

of the exports went to the United States, and 18 per cent. to the United Kingdom and British possessions.

461. The total value of imports of minerals and products chiefly manufactured therefrom, in 1887 was \$27,166,966, of which amount \$9,547,052 was for coal, and \$11,000,000 for iron and steel, the two forming 75 per cent. of the whole sum.

Value of
imports
1887.

462. The most important mineral, in point of value, produced in Canada in 1887, was coal, the quantity being 2,368,891 tons, valued at the point of production at \$4,758,590, being an increase, exclusive of New Brunswick and Manitoba, returns from which were not included in the figures for 1886, of 266,474 tons.

Production of
coal 1887.

463. Almost all the coal at present is produced in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and British Columbia, but the coal deposits in the North-West Territories will soon be extensively developed and the output very materially increased. These deposits are inexhaustible, the coal-bearing area being estimated at 65,000 square miles, and the quantity of fuel known to underlie some portions of this area at from 4,500,000 to 9,000,000 tons per square mile. This coal varies from lignite to bituminous coal, and in the Rocky Mountains anthracite coal has been found, beds of which are being worked near Banff, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, by the North-West Coal and Navigation Company and the Canadian Anthracite Company. All the coal supplied to the Canadian Pacific Railway at Brandon and points west is now exclusively the product of Canada, and the Canadian Anthracite Company are finding a constant demand for their coal in the San Francisco market, and as the Banff mines are nearer to that city than are any of the United States anthracite coal fields, it is probable they will become the principal source of supply for that class of fuel. Anthracite

Coal producing
portions
of the
Dominion