

Let the Government extend its fostering care over our national industries, and there is no difficulty in the way of supplying Ontario with Nova Scotia coal for her manufactories and domestic consumption as cheaply, if not cheaper, than she now obtains it from the United States, and much cheaper than the New England States pay for their supply from Virginia and Pennsylvania. New England pays from \$6 to \$8 per short ton for the coal, and yet she submits gracefully to a 75c. per ton duty because her other industries are amply protected against foreign competition.

Let the Government place us on an equal footing with the United States, by charging them 75 cents duty per short ton, and we will give Ontario as cheap coal as she now receives, and we will be enabled thereby to command our own market, and the \$3,320,000 spent annually for coal from other countries will remain at home.

The average cost for five years of the coal imported into Ontario was \$4.50 the short ton, or \$5 the long ton. Then an arrangement in progress by which Toronto will receive coal at \$4.50 the long ton, or about \$4 the short ton.

When this coal trade to the West is fully established it will enable railways to carry the products of our Western Provinces to market lower than was ever contemplated by any railway man.

As an illustration of the close relations of the coal trade to the general industry of the country, especially the iron trade, the following calculations may be interesting:—

The Canadian Pacific Railway, from Thunder Bay to the terminus on the Pacific, may be estimated at 2,000 miles. It will require 300,000 tons of pig-iron to make rails, fastenings and bridges, and about 80,000 tons for rolling stock, &c.

To produce this quantity of pig iron will require about 800,000 tons of ore, and 1,200,000 tons of coal. To move this ore and coal, &c., for the purpose of manufacture, will take about 120,000 tons of coal.

The total consumption of coal in making rails, fastenings, iron for bridges, and rolling-stock and for transportation of the same to points of use, &c., cannot fall short of 1,500,000 tons. This quantity could absorb the output of two ordinary mines for ten years, and increase the coal trade of Nova Scotia 150,000 tons for ten years.

It would take two rolling mills ten years to produce the rails and iron; and the labor required for mining, manufacturing iron, rails, bridges and rolling-stock, and transportation to and fro of all the various articles specified, will be over 3,000 men, representing a population of 15,000 people who would be directly fed and clothed for ten years, by simply developing these sources of wealth as indicated.