

argentiferous region of great richness. Beyond this district, to the north-west are found veins of gold-bearing quartz and extensive ranges of magnetic iron ore, while to the south-west is believed to be a continuation of the Vermilion iron range of northern Minnesota. The partial examination already made inspires the hope that here will be developed, in time, an iron region of great value. In the region adjacent to the Lake of the Woods, gold-bearing veins of good promise have been discovered, and an early development of some of the properties may be looked for. No reference has been made in the foregoing enumeration to the oil deposits of western Ontario, which are of great value.

593. Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Quebec, the north and west portions of Ontario, and some parts of the North-west Territories, are essentially the mining districts of the Dominion. Coal has been found in Manitoba, and, during 1892, the Canadian Pacific Railway completed a line to the Souris coal fields, which are now being developed; iron ore is also said to abound in the lake districts, but has not yet been worked; and a number of minerals and metals are known to exist in New Brunswick, but none of them ~~have~~ yet been found in any very large quantities, and mining is only carried on to a small extent. There is no mining in Prince Edward Island.

594. The coal areas of Canada are estimated at 97,200 square miles, not including areas known, but as yet undeveloped in the far north.

595. There are first, the coal fields of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; 2nd, those of the North-west Territories; 3rd, those of the Rocky Mountains, and 4th, those of British Columbia. 1st. The coal areas of Nova Scotia cover about 635 square miles. They are divided into the Cape Breton, the Pictou and the Cumberland basins, all in Nova Scotia; New Brunswick containing, so far as known, no seams of sufficient magnitude to be worked successfully in competition with the Cumberland mines.

596. The workable thickness of the coal is very great, in Cape Breton a total of 25 to 60 feet, in Pictou at least 70 feet, and in Cumberland at least 30 feet. If the workable area is reduced one-quarter, say from 406,400 acres to 300,000 acres, and the average thickness of the workable area put at 25 feet, on the basis of 1,000 tons of coal an acre for every foot of coal, the amount of coal in the measures of Nova Scotia is 7,000,000,000 tons.