

612. In British Columbia the only collieries at present in operation are on Vancouver Island, and are situated at Nanaimo, Wellington and Comox, and are four in number. Shafts are being sunk and prospecting carried on on Tumbo Island, between Victoria and the mainland, and also at Kamloops, on the mainland, but the output at present is nil.

613. The total output in 1893 was 1,095,689 tons of 2,240 pounds, as compared with 826,335 tons in 1892, an increase of 269,354 tons.

614. The following are details of the production and distribution of British Columbian coal :—

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF COAL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1893.

COLLIERIES.	Coal Raised.	°Home Consumption.	Sold for Export.
	‡Tons.	‡Tons.	‡Tons.
Nanaimo	525,628	. . . . .	379,765
Wellington	377,814	. . . . .	330,638
East Wellington	30,769	. . . . .	22,705
Union	161,198	. . . . .	128,079
North Thompson	280	. . . . .	. . . . .
Total	1,095,689	232,793	861,187

° Including coal used in the collieries. ‡ Tons of 2,000 lbs.

615. The coal is bituminous and of a very high quality, commanding a better price at San Francisco than any United States coal. In an analysis published by the State Mineralogist of California in 1887, the relative values for steam of British Columbian and Washington Territory coal were given as : Wellington, 1,047 ; Nanaimo, 1,335, and Seattle, 1,330.