

The following are statistics of the sealing fleet of Canada for the season of 1896, with those of 1895 added for purposes of comparison :—

	1895.	1896.
Total catch.....	73,614	55,677
Distributed thus :—		
British Columbia coast	9,853	10,703
Japanese coast.....	18,687	17,968
Copper Island coast	6,281	1,306
Behring Sea.....	35,918	25,700
Fleet, No. of vessels.	64	64
Boats	210	263
Canoes	421	442
Crew, white	705	809
“ Indians	854	889
Value fur seal skins		

Prior to 1878 very few seals were killed by Canadian sealers. Hunting was not carried on further than 20 miles from shore.

The following statement shows the

	Seals killed.		Seals killed.
1883	9,195	1893	70,592
1889	35,310	1894	95,048
1890	43,325	1895	73,614
1891	52,365	1896	55,677
1892	49,743		

From 1871 to 1896 the total products of the Canadian pelagic sealing industry amounted to 607,217 seal skins.

Total Pacific catch during the season of 1896 :—

Seals landed at Victoria.....	73,614	55,677
“ American ports by U.S. schooners...	20,307	
Seal catch on Pribyloff Islands (North American Commercial Co).....	15,000	48,637
Seal catch on Copper Islands (Russian Sealskin Co)...	17,920	14,896
	126,841	119,210

STATISTICS OF MINERALS.

PRODUCTION OF MINERALS IN CANADA.—(ANNUAL AVERAGE.)

	1886-7-8.	1889-90-1.	1892-3-4.	1895.	*1896.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Metallic	2,133,474	3,902,685	5,024,201	6,373,925	8,039,640
Non-metallic.....	9,595,334	13,076,892	14,549,712	15,295,281	15,087,665
Sundries	854,524	683,755	343,324	330,844	500,000
Total.....	12,583,332	17,663,332	19,917,237	22,000,000	23,627,305

* Subject to revision.