

tive report, from which has been gathered the following description of the mineral wealth of Ontario :—In the central and eastern counties are magnetic and hematite iron ores, gold, galena, plumbago, arsenic, mica, fibrous serpentine, apatite, granite, marble and freestone. In the Sudbury district copper and nickel mines are being worked on a large scale. In the township of Denison, rich specimens of gold-bearing quartz and extensive deposits of copper and nickel are found. Along the north shore of Lake Huron, from the mouth of the French River to Sault St. Marie, gold and silver-bearing mines, iron, copper, galena and immense quarries of marble have been discovered. North of the Height of Land and extending towards James Bay, prospectors report a promising mineral region. North of Lake Superior, localities of gold, silver, copper, iron, galena, plumbago and zinc ores have been taken up, besides which there are inexhaustible supplies of granite, marble, serpentine and sandstone. West of Port Arthur is a silver district which, judging from the explorations already made, promises to be an 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 Vermillion 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.

The outcome of the work of the Commission was the establishment of a Bureau of Mines for Ontario, with Mr. A. Blue as Director. Four annual reports have been issued. The report of 1894 is a valuable one and contains information which should be studied by those desiring to make themselves well acquainted with the mineral wealth of the Province of Ontario. The Legislature of the province has made provision for summer mining schools at Sudbury and Rat Portage, at which practical instruction is given for the benefit of miners, prospectors and others employed or interested in mining pursuits. Classes were opened in the summer of 1894 and the aggregate regular attendance was 51.

832. 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 has 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.

COAL.

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