

657. The principal countries to which the articles were shipped during the same period were:—

COUNTRIES.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
United States	4,319,382	4,896,913	5,045,694	5,034,429	5,261,568	6,514,476
Great Britain.....	756,302	959,199	806,055	367,141	356,008	506,300
British possessions	256,585	246,218	319,593	312,515	393,132	284,736
Germany.....	20,532	23,516	30,320	39,156	29,307	58,752
Japan.....	7,639	4,964	4,596	12,564
St. Pierre.....	20,295	20,010	35,673	23,751	23,751	19,550
Mexico.....	2,373	18,818	3,175	1,115	11,485	11
Other countries.....	47,230	135,332	96,257	90,353	245,510	87,760
Total.....	5,430,338	6,304,970	6,341,363	5,881,024	6,320,761	7,471,585

It will be seen that almost everything goes either to the United States or to the United Kingdom, the proportions having, in the years named, been respectively 79 per cent, 77 per cent, 80 per cent, 86 per cent, 83 per cent and 87 per cent, and 13 per cent, 15 per cent, 14 per cent, 6 per cent, 5·63 per cent and 6·78 per cent.

658. The Ontario Provincial Government, in 1888, appointed a commission to enquire into the mineral resources of that province and the best modes of developing them. In 1890 the commission published an exhaustive 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 Ste. 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.