

Shipments of asbestos, 1879-1892. 760. The following table, made up from returns furnished by the producers, gives the quantity and value of shipments from 1879 to 1887, after which the amount of production is given. It is believed, however, that, in some of the earlier years, 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 :—

SHIPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF ASBESTUS IN CANADA,
1879 TO 1892.

YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.	YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	\$		Tons.	\$
1879.....	300	19,500	1886.....	3,458	206,251
1880.....	380	24,700	1887.....	4,619	226,976
1881.....	540	35,100	1888.....	4,404	255,007
1882.....	810	52,650	1889.....	6,113	426,554
1883.....	955	68,750	1890.....	9,860	1,260,240
1884.....	1,141	75,097	1891.....	9,000	1,000,000
1885.....	2,440	142,441	1892.....	6,042	388,462
			Total	50,062	4,181,728

Number of producers. 761. In the Thetford, Black Lake, Coleraine and Danville districts, in the Eastern Townships, there were 16 companies at work, employing about 1,000 hands, while two companies were at work in Ottawa County. The exports of asbestos in 1891 amounted to 7,022 tons, valued at \$513,909, and in 1892 to 7,316 tons, valued at \$514,412.

Gypsum. 762. Gypsum, the production of which is steadily increasing, is at present worked only in Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, though deposits of a certain quality have been found in Manitoba and the Territories. From the following table it will be seen that the greater part of the production is exported in a crude state :—

PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS OF CRUDE GYPSUM, 1886-1892.

YEAR.	PRODUCTION.		EXPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	\$	Tons.	\$
1886.....	162,000	178,742	142,833	155,213
1887.....	154,008	157,277	132,724	146,542
1888.....	175,887	179,393	125,508	121,389
1889.....	213,273	205,108	178,182	194,404
1890.....	226,509	194,033	175,691	192,254
1891.....	203,545	192,096	172,496	184,977
1892.....	226,568	225,260	178,518	194,304