

The following table shows, in Metric Tons, the course of Belgian Iron, Steel and Coal Imports and Exports during the last three years:—

Imports.	Pig and other Iron.	Iron Ore.	Coal and Coke.	Steel.	Exports.	Pig and other Iron.	Iron Ore.	Coal and Coke.	Steel.
1875.....	162,346	804,370	724,440	5,341	1875.....	222,096	141,767	4,709,747	7,318
1876.....	222,263	671,134	832,296	6,137	1876.....	204,262	166,417	4,399,605	5,567
1877.....	207,353	783,298	678,318	4,659	1877.....	213,715	215,658	4,060,722	15,527

In 1877 Belgium exported 201,688 metric tons of manufactured iron, and imported only 13,974 tons. In the same year Belgium imported 193,380 tons of pig iron, and exported only 12,027 tons. Of iron ore there were imported 783,298 tons, 215,658 tons of which were re-exported. The grand duchy of Luxemburg supplied 573,600 tons.

It is worthy of remark that Belgium, with a population nearly identical with that of Canada, but having only one fifty-secondth part of its area, produces annually Coal and Pig Iron to the value of \$40,857,124, and that is exclusive of bar and other iron in manufactured forms. The annual production of Coal and Pig Iron in Canada, in value, amounts to only about \$1,754,526. Hence the value of the annual production of Coal and Pig Iron in Belgium is over 23 times that of Canada.

This is not the less striking when it is remembered that the estimated coal area of Belgium is but 510 square miles; while the coal area of Canada is estimated at 60,000 square miles.

The following table shows in detail the production of iron and steel rails in the United States since the beginning of the manufacture of Bessemer steel rails:

Years.	Iron Rails all kinds. Net tons.	Bessemer Steel Rails. Net tons.	Total. Net tons.
1867.....	459,558	2,550	462,108
1868.....	499,489	7,225	506,714
1869.....	583,936	9,650	593,586
1870.....	586,090	34,000	620,090
1871.....	737,483	38,250	775,733
1872.....	905,830	94,070	1,000,000
1873.....	761,662	129,015	890,677
1874.....	584,469	144,944	729,413
1875.....	501,649	290,863	792,512
1876.....	467,168	412,461	879,629
1877.....	332,540	432,169	764,709