., both going and returning.

PICTOU COAL MINES.

The area of the Pictou coal field is about thirty miles. It is distant from six to fourteen miles from the wharf in Pictou harbor, where vessels of two thousand five hundred tons can load. There are four mines in Pictou now in active operation; viz.:

Vale,	Acadia,
Albion,	Drummond.

The Vale, Acadia and Albion are under one management, that of the Halifax Co. There are four workable seams of coal, varying in size from 5 to 36 feet each. The character of the coal is good for steam, iron making, and for gas. It is remarkable for its freedom from sulphur, contrasting strongly in this respect with the Cape Breton coal. 60,000 tons have formerly been banked for months, and there never was a case of spontaneous combustion.

The different characters of coal shipped from Pictou and their respective prices free on board are as follows:

Lump,	...	...	...	from \$2 00 to \$2 25 per ton.
Run of Mine,	...	...	...	2 75 "
Nut,	...	...	...	1 25 "
Culm,	...	...	...	from \$0 60 to 0 75 "

There is Railway communication between all of the mines and tidal water, and coal can be shipped from seven to eight months in the year. The product of the Pictou mines for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1888 was 474,188 tons. This output can easily be trebled should the state of the market warrant it.