

she increases her output she will naturally reduce the cost of treatment ; but, compared with others, she stands thus :

	Value.	Treatment	Profit & loss
Sultana . . . . .	\$20.00	\$ 4.00	\$16.00
Alaska . . . . .	3.75	1.50	2.25
Homestake . . . . .	4.77	2.57	2.20
Comstock . . . . .	43.86	35.71	8.15

The Alaska, Homestake and Comstock are well-known dividend paying mines in the States. This comparison, "that while the old and thoroughly equipped mines are consuming from 40 per cent. to 80 per cent. of the total value of the product in the treatment of their ore, the Sultana, still in her infancy, earns an 8 per cent. dividend on \$1,500,000 by the consumption of only 20 per cent. of the total value of her product."

There are, doubtless, as Col. Crawford contends, other rich properties worked and to be worked in the same Ontario district., of such a character as to present entirely new problems to the scientist, astonishing him with the quantity of gold regularly and continuously procurable from rock in which free gold is rarely, if ever, seen, and yielding, at small cost of production, from \$15 to \$20 per ton of ore. And we agree in his conclusion that facts such as these, if generally known, will interest many people, and contribute to the growth of immigration whereby the country should be benefited.

#### TRADING WITH JAPAN.

The new tariff legislation of the United States, giving high protection to domestic industries, has led, in other countries than Canada, to a desire for retaliation. The treatment accorded Japan by the Dingley bill has been specially severe, and the Japanese do not feel disposed to give the United States more trade advantages in their adoption of new ways of living than are necessary. Canadians should be on the look-out to share in the trade which the Japanese industrial revolution implies. Ten years ago the first brewery was established in Yokohama ; the present annual production of beer in Japan amounts to 100,000 barrels, and the increasing popularity of this beverage leads to the opinion that it will soon displace saka, the native beverage, of which 5,000,000 barrels are consumed each year. The methods of the German brewers have hitherto been followed, but one of the largest brewing concerns in Japan has recently decided, according to the *Chicago Times-Herald*, to utilize American plant in the production of beer.

In a conversation reported in this journal Mr. Hudzu Ikuta, the managing director of the Osaka Beer Brewing Company, says: "Heretofore we imported malt from Germany, made from what is known as the two-row grain, which is too rich in protein to suit the taste. The four-row barley of Japan and four and six-row barley of this country are far preferable, and as to hops, I consider the American product not only equal, but superior to the best German and Bohemian. Hence we shall import both barley and hops from America." The almost world-wide fame of Canadian barley should render profitable trade in this cereal with Japan possible. The Japanese barley crop is insufficient to meet the demands of the new industry in that country, and if it is increased the brewers of Japan may find with those of the United States that Canadian barley has superior malting properties.

What British Columbia can do in hop growing is no longer a matter of conjecture. Hops have been grown in

the Pacific Coast province of very superior quality, and fully as good as those grown in the hop yards of Pacific States. Only limited shipments have been made in Eastern Canada. At present there are no stocks of British Columbia hops in Toronto, but merchants say that if available they would bring about fifteen cents per pound, or three cents per pound more than the hops of Ontario growers. Shipments made in England have been well received and commanded high prices. In the matter of transportation the British Columbia growers can secure as advantageous rates as those of any other country, and should be able to find in Japan a profitable market for their product.

#### THE FLAX INDUSTRY.

The possibilities of building up in Canada a profitable industry in the manufacture of linens have been frequently discussed. An attempt at linen manufacture was made in Ontario during the Civil War in the United States, but when the war had closed and the cotton market resumed normal conditions, the venture met with an untimely end. The wives of the French-Canadian farmers of the Province of Quebec for almost two centuries had been weaving flax into linen, with which to make household fabrics and garments. But the industry in Canada has never successfully passed the domestic stage. The flax grown in this country is not, it appears, well suited to the purposes of linen manufacture. Canadian flax-growers have recently been attempting to gain a foothold in the Irish textile market, but with little better success than in former years. The Belfast correspondent of the *Draper's Record* says :

"Canadians have recently been offering flax to Belfast merchants. Hitherto the States have taken the entire production of Canada, principally for coarse threads, but, owing to the prohibitive tariff, the Canadians are compelled to seek out a fresh market. Canada has been doing her best to encourage imports, and we should reciprocate by taking her flax. The samples sent were, on examination, however, found too coarse for this market, and they were withdrawn. I understand they are preparing themselves to meet the demand from this side."

A year ago the Ontario flax interests formed an association, with the object of extending the market for flax grown in Canada. This association should now be active in acquiring information as to the exact nature of the needs of the Irish market, and if found practicable take the steps necessary to develop an export trade in flax.

#### COAL PRODUCTION IN THE STATES.

Six hundred thousand tons of coal every working day was taken out of the coal mines of the United States last year. By the returns the coal output of the fiscal year was 190,639,959 net tons. This was less than that of the preceding year, and the shrinkage was almost entirely in eastern anthracite. In the west Illinois continued to hold second place, increasing the output some 2,000,000 tons. The States of Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and Montana showed decreased production, but the phenomenally low prices offered for soft coal had something to do with this feature. Great preparations were made at many western points early in this year to mine coal extensively for domestic consumption, based on the certainty that fuel users will substitute soft grades, if anthracite prices and freight charges rule at the excessive rates of last year. It is of course difficult to forecast the result of the strike, because we are too distant to estimate the resources of the strikers. It is manifest, however, that all calculations and intentions such as are foreshadowed above must be upset by the fact that more than half the coal-workers of the States are meantime on strike.