

834. 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.

835. 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.

836. The following average analysis from a paper on Canadian coals read at the Montreal meeting of the British Association, will give a fair idea of the coals from the three districts :—

—	Cape Breton.	Pictou.	Cumberland.
Moisture.....	0·75	1·19	1·46
Volatile combustible.....	37·26	29·10	33·69
Fixed carbon.....	58·74	60·63	59·35
Ash.....	3·25	9·34	5·50

837. There is a wonderful similarity between these coals, as shown by these analyses, and some notable coals mined in the United States. The Pictou analysis, except that it is high in ash, does not differ much from the Connellsville coal ; The Cape Breton is very much like the Pittsburgand, the Cumberland like the Westmoreland.

838. The coal fields of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton are all practically on tide water. Heretofore the shipment of coal by sea in winter has been almost impossible, resulting in loss from depreciation and in increased cost of handling and shipping. In the broad scheme of improvements undertaken in Cape Breton by the Dominion Coal Company (Ltd.) a very important feature is the construction of a railway from Sydney to Louisburg. This will give the coal of the Sydney fields a harbour the year round, and make easy the distribution of coal during the winter season.

839. There are no coal measures from New Brunswick westward until the Province of Manitoba is reached. The coal areas of Manitoba are roughly estimated at 15,000 square miles. They yield lignites only, often of a very good quality. Analysis gives the following result :—

Water	15·40
Volatile combustible.....	37·97
Fixed carbon.....	41·21
Ash.....	5·36