

564. Among miscellaneous materials are: sands for glass-making, moulding sand, carbonaceous shale, artificial stone, salt, brines and mineral waters.

565. The mineral statistics of Canada, published by the Geological Survey, afford abundant material for thought. We have now seven years' records. We started in 1886 with a gross value of \$12,000,000 as the contribution of mineral products to the wealth of Canada. In 1892, these products of old mother earth, yielded up by her on the demand of the mining community, were given a value of \$19,500,000. Of the \$12,000,000, \$2,000,000 represented the value of metallic products, and \$9,100,000 represented the value of non-metallic products, leaving \$881,800 to represent the estimated value of products unspecified or not reported. Thus, in 1886 the metallic products represented 16·8 per cent of the whole; the non-metallic products, 75·8, and "estimated," 7·4 per cent.

566. In 1892 the metallic represented \$5,807,049, or 30 per cent; non-metallic, \$13,223,267, or 68 per cent, and "estimated," 2 per cent.

567. The metallic products in 1892, instead of being one-sixth of the whole, as in 1886, were close upon one-third. The non-metallic, instead of being over three-fourths, fell considerable on its way to one-half, and "estimated" was, as it should be, comparatively small and unimportant.

568. The first point is that the gain during seven years has been in the metallic products. Examining this group, we find that copper has increased from an average product during 1886-91 (six years) of 5,680,105 pounds to 7,042,195 pounds in 1892. This is a satisfactory gain, though the returns show that the output reported for 1892 was short of that for 1891 by 1,886,726 pounds. The price, too, was 1 3-10 cents per pound less than the average of the previous six years.

569. Lead also showed a good increase, the output for 1892 being given at 1,205,420 pounds, against an average for six years of 349,213 pounds, and an increase of more than 100 per cent over the output of 1891.

570. Iron ore showed a fair increase, being for 1892, 103,248 tons, against a six years' average of 75,732 tons, and against 68,-