alone would be able properly to urge and maintain its interests in the Cabinet. It is not necessary to prove that the mining industry is an important one but possibly it is not generally understood that the value of mineral products exported, greatly exceeds the value of the fisheries export, products of the forest, is almost equal to the agricultural products, and is not far below manufactures. Thus in 1902 the value of the

Mineral export was	34,942,403
Product of Fisheries	14,143,294
Product of Forest (Lumber included in manufactures)	4,469,489
Animals and products thereof was	59,161,209
Agricultural products	37,152,68[illegible]
Manufactures	46,118,081

In consequence of the depression of the lead industry and the very considerable falling off the quantity of gold mined in the Yukon these figures do not compare as favourably as those of 1901, in which year the mineral exportation exceeded the value of every other classification except animals and products thereof. These figures are quoted to show the relative value to the country of the mineral industry. Without giving corresponding details for each classification we may point out that the total value of mineral production in Canada for 1902 will probably exceed $80,000,000 and there is every indication that during the present year it will pass the $100,000,000 mark. It can hardly be maintained that an industry of this value is not entitled to be represented in the Dominion Government by a Minister whose special duty it shall be to foster and encourage its development.

We are aware that many objections can be raised to this suggestion and that also the figures we have quoted would be misleading unless we pointed out that the bulk of the mineral property of the Dominion belongs to the several Provinces and is entirely subject to their control, but whilst admitting this we contend that the mineral lands belonging to the Dominion Government are considerable, consisting of the whole of this class of property in the North West Territories and the Yukon, together with an important and extremely valuable coal reserve in British Columbia. To administer these properties several officials are paid considerable salaries and it would be a distinct advantage that they should be responsible to a ministerial head. It may be objected that the Provincial Governments would resent any control from a federal minister and no doubt this is so but there are many things which could be done by such a minister to further the several interests of the Dominion, without in any way clashing with local and provincial susceptibilities. For instance, a department under the control of such a minister could undoubtedly obtain and classify most important information respecting the mineral resources and development of the country and these properly grouped and arranged would be of greater value than the fragmentary information which alone is now attainable. The minister would also be in a position to bring the claims of the Dominion before investors in a far more reliable manner than is at present done by men who are largely interested in the statements put forward. Undoubtedly there is too much Provincialism in Canadian affairs. It may not be so apparent to ourselves but it is very apparent to outsiders and is decidedly a disadvantage to the Dominion as a whole. English Capitalists for instance hear on one hand a great deal about Canada as a Nation, about our prosperity, our cohesion, and our patriotism. On the other hand they are confronted with the spectacle of provincial representatives, each endeavoring to outvie his competitor in some other Province in setting forth the attractions and advantages of the mineral property under his control. It would certainly be more dignified and more in accordance with the general policy upon which we are endeavoring to consolidate the Dominion if this aspect of the matter were minimized and a broader and more comprehensive view of our resources were taken. It is hopeless however to expect that this desirable end will be achieved except under the direction of a Dominion Minister, whose sole purpose will be to set forth impartially the resources of the Dominion without any reference to local interests.

We notice that efforts are being made to secure the appointment of a Minister of Mines in Ontario. This may or may not be a necessity, at any rate it is entirely a matter for the Province to decide for itself, but it has no general bearing whatever upon the question we are discussing, and which will, if adequately dealt with, we believe raise the great mining industry to a position of dignity and importance which it has not hitherto attained in the eyes of the world but to which it is undoubtedly entitled, both by reason of its unlimited reeource and its considerable development.

Imports of Mining Machinery.

The following are the official returns of the value of the mining and smelting machinery free and dutiable imported into Canada during the year ended 31st December last:—

Month.	United States		Great Britain		Other Countries		Total.
	Free	Dutiable	Free	Dutiable	Free	Dutiable	
January	$66,236	$2,549	$26,328	......	$420	.....	$95,533
February	42,486	2,380	637	.....	......	.....	45,503
March	54,980	1,720	275	$9 9	......	......	57,884
April	55,648	4,997	5,579	90	.....	......	66,314
May	90,623	4,725	197	......	......	......	95,602
June	76,409	5,293	811	......	50	.....	82,563
July	47,441	2,17[illegible]	......	......	67	......	49,682
August	81,627	1,139	9,162	......	9	......	91,937
September	81,608	8,535	180	371	302	.....	90,996
October	54,883	4,010	2,128	345	......	......	61,396
November	55,270	9,167	1,022	....	.....	228	65,687
December	34,257	1 677	9,893	206	1,209	......	47,242
Total	$741,471	$48,450	$56,212	$1,921	$2,057	$228	$850,339

Imports of Wire Rope.

The following figures from the Trade and Navigation monthly reports show the imports of wire rope into Canada during the year ended 31st December last.

It is worthy of the remark that 80,724 lbs. of a value of $2,685 were imported from countries other than Great Britain and the United States.

Month	Great Britain		United States		Total	
	Lbs.	Value	Lbs	Value	Lbs.	Value
January	108 251	$6,101	98,864	$10,100	207,115	$16,201
February	58,552	3,981	34,239	3,257	92,791	7 238
March	38,439	2,856	33,346	3 245	71,785	6,101
April	96,158	5,447	17,866	2,169	114,024	7,616
May	166,573	12,835	30,050	2,889	199,347	15,814
June	170,990	12,058	50,703	5,115	221,693	17,173
July	37 922	2,953	42,221	6,217	80,143	9,170
August	6[illegible],009	5 591	43,124	4,011	104,133	9 602
September	113,081	8,131	67,172	6,205	206,253	15,206
October	68,752	5,304	29,587	3,320	150,339	10,349
November	59,074	4,917	89,5[illegible]	9 5[illegible]8	148 574	14,505
December	54,516	3,782	26,847	2,816	81 363	6,598
Total	1,033 317	$7[illegible]	563 519	$58 [illegible]	1 677,5[illegible]	$135,573

Le Roi.—Cable returns—Shipped to Northport during January, 16,377 tons of ore, containing 5,673 ozs gold, 10,695 ozs silver, 479,183 lbs copper. Estimated profit on this ore, $15,000. (December profit, $41,000.)

Anglo-Canadian Gold Estates.—Mr Allan Sullivan, the manager, cables as follows —"7th February—Started the machineay on the 5th February. Everything working well."