

The value of silver in the above tables is the coining rate. The commercial value is much below the figures given, being less than half. For 1894 it was 63 cents per ounce, a decrease from 1893 of $15\frac{2}{10}$ cents.

The production of silver in 1894 is given at 5,205,065 kilos, and in 1893 at 5,339,746 kilos. The decline in production was 134,681 kilos.

The decrease in quantity was 2.6 per cent, and in price 20 per cent.

The increase in the production of gold was over 13 per cent. The weight ratio in 1894 was 17.9 silver to 1 gold, while it required over 32 per cent of silver to equal 1 per cent of gold in value. In 1893 the weight rates was 20.9 per cent silver to 1 gold, while it required $26\frac{1}{2}$ silver to equal 1 per cent gold in value.

COPPER.

894. Copper occurs in Canada in the forms of native or metallic copper and the sulphuretted ores. The former is confined principally to the rocks of the upper copper-bearing series on Lake Superior. The latter are widely diffused. In Ontario, on the north-eastern shores of Lake Huron, extensive veins of rich copper ores have been mined for years. On Lake Superior, the native copper which has been so extensively and profitably worked on the Michigan shore, exists in large quantities along the Canadian shore. In Quebec and the other eastern provinces deposits of copper have been found. In British Columbia masses of native copper have been found in various parts of the province. The largest deposits are found in the neighbourhood of Sudbury, in Ontario. The development which has taken place in the Sudbury production of copper is to be seen in the returns for the past three years. In the two years, 1892 and 1893, the yearly average of the output was 1,684. In 1894 the output was 2,748 tons, showing an increase of 1,064 tons.

Recent experiments with a compound of aluminum, nickel and copper indicate that this compound resists the action of salt water better than any other and suggest an enlarged use of these metals in connection with shipping. In the event of further experiments confirming the preliminary ones, the nickel and copper matte of Sudbury will be in much greater demand than in the past.

895.—PRODUCTION OF COPPER IN CANADA.

	Pounds.	Valued at
1890	6,013,671	\$ 902,050
1891	8,928,921	1,160,760
1892	7,087,275	826,849
1893	8,109,856	875,864
1894	8,481,685	805,760