

THE COAL INDUSTRY

OF

NOVA-SCOTIA.

GENERAL REVIEW.—The total quantity of Coal produced in the Province during the years 1827 to 1873 inclusive, amounted to 12,879,898 tons (of 2240 lbs.), a trifle in excess of the quantity exported by Great Britain in the year 1873 alone.

The sales for the decade ended December 31, 1873, as shown in Table I., were almost equal to the aggregate production of the previous thirty-seven years.

From an abstract of the Customs Returns of the Exports of Coal for five fiscal years ending June 30, 1873 (emitting the returns for 1872, which at present writing are not accessible), it will be seen that the United States, despite the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, are still the best customers of the Nova-Scotian collieries, their consumption for the period shown in Table II. being 81.0 of the quantity exported; New Brunswick, Quebec, and Newfoundland taking 16.0; the foreign West Indies, 1.5; the French naval stations of St. Pierre and Miquelon, 1.0; the British West Indies, 0.3; South America, 0.1; and Great Britain, 0.1. Many of the collieries, in fact, owe their development entirely to United States enterprise.

The Coal industry of Nova-Scotia possesses a very able champion in Mr. R. G. HALIBURTON, who has endeavoured to instil some little energy into his fellow colliery-owners, and to induce them to seek new markets and more thoroughly exploit those already opened. An abstract of the quantity of Coal exported from Great Britain to America in the year 1872, which is added, by way of contrast, to the quinquennial summary of exports from Nova Scotia (Table II.), shows that there is room for exertion; but Mr. Haliburton's eloquence is lost, the spirit of enterprise being foreign to the soil. The colliery owners prefer to await the revival of the Reciprocity Treaty, in the hope that the Americans will come to their aid, and find for them outlets for their produce which, with due intelligence and perseverance, they might have found for themselves long ago.

In addition to the Mines Department Reports, the following modern publications have special reference to the progress of the provincial coal industry: *Acadian Geology* (J. W. DAWSON, M.A.); *Coal Fields of Caribou* (Do.); *Coal Fields of Nova-Scotia* (JOHN RUTHERFORD, M.E.); *Coal Fields and Coal Trade of Cape Breton* (RICHARD BROWN, F.G.S.); *Explorations in Pictou Coal Field* (R. G. HALIBURTON, M.A.); *Exploration in Cumberland County* (H. Y. HIND, F.G.S.); *Geological Survey of Nova-Scotia and Cape Breton* (D. HONEYMAN, F.G.S.); *Geological Survey of Spring Hill Coal Fields* (EDW. HARTLEY, F.G.S.); *Mineralogy of Nova-Scotia* (HENRY HOW, F.C.S.)

TABLE I.

Abstract of the Quantity of Coal RAISED and SOLD in Nova-Scotia and Cape Breton Island, during the Decade ended 31st December, 1873, as taken from the Reports of Colliery Managers to the Mines Department.

Year.	RAISED.			SOLD.		
	Nova-Scotia Proper and Cape Breton Island.	Cumberland.	Pictou.	Total Nova-Scotia Proper.	Cape Breton.	Grand Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1864	562,102	20,612	226,533	247,145	339,972	587,117
1865	715,786	11,865	190,328	292,193	424,991	627,184
1866	664,998	16,088	181,658	197,746	360,774	558,520
1867	517,525	10,066	135,115	145,181	326,004	471,185
1868	462,188	10,104	144,852	154,956	298,669	453,625
1869	578,062	8,515	198,211	206,726	305,060	511,795
1870	625,769	7,884	226,526	234,410	333,867	568,277
1871	673,242	11,737	245,800	257,537	338,881	596,418
1872	880,950	14,153	388,417	402,570	383,344	785,914
1873	1,051,467	26,345	333,984	360,329	520,777	881,106
Total	6,732,089	137,369	2,271,424	2,408,793	3,632,318	6,041,141