

It will now be in order to refer separately to each of the provinces and the more important districts beyond the lines of the recognized provinces, beginning on the east and ending to the west in British Columbia and the Yukon District.

### NOVA SCOTIA,

Although the total area of Nova Scotia does not much exceed 20,000 square miles, it offers a remarkable diversity of geological conditions and mineral resources. The principal minerals now worked are coal, iron and gold, with gypsum and various materials of construction. Besides these there are copper and lead deposits which have not yet become the basis of continuous industries, as well as manganese, antimony and other minerals which have been worked irregularly or of which the existence is known.

Nova Scotia was known from very early days to possess important mineral deposits, but these only began to attract attention in the first part of this century, and their exploitation on any considerable scale practically dates from 1830, when the first deep shaft of the General Mining Association was sunk on a coal-seam. Since then the development and working of some of the mineral deposits have been pushed actively, while others, although apparently promising yet remain undeveloped.

#### Mineral production in Nova Scotia in 1899 :—

Coal, tons .....	3,148,822	\$4,920,035
Gold, ounces.....	29,879	617,604
Iron ore, tons.....	24,232	72,696
Gypsum, tons.....	126,754	102,055

Coal.—The Carboniferous formation occupies a large portion of Nova Scotia, covering over half the area of Cape Breton Island as well as a large part of Cumberland, Pictou and Hants counties. Coal constitutes the main mineral product of the province.

The first mention of the existence of coal occurred in 1672, when, in a geographical and historical notice of the