

and planks" exported to American ports from five provinces, over \$5,000,000 worth went from Ontario, mainly from the Ottawa district, the remainder from Quebec and Maritime provinces. Other lumber, \$475,000; railway sleepers and ties, \$335,000; deal ends, laths and palings, \$301,000, are the items coming next in amount. There is still so great a quantity and variety of forest products in this "wooden country" of ours that as much as 152,000 cords, put down at \$311,000 in value, was sent from Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec to the States for firewood. Shingles, telegraph poles, hop and hoop poles are further important items; but larger than any of these is the item of tanbark—hemlock we may be sure—to the extent of 52,755 cords, from Quebec, New Brunswick, and Ontario, valued at \$235,787, or nearly \$4.50 per cord. There remains to be mentioned spruce, pine, hemlock, and oak logs, to the extent of 38,000 M. cubic feet, valued at \$177,000. Scantling, staves, headings, leached ashes and pot or pearl ashes are other items in the list of forest products exported to the United States. We send very little square timber thither, perhaps \$10,000 worth in all, mostly from Quebec and New Brunswick, but box shooks from Ontario and Quebec are quite a large item. It is worth while, too, to mention leached ashes, as well as potash and pearlash, as articles of export across the great lakes.

Next to forest products the most important portion of our sales to the United States consisted of field products. The States bought last year 9,365,724 bushels of Ontario barley, worth \$5,203,284, besides taking a little of that grain from Quebec. Also 341,000 bushels Ontario wheat, \$600,000 worth of Quebec hay at ten dollars per ton, and some from Ontario. Peas, beans, flax, maple sugar, are further items of our export to our neighbors; but we must mention in particular the item of potatoes, of which, among a total export of a million and a half bushels, "Uncle Sam" took 1,276,000, more than half from Prince Edward Island, nearly all the rest from the other Maritime provinces, and paid an average of 40 to 50 cents per bushel for them. Malt, from Ontario, which was at one time a very heavy item, has declined to 182,000 bushels, worth \$146,000. Of green fruits we succeeded in selling to our American neighbors \$210,000 worth, almost all apples, Ontario and Nova Scotia contributing 56,912 and 42,151 barrels of these respectively. We shipped across the lines, too, 9,405 hundredweights of flax, valued at \$78,000. These are the main items in an aggregate of \$7,966,000 products of agriculture exported to the United States.

What products of the mine, it may be asked, do we export to the Americans to the extent of \$3,085,431? The answer is, first, coal, of which we sent in 1887 no less than 315,000 tons from British Columbia and 81,000 tons from Nova Scotia. The total value of this item was \$1,252,000. The next material in importance is gold dust, gold nuggets, or gold-bearing quartz, of which we sent to our neighbors over a million dollars worth (\$1,017,401) from British Columbia and Nova Scotia. Then come crude gypsum or plaster paris,

\$165,497; copper, \$181,010; manganese, \$47,266; silver, mainly from Ontario, \$16,487; stone, plumbago, phosphates, salt, and antimony.

Our fisheries form an important element of the wealth of the country for export purposes. Last year we sent abroad \$6,875,000 worth of their produce, and the proportion of this taken by the Americans was no less than \$2,717,000 worth, or nearly 40 per cent. Lobsters and mackerel are the inhabitants of our ocean shores which are most in favor with our neighbors, judging from the quantity consumed. Almost half their fish purchases from us consisted of lobsters; 8,612,000 pounds of these crustacea, canned, and 3,312,000 pounds fresh, were exported by us to the United States last year. The fresh fish went from the three Maritime provinces, and those in cans from the same and from Quebec as well, Nova Scotia claiming first place in both cases. Value of lobsters \$1,282,335, viz., \$339,000 fresh, the remainder canned. Mackerel is the salt water delicacy next affected by our friends to the south. They buy these fresh, canned, and pickled; but where they take only 1,000 long tons of them fresh, from N. S. and N. B., and \$32,000 worth, canned, from P. E. Island, the quantity of pickled mackerel shipped to them, all from Nova Scotia and the Island, was 79,311 barrels, valued at no less than \$573,968. Dry-salted cod from Nova Scotia mounts up to \$399,000 in the list, and next to it is the item of "other fish," of which fresh fish, the growth of our great lakes, was despatched from the province of Ontario to the value of \$303,845 and from Manitoba to the amount of \$88,000. It must not be omitted from mention that New Brunswick and Nova Scotia send quantities of herring, both smoked and pickled, millions of pounds and tens of thousands of barrels, and that the fresh salmon purchased by the Americans last year from Quebec and the two provinces south of her were of the value of \$141,519.

