

709. Next in importance, as regards value, among the minerals now being worked in Canada, is gold, the production of which is confined almost entirely to British Columbia and Nova Scotia, though a small quantity is annually produced in Quebec, and it has also been obtained from some parts of Ontario. When the country north and west of Lake Superior is fully explored, valuable deposits of gold may be discovered, as it is known to exist in many localities, and has been found in several places in small quantities. A small amount of gold is also obtained each year from the Saskatchewan River, near Edmonton. Gold was first discovered in British Columbia in 1857 in the Thompson River, near Nicoamen, and in Nova Scotia in 1860, near Tangier Harbour, since which date the value of the production in the latter province has been \$10,723,779. The total quantity of quartz crushed in Nova Scotia since 1862 has been 762,036 tons, which have yielded 551,146 ounces, being an average of nearly 15 dwt. to the ton. British Columbia, since 1858, has produced \$53,634,509, as near as can be ascertained, but as only an estimate can be made of the quantity carried away in private hands, the actual amount is probably larger.

Gold mining in Canada.

710. The production of gold in Canada in the years 1891 and 1892, was as follows:—

Production of gold in Canada, 1891 and 1892.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN CANADA, 1891 AND 1892.

PROVINCES.	VALUE.	
	1891.	1892.
	\$	\$
British Columbia.....	429,811	399,525
Nova Scotia.....	456,125	389,961
North-west Territories, including Yukon district, Quebec.....	39,550	110,997
Total.....	925,486	900,483

711. The yield in 1890 was valued at \$1,149,776, therefore, as compared with that year, there was a decrease of \$224,290 in 1891, and of \$249,293 in 1892.

Decrease in production.