

tive years. The trade with the United States fell off from 46,104 tons in 1865, to 151,602 tons in 1872; reviving a little in the busy times of 1873 it amounted to 231,700 tons, declining in 1874 to 138,336 tons, and further in 1875 to the almost nominal quantity 39,746 tons. The adverse duty of 7½ cents in gold practically prohibiting the importation of any quantity of Provincial coal into that country; and the royalty of ten cents in this, makes the sum of 25 cents in favor of the native producer of bituminous coal competing in the New England States. Were the duty removed, one-half the sum would enable our mines to ship at a profit and save the other half to the consumer. In connection with this subject our miners complain that every facility is given to the importation of

American coals and that the quantities of both anthracite and bituminous are annually increasing.

COAL.—GENERAL STATEMENT.

| | Produce | Sales. | Colliery Consumption. |
|------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|
| Total 1875 | 781,165 | 706,785 | 121,110 |
| " 1874 | 872,729 | 749,127 | 119,582 |
| " 1873 | 1,061,317 | 831,196 | 108,838 |
| " 1872 | 389,350 | 786,914 | 161,941 |

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

GOLD.

The following table gives an epitome of the history of the British Columbian gold fields:—

| Year. | Amount actually known to have been exported by Banks, &c. | Add one third more, estimate of Gold carried away in private hands. | Total. | Number of Miners employed. | Average yearly earnings per man. |
|---------------------|---|---|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1858 (6 months). | \$ 300,265 | \$ 130,085 | \$ 521,353 | 3,000 | \$ 173 |
| 1859 | 1,211,301 | 493,708 | 1,615,072 | 4,000 | 406 |
| 1860 | 1,671,110 | 557,133 | 2,228,243 | 4,400 | 506 |
| 1861 | 1,009,530 | 635,529 | 2,866,118 | 4,300 | 664 |
| 1862 | | | | 4,100 | 517 |
| 1863 | 3,184,700 | 1,061,569 | 4,246,268 | 4,400 | 481 |
| 1864 | 2,801,838 | 933,962 | 3,735,800 | 4,400 | 849 |
| 1865 | 2,618,404 | 872,891 | 3,491,295 | 4,284 | 819 |
| 1866 | 1,908,580 | 685,938 | 2,594,518 | 2,062 | 898 |
| 1867 | 1,989,651 | 630,217 | 2,620,868 | 3,041 | 814 |
| 1868 | 1,779,720 | 583,743 | 2,363,463 | 2,900 | 994 |
| 1869 | 1,331,251 | 443,744 | 1,774,995 | 2,360 | 760 |
| 1870 | 1,002,717 | 354,989 | 1,357,706 | 2,548 | 568 |
| 1871 | 1,349,580 | 449,887 | 1,799,467 | 2,650 | 734 |
| 1872 | 1,206,229 | 402,748 | 1,610,977 | 2,400 | 671 |
| 1873 | 979,312 | 323,487 | 1,302,799 | 2,300 | 567 |
| 1874 | 1,383,464 | 461,154 | 1,844,618 | 2,808 | 648 |
| 1875 | 1,659,178 | 618,725 | 2,277,903 | 2,074 | 1,100 |
| | | | \$35,100,570 | | |

Average number of miners employed yearly..... 3,220
 Average earnings per man, per year..... \$558
 Total estimated and actual yield of gold, 1858 to 1875 238,166,870

Concerning the operations of 1875, the Minister of Mines reports as follows:

In reviewing the mining operations conducted in British Columbia during the year 1875, it will be found that no new mining localities have been discovered. The work done has been in fields already known; and although much new ground has been broken, improved mines satisfactorily tested, and fresh deposits struck in localities already known, yet no really new Mining Districts have been added to those already discovered.

The prosperity of mining undertakings has not, however, been less on that account than in previous years; the yield of gold in Cariboo and Cassiar, as may be

gathered from the returns and papers accompanying this Report, has been steadily on the increase. The Cassiar field has been largely proved and developed, and much new and promising ground taken up.

CASSIAR.

The numbers of miners employed at Cassiar during 1875, appears from the returns to have been a little over 800, not therefore so large as reported in the previous year, but the returns of gold have been more satisfactory; the concurrent testimony of those likely to be best informed, giving a return of little short of a million of dollars.