

TABLE II.

Abstract of Custom House Reports of the Quantities of Coal Exported from Nova-Scotia for the Fiscal Years ended June 30th, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1873.

| Market. | 1868. | 1869. | 1870. | 1871. | 1873. | Total for 5 Years. | Coal Ex- ports from Gt. Britain to America. 1872. |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------|---|
| | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. |
| United States | 198,920 | 376,135 | 209,418 | 252,179 | 232,760 | 1,269,433 | 108,165 |
| New Brunswick, Que- bec, and Newfound- land | 45,307 | 50,659 | 51,967 | 49,308 | 51,667 | 251,908 | 175,902 |
| Foreign West Indies and Spain | 4,311 | 2,407 | 12,585 | 4,620 | 2,935 | 26,858 | 301,323 |
| St. Pierre and Miquelon . | 2,589 | 2,330 | 2,699 | 3,302 | 1,652 | 12,572 | .. |
| British West Indies . . . | 820 | 51 | 1,170 | 1,381 | 1,888 | 5,310 | 147,997 |
| South America | 147 | 186 | 129 | 65 | 1,345 | 1,863 | 941,313 |
| Great Britain | 666 | 200 | 160 | 270 | 500 | 1,796 | .. |
| Total | 522,760 | 431,968 | 281,149 | 311,116 | 292,747 | 1,569,740 | 1,674,640 |

REVIEW FOR 1873.

GENERAL RESULTS.—The output of 1873 was 1,051,467 tons, or 170,517 tons in excess of that of 1872. The sales, as reported by the colliery managers to the Mines Department, amounted to 881,106 tons, or 95,192 tons above those of the preceding year. The output was derived from twenty-four seams, worked by as many different collieries, and the quantity sold was for the following destinations:—Quebec, 187,059; New Brunswick, 68,217; Newfoundland, 55,861; Prince Edward Island, 26,840; Nova-Scotia, 215,295; the United States, 264,760; West Indies, 54,213; Great Britain, 6976; South America, 1885 tons.

It will thus be seen that nearly 63 per cent. was required for consumption in the Dominion, 30 per cent. by the United States, and only a little over 6 per cent. by the West Indies and South America, where, as before remarked, proper exertions should be able to establish a very large market. One singular feature of the reported sales is that of nearly 7000 tons for Great Britain, an experiment, however, which could only be repeated with profit under very exceptional circumstances. Of the quantity sold, 186,744 tons were carried by 428 steamers, 633,100 tons by 3176 sailing vessels, and 60,962 tons by land.

PRICES.—Owing to the great demand, prices ruled from one dollar to one dollar and a half per ton higher than in 1872; the largest sum paid at the close of the season, when cargoes were scarce, being 3 dols. 50 c. per ton free on board.

EXPLORATIONS.—An unusual number of licences to search and work were applied for during the year, the departmental returns showing a total of 504 rights of search, and 59 licences to work issued in 1873, covering in all an area of 1565 square miles. The Inspector of Mines complains that few reports were made of the results of explorations as required by the terms of the licence, one very general cause assigned being, that the licensees fear advantage may be taken by holders of contiguous areas of the information given to the Department.

LEASES.—At the close of the year an area of 177 square miles was held by leases, 37 miles being under the sea. Work was reported upon 78 square miles.

ACCIDENTS.—The number of accidents in the Coal mines was lamentably great, as many as sixty deaths having been occasioned at one time by an explosion of gas on the 13th of May, in the Drummond Colliery, Pictou County.

PROSPECTS.—The Inspector of Mines estimates the output for 1874 at one and a quarter million tons, but as some of the collieries in Cape Breton, from which large returns were promised, have been closed until Congress shall have ratified the Reciprocity Treaty, the year's production will probably be somewhat under that limit.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT.—The Mines Department Report for 1873 is free from the typographical errors and occasional inaccuracies of former years, and instead of consisting of separate reports by the Chief Commissioner and Inspector, there is but one report, written wholly by the Inspector, Mr. HENRY S. POOLE, F.G.S., ^A U.S.M., and confined to facts and useful suggestions. The Inspector strongly advocates the adoption of dynamite and drilling machines. In referring to the latter, he says: "For boring holes to prove the nature of underlying strata, the *Diamond Drill* stands unrivalled, since its operation is more expeditious, cheap, and satisfactory than any system yet invented;" and he further states that two such drills are