

Royalty is payable quarterly on minerals "in marketable condition," 5 per cent. on all ores and minerals, except gold, iron and coal; 8 cents per ton on every ton of iron, and ten cents per ton on every ton of coal. Returns to be made under oath.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The minerals hitherto mined in New Brunswick have been gas coal and antimony (see *Year Book for 1867*.) No new statistics have come to hand.

Gold.—During the present summer (1868), about thirty square miles of territory have been purchased from the Provincial Government by Mr. Langstaff, and others associated with him. Prospecting is said to have been favorable, showing a yield of \$3 per cubic yard of earth dug on the banks of the Shicktehawk, a tributary of the St. John River.

Mining Regulations.

The following are the latest rules and regulations for granting licenses:—

On Granted Lands.—1st. Every Mining License to be exempted from payment of Royalty for five years from its date.

2nd. The Rent of Royalty upon Coal to be one shilling per chaldron, (with the exception of that to be raised from lands formerly under lease to Berton, Maynard and Syphers, where the rate is to be two shillings per chaldron.) Upon Shale sixpence per chaldron, and upon all Metallic Ores, except Gold and Silver, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. upon the value thereof when raised or dug.

3rd. On payment of a fee of five dollars, License to be granted to the owner of the soil, or his assignee, for Coal or Shale for a period not exceeding twenty-five years, and for other Minerals for a period not exceeding fifty years.

4th. The Rent or Royalty to be paid quarterly on the first of February, May, August and November, in each year after the fifth, to the Receiver-General or Agent for that purpose to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor. The statements on which such payments are to be made are to be on oath.

On Crown Lands.—(Licenses on which are periodically sold by auction):—

1st. Every Mining Lease to be exempted from payment of Royalty for five years from its date.

2nd. That the right of Mining within a tract of one square mile, for the term of twenty-five years, be put up at a fixed rate of one shilling per chaldron on Coal, and five per cent on the value of all other minerals raised, to be paid quarterly in each year after the fifth.

3rd. That the upset preference price for each lot be five pounds.

4th. That the preference money be paid, and the ground selected within one hour after the time of sale, after which other lots will be offered if required, in like manner.

5th. That the Lease contain a clause of renewal, or that the Government may resume and take the improvements at a valuation to be made by Arbitrators mutually chosen by the Surveyor General for the time being, and by the Lessee or his Assigns.

6th. That if the Lessee shall not actually raise Coal or other Mineral to the value of four hundred dollars per mile from his ground within any one year after four years from date of said lease, and so on annually during the continuance of the lease, the same shall become forfeited.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

There are no mines of any kind in Prince Edward Island. In Newfoundland mining activity constantly increases. The Union Copper Mine (Messrs. Bennett & McKay, proprietors) has now been in operation three years, during which time it has shipped 13,000 tons, the yield for each year respectively having been 1,000, 4,000, and 8,000 tons. The ore averages 12 per cent., and is worth, at Swansea (Wales) £8 stg. per ton. The product of the mine has therefore been £104,000 sterling. The mine supports a population of 1,000, where three years ago only one family resided. 300 men and boys are employed.

The Terra Nova Mine (Bennett, McKay, and others) is capable of shipping about 20,000 tons per annum, but the ore being poor shipments are for the present suspended. Other copper mines have been worked but not successfully so far.

Coal and Petroleum exist on the "French Coast," but, owing to the rights of France, the Newfoundland Government has not made any mining grants. For the same reason the fine marble quarries remain unworked.

The Lead mines at Lamanche were worked some years ago, and large quantities shipped, but for the present work is abandoned. This mine belongs to the New York and Newfoundland Telegraph Company.

Other Minerals.

"Specimens of copper, tin, platinum, plumbago, galena, iron, &c., have been discovered in many parts of the country, which is also believed to be rich in silver leads."

Mining Regulations.

The principal feature of the mining laws of Newfoundland is that the Government makes to applicants grants of a square mile each, on a lease for 999 years, claiming a royalty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. after five years.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The following statistics are from the work by the editor entitled "British Columbia." (Nov., 1867):—

Gold.—"British Columbia is surrounded by ranges of auriferous mountains, and the specks of the precious metal called "color" may be found in almost any section of the country."

Gold was discovered in 1858, and prospects improved until in 1861, "Antler Creek in Caribou" yielded at the lowest \$10,000 a day. On one claim \$1,000 were taken out of the sluice boxes as the result of one day's labor. One claim on William's Creek gave in one day 409 ounces, the total obtained on its area of 80 feet by 25, being \$105,000. In 1862 sinking, drifting and tunnelling began. "In this year 'Cunningham's Claim' averaged \$2,000 a day during the whole season. On several days 52 lbs. were taken out. 600 ounces were taken out of a single claim in one day. In 1863 'Dillon's Claim,' gave the extraordinary yield of 102 lbs., or about \$20,000 in one day."

Coal.—"Coal crops out along the whole Northern coast of Vancouver's Island. The great value of the mines has been proved. One field in Newcastle Island, owned by English capitalists, composing the Vancouver Coal Company, is estimated to contain 3,000,000 tons."

The mines were opened in 1852. The following quantities have been raised ("output") and shipped:—

	1862	1863	1864	1865	1866
Output.....	4,860	19,346	27,255	32,499	29,543
Shipments.....		21,550	29,069	32,818	25,212