

The Federal Parliament, in the session of 1895, passed an Act to encourage silver-lead smelting and the smelting of other ores of gold and silver, to continue in effect till the 1st July, 1900. The bounty is not to be in any one year more than \$30,000, at the rate of 50 cents per ton, nor more than \$150,000 for the whole term of years from July 1st, 1895, to July 1st, 1900. Smelting works to participate in the bounty must be established and in operation before the 1st day of January, 1897.

The following table gives the exports of silver ore during the years 1871 to 1897 :—

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	Quantity.	Value.	YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£		Tons.	£
1871..		595,261	1885 ..	31	7,539
1872 ..		1,087,839	1886 ..	81	25,134
1873 ..		1,379,380	1887 ..	40	24,937
1874 ..	346	407,835	1888 ..	543 ¹	299,420
1875 ..		443,443	1889 ..	216 ¹	168,265
1876 ..	691	584,371	1890 ..	238	201,615
1877 ..	190	122,695	1891 ..	309	238,367
1878 ..		103,681	1892 ..	325	193,441
1879 ..		637,000	1893 ..	418	65,496
1880 ..		149,146	1894 ..	* 629,655	423,707
1881 ..		34,494	1895 ..	* 1,116,217	651,737
1882 ..		15,110	1896 ..	* 2,508,233	1,593,548
1883 ..	100	14,200	1897 ..	* 4,097,212	2,613,173
1884 ..	37	12,920			

* Ounces, silver, metallic, contained in ore, concentrates, &c.

PHOSPHATE—PRODUCTION OF PHOSPHATE IN CANADA, 1886-97.

CALENDAR YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.	CALENDAR YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£		Tons.	£
1886..	20,495	304,338	1892..	11,932	157,424
1887..	23,690	319,815	1893..	8,198	70,942
1888..	22,485	242,285	1894..	6,861	41,106
1889..	30,988	316,662	1895..	1,822	9,565
1890..	31,753	361,045	1896..	570	3,420
1891..	23,588	241,603	*1897..	908	3,934

* Subject to revision.

The following table of exports since 1878 shows the position of this industry during the last twenty years. It must not be forgotten that the figures of exports from Quebec include a certain amount of material