

**Mineral Fuel.**

The imports of mineral fuel into Canada, in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903 and the value thereof, were as follows :

	Tons	Value.
Bituminous and slack.....	3,862,295	\$8 197,034
Anthracite.....	1,456,713	7,028,664
Coke.....	256,723	1,222,756
Totals.....	5,575,731	\$16,448,454

These imports were the output of mines chiefly in the states of West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. The imports from all other countries, chiefly Great Britain, were as follows :

	Tons	Value.
Bituminous and slack..	69,779	\$22,884
Anthracite and slack..	62,038	345,015
Coke.....	15,638	70,469
Totals....	147,455	\$636 358

The duty upon bituminous coal is 53 cents per ton of 2,000 pounds and upon bituminous slack 20 per cent, but not to exceed 13 cents per ton. No duty is imposed upon either anthracite or coke.

Substantially all of the bituminous coal and slack imported into Canada from the United States finds entrance through ports in Ontario, in which province it finds its greatest consumption, the supply for Manitoba reaching through Port Arthur. And this is true also regarding anthracite and coke, there being a much smaller demand in Montreal. The demand for mineral fuel in the province of Quebec is supplied almost entirely from Nova Scotia mines; and that for the mountainous sections of the Far West and of British Columbia from the mines in that province. Ontario is the largest consumer of mineral fuel, but is not a producer.

Canada, however, is an exporter of bituminous coal, our exports in 1903 being as under :—

	Tons	Value.
Great Britain .....	25,335	\$92,119
United States.....	1 719,027	4,610,064
Newfoundland.....	126,169	330,054
Other countries.....	109,420	390,197
Totals.....	1,079,951	\$5,452,434

These exports were almost entirely the output of Nova Scotia mines, 83 per cent. of which were to the New England states for consumption in industrial establishments there, and upon which, at present, no United States duty is imposed.

**Gold and Manganese Mining in British Columbia.**

Consul L. Edwin Dudley, writes from Vancouver, B.C., under date of August 13, 1903, as follows :—

I have recently visited Atlin, British Columbia, and vicinity. This district is very rich in gold, and there are large hydraulic plants being established there, some of which are already producing gold in very considerable quantities. There is one dredging plant in process of construction; it is expected that it will be in operation before the close of the present season. This dredging plant is the first that I have seen building in the interior. It is quite a different operation from dredging work on the bars of rivers which I have seen heretofore. A large basin is excavated, in which the dredge is built. A ditch, 7 miles long, brings water with which to fill this basin and float the dredge when completed. This will also furnish power to develop electricity to operate the machinery on the dredge. The advocates of the dredge proposition think it superior to the ordinary hydraulic work, for the earth that has been washed fills up the space immediately in the rear and is not thrown down into the stream, as is the case with the hydraulic companies. This dredge is expected to dig into the benches and make its way, leaving the ground very much as it found it, except that it will have extracted the gold.

The Atlin gold is generally not as fine as is found in the beds of streams in other districts. There are some individual miners who seem to be doing well in this district, but it does not appear to me to be a country in which men with small capital can do very much, but at the present time wages are very high. The ordinary pick-and-shovel men are paid \$3.50 per day and board, and their expenses into the country in the spring of the year and out again in the autumn are paid by their employers, and they can save nearly everything they earn if they are pleased to do so.

Returning to Atlin after a visit to one of the creeks, I noticed a great

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