

Of the best qualities of chromic iron the manufacturers of Pennsylvania and Baltimore consume annually from 4,000 to 6,000 tons. The total production in the United States in 1894 was 2,653 tons and the importation 3,200 tons; the latter mostly from Asia Minor. The output from the Coleraine mines, Canada, in 1894, was about 1,700 tons. Chromic steel is manufactured in the United States for armour plates, shells, safes, &c. Chrome iron is largely used in the manufacture of bichromates of potassium and sodium, which products constitute the base of the chrome yellow, orange and green colour.

697. In 1893 there were five blast furnaces in operation in Canada—three in Nova Scotia and two in Quebec.

698. For the purpose of stimulating the iron industry the Dominion Parliament, in 1883, authorized the payment of a bounty of \$1.50 a ton upon all pig-iron manufactured in Canada. This bounty was continued until 1st July, 1889, when the rate was made \$1 a ton. A further change was made on 1st July, 1892, when the rate was increased to \$2 a ton until 1st July, 1897.

In the Session of 1894 an Act was passed providing that the Governor in Council may authorize the payment of a bounty of \$2 per ton on all pig-iron made in Canada from Canadian ore, a bounty of \$2 per ton on all puddled bars made in Canada from Canadian pig-iron made from Canadian ore, and a bounty of \$2 per ton on all steel billets manufactured in Canada from Canadian pig-iron, and such other ingredients as are necessary and usual in the manufacture of steel billets. These bounties are applicable till 26th March, 1899, in the case of furnaces in operation on the 27th March, 1894, and in the case of furnaces commencing operations subsequently to that date, but before 27th March, 1899, for five years from the date of commencing.

699. The Legislature of Ontario passed an Act in the Session of 1894 appropriating the sum of \$125,000 to be known as the Iron Mining Fund. Out of this fund the treasurer is authorized to pay \$1 per ton of pig-metal product of iron ores raised or mined and smelted in the Province of Ontario, the amount so paid not to exceed in any one year \$25,000.

None of the other provinces has done anything for the encouragement of their iron industry.

700. Under the operation of the bounty given by the Federal Parliament the production of pig-iron has increased from 29,593 tons in 1884 to 62,522 tons in 1894.

The following table gives 1st, the production in Canada of pig-iron; 2nd, the importation of pig-iron, iron kentledge and cast scrap-iron for home consumption—the two columns making up the total consumption—