

## ECONOMIC MINERALS

### COAL

The coal of Nova Scotia is bituminous, and in many cases coking, resembling the coals of the north of England. The total output of the province for the calendar year 1905, was 5,279,621 long tons, being over 60 per cent. of the entire coal output of Canada for the year.

#### SYDNEY COAL-FIELD.

The Sydney coal-field, in the county of Cape Breton, was the first opened in Canada. The French extracted some coal here in the eighteenth century, and as early as 1785 work was done here by the English government. In 1827 systematic and regular mining was begun by the General Mining Association. The coal-field has been long known for its excellent steam coals, which are largely used for domestic purposes, coke, gas-making, etc. The area of the field, which is not yet fully explored, is about 400 square miles. It contains a number of large seams favorably situated for mining, and is on tide water. With it may be associated the New Campbellton areas in Victoria Co.

1. BITUMINOUS COAL. Phalen seam, Dominion Coal Co's collieries, Glace Bay, C. B. Co.—This company is too well known to require more than a brief account of it and its operations. It operates under a lease of 99 years, the royalty to the N. S. Government for the whole period being at a minimum of 12½ cents per ton, with a minimum gross amount for each year to be paid on at least as many tons as were in 1891 sold by all the mines included in the new company. It has control of the Glace Bay section of the Sydney coal-fields, where it works the Phalen (8 ft.) and Harbor (6 ft.) seams on a large scale, and also the Hub (9 ft.) and Emery. The following collieries are in operation:—No. 1, (on Phalen seam), No. 2 (on Phalen seam), No. 3 (Phalen seam), No. 4 or Caledonia, (Phalen seam), No. 5 or Reserve (Phalen seam), No. 6 (a new colliery on Phalen seam), No. 7 or Hub (Hub seam), No. 8 or International (Harbor seam), No. 9 (Harbor seam), and No. 10 (Emery seam). These collieries are up to date in every respect, the pits being supplied with all modern improvements in the way of endless haulage, compressed air for pumps and mechanical coal-cutters, fans, picking tables, etc.; and there are also 3 Robinson-Ramsay coal-washers, with a combined capacity of 2,000 tons daily. The company's railway connects the mines with the I. C. Railway, the Dom. Steel Co's furnaces, and shipping piers at Sydney Harbor and Louisburg (40 miles of main track). The output for July 1906 of Dom. No. 5 (Reserve), was 59,298 tons; of No. 2, 52,701 tons; and of No. 1, 45,266 tons. The total output of all the collieries for the calendar year 1905 was 3,271,401 tons of 2240 lbs. The seams are worked "room and pillar." The following analyses show the character of the seams in this district:—