NOVA SCOTIA MINES AND MINERALS.

A report upon the Nova Scotia mines must always be looked for by Canadians with interest, that province is so rich in a variety of minerals. In some respects the report for 1887, just issued by the Inspector of Mines in Nova Scotia, Mr. Gilpin, is gratifying and shows progress; in others it disappoints expectation, though it is true that fair reasons are given where there is apparent decline of production. Of gold the production is less than in the previous year by 21,211 ounces to 23,363 ounces, and, as we showed in our Christmas number, the production is more largely from the western districts of the province than before. The report says:—"Although there is somewhat of a decrease in the gross amount of gold returned as compared to that of 1886, it is accounted for by the fact that the protracted drouth that commenced so early in the season prevented some of the regular mines from handling the usual amount of ore. The decrease in the quantity handled by the older mines is more than double the total decrease of the

whole industry, showing that the new properties have increased. There was a large amount of labor expended in developing new properties and re-opening old mines, putting a large amount of cash in circulation around the gold district. The expenditure of money for new machinery and mills was larger than for some years."

The year is regarded as a profitable one for gold-miners, who are sanguine as to the future, being stimulated by discoveries made. Systematic efforts are now being made, too, in the direction of treating properly the low grade ores, which are deserving of more attention than they used to receive. It is agreeable to find, also, that the local authorities as well as the proprietors have reached the conclusion that it pays to mend the roads in the mining districts thereabout. If ever there were rough and rocky roads those were they; and it will be a great comfort to some people that the transportation of machinery and heavy freight has been made easier.

It is too soon, it seems, to look for any evidence of stimulus derived, if it is ever to be derived, by the iron industry from the heavy duties imposed, in its wisdom, by the Dominion Government last year. Only a fraction less of iron ore was produced in 1887 than in 1886, the figures being 43,532 tons, against 44,388 tons. Nor have we seen "blast furnaces for the manufacture of iron springing up on the Bay of Quinte and elsewhere on Lake Ontario," in consequence of these duties, as some sanguine people predicted. Let us hope they may yet come. There ought to be, and there will be some day, a great development of iron-working in this country.

Now for coal. As was shown in this journal some three months ago,—*MONETARY TIMES* 23rd Dec., 1887—a large and profitable market for Nova Scotia "black diamonds" has been developed in Quebec and Ontario. The output of 1886 was large, quantity being 1,502,000 tons; last year it was greater by ten per cent. The sales of coal were greater, for according to Mr. Gilpin, 1,519,000 tons were sold in 1887 where sales were only 1,373,000 tons in 1886. It is interesting to observe that the home sales, *i. e.*, the sales in Nova Scotia itself, 469,464 tons, were larger than in the previous year; those to the province of Quebec were 650,000 tons, compared with 538,000 in 1886, 494,000 tons in 1885, and only 396,782 in 1884. To the province of New Brunswick, 186,000 tons was sold, which is an increase of some 11,000 tons in the year. Newfoundland purchased 82,053 tons, where she bought only 71,476 tons in 1886; and Prince Edward Island 50,615 tons, against 49,168 tons in 1886. The shipments to the United States comprised 2,558 tons of round, 35,722 tons of slack, and 35,612 tons of run-of-mine coal, in all 73,892 tons, against 66,003 tons in 1886. Of this amount all the run-of-mine coal was sent from Parrsboro, the total Cumberland shipments being 41,387 tons. Cape Breton sent to the same market 29,285 tons of slack and 1,851 tons of round coal.

A tabulation of the product of Nova Scotia mines is given, as under, compared with the previous year: