

539. As all the ore produced is exported, the following figures should represent the value of the total production in each year:—

Exports of Canadian silver ore.

## EXPORTS OF CANADIAN SILVER ORE, 1873 TO 1886.

YEAR.	Value.	YEAR.	Value
	\$		\$
1873.....	1,243,758	1881.....	15,115
1874.....	493,463	1882.....	6,705
1875.....	472,992	1883.....	8,620
1876.....	354,178	1884.....	13,300
1877.....	42,848	1885.....	29,176
1878.....	665,715	1886.....	25,957
1879.....	154,273		
1880.....	68,205	Total.....	3,594,305

In addition to the above it was estimated that silver to the value of \$167,000 was contained in the copper ores exported from the Capelton mines in Quebec in 1886.

540. The total value of the production of silver in the United States since 1848 has been \$772,283,217. In 1886 the value was \$51,321,500.

United States production of silver.

541. Phosphate or apatite is a mineral which is now receiving considerable attention, and the demand for which, as a fertilizer, is increasing, and its production is likely to become before long a very important industry. Professor Boyd Dawkins, who visited the mines in Ottawa County, Quebec, in 1884, said in a paper that he read on his return to England on Canadian apatite, that: "It would become one of the most profitable resources of this country." The only two places where it is worked at present are in Ottawa County, Quebec, and north of Kingston, Ontario.

Phosphate or apatite.

542. It is to be regretted that no steps have yet been taken for the establishment of works in this country for

Raw material at present all shipped abroad.