

462. The following table, made up from returns furnished by the producers, gives the quantity and value of shipments since 1879. It is believed, however, that the output was sometimes given instead of the quantity shipped, and according to returns of shipments made by the Quebec Central Railway the aggregate quantity is too high by 1,662 tons :—

SHIPMENTS OF ASBESTOS FROM CANADIAN MINES, 1879 TO 1888.

YEAR.	Quantity.		YEAR.	Quantity.	
	Tons.	Value.		Tons.	Value.
1879.....	300	19,500	1885.....	2,440	142,441
1880.....	380	24,700	1886.....	3,458	206,251
1881.....	540	35,100	1887.....	4,619	226,976
1882.....	810	52,650	1888.....	3,936	277,742
1883.....	955	68,750			
1884.....	1,141	75,097	Total.....	18,579	1,129,207

463. As a result of recent explorations, large deposits of nickeliferous pyrrhotite have been found at Sudbury, Ont., the vein being in some places 100 feet thick, but the ore is low in nickel. It is, however, easily concentrated into a rich matte, and this the company propose to send to England for final treatment, and claim that they can supply nickel at the same, if not at a less, price than that charged by the French company, the Société du Nickel, which controls the carbonate of nickel mines of New Caledonia and absolutely the supply of nickel. If this could be done, and nickel be procured more cheaply, there is a vast field for its use in the steel trade, and these deposits are now attracting considerable attention in English metallurgical centres. It is estimated that the daily product of the Canadian Copper Company's mines at Sudbury is about 40,500 lbs. of matte, equivalent to a yield of about 4,000 tons of nickel a year. The total annual consumption of nickel at present is only 1,100 tons.

464. There is not space in a work of this kind to take up all of the minor mineral productions in detail. The table, at the commencement of the chapter, of mineral production in 1887 and 1888 will be some guide to their annual value.