

mining is practically confined to two sections, one at Thetford and the other at Black Lake, the two sections being about four miles apart. The mineral, while not suitable for millboard and steam-packing, answers admirably for cements, paints, &c.

Shipments of asbestos, 1879-1890. 509. The following table, made up from returns furnished by the producers, gives the quantity and value of shipments from 1879 to 1887, after which the amount of production is given. It is believed, however, that, in some of the earlier years, the output was sometimes given instead of the quantity shipped, and according to returns of shipments made by the Quebec Central Railway the aggregate quantity is too high :—

SHIPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF ASBESTOS IN CANADA,  
1879 TO 1890.

YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.	YEAR.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	\$		Tons.	\$
1879.....	300	19,500	1885.....	2,440	142,441
1880.....	380	24,700	1886.....	3,458	206,251
1881.....	540	35,100	1887.....	4,619	226,976
1882.....	810	52,650	1888.....	4,404	255,007
1883.....	955	68,750	1889.....	6,113	426,554
1884.....	1,141	75,097	1890.....	9,860	1,260,240
			Total.....	35,020	2,793,266

Number of producers. 510. In the Thetford, Black Lake, Coleraine and Danville districts, in the Eastern Townships, there were 16 companies at work, employing about 1,000 hands, while two companies were at work in Ottawa County. The exports of asbestos in 1890 amounted to 6,998 tons, valued at \$528,530.

Gypsum. 511. Gypsum, the production of which is steadily increasing, is at present worked only in Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, though deposits of a certain quality have been found in Manitoba and the Territories. From the following table it will be seen that the greater part of the production is exported in a crude state :—