

“of the prairie region on the east, situated, too, right on the
 “line of our great transcontinental railway, and within easy
 “reach of the Pacific coast, may furnish to those who are
 “concerned about the possible future relations of Canada and
 “the British Empire, some material for reflection.”*

Works re-
ferred to.

British Columbia and Nova Scotia are, however, at present the principal coal producing Provinces, the beds in the North-West, with the exception of those above mentioned, not being worked to any extent.

502. The figures relating to Canada used in this chapter have been taken almost entirely from a statistical report on the minerals of Canada, compiled by Mr. L. Coste of the Geological Survey. The figures relating to the United States and foreign countries have been principally taken from “The Mineral Resources of the United States, 1886,” by David J. Day, Chief of Division of Mining Statistics and Technology in the United States.

Mineral
production
of
Canada
1886.

503. The following statement of the mineral production of Canada in 1886, the latest year for which complete returns are available, will give some idea of the present value of an industry which is still in its infancy:—

* Report of Minister of Interior, 1887.