# MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

CALENDAR YEAR 1886.

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## SUMMARY-1886.

#### METALS.

Iron.—The principal statistics for 1886 were: Domestic iron ore consumed about 10,000,000 long tons; value at mines, \$28,000,000. Imported iron ore consumed, 1,039,433 long tons; total iron ore consumed, 11,039,433 long tons. Pig iron made, 5,683,329 long tons, an increase of 1,683,803 tons as compared with 1885; value at furnace, \$95,195,760, or \$30,483,360 more than in 1885. Total spot value of all iron and steel in the first stage of manufacture, excluding all duplications, \$142,500,000, an increase of \$49,500,000 as compared with 1885.

Gold and silver.—The total value of gold produced in 1886 was \$35,000,000, an increase of \$3,199,000 over 1885. The production of silver decreased from \$51,600,000 in 1885 to \$51,000,000 in 1886.

Copper.—The production in 1886, including 4,500,000 pounds from imported pyrites, amounted to 161,235,381 pounds, valued at \$16,527,651, a decrease of 9,727,226 pounds and \$1,765,348 in value from 1885. The average price of copper in 1886 declined to  $10\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound. The copper sulphate made chiefly from ores and matte amounted to 13,400,000, valued at \$536,000 at 4 cents per pound.

Lead.—The total production increased to 135,629 tons in 1886, valued at \$12,667,749, at an average value of \$93.40 per short ton in New York. In 1885 the production was 129,412 tons, valued at \$10,469,431. The production of white lead in 1886 is estimated at 60,000 short tons; value, at 6\frac{4}{4} cents per pound, \$7,500,000. The total value of the oxides of lead was about \$1,535,000.

Zinc.—Production, 42,641 short tons. Value, \$3,752,408, at \$88 per short ton; an increase of 1,953 short tons and \$212,552 in value over 1885. There are preparations for a further increase during 1887. Zinc oxide (zinc white) was also made directly from ores to the amount of 18,000 short tons, valued at \$1,440,000.

Quicksilver.—In 1886 the production in California was 29,981 flasks, or 2,291,547 pounds, valued at \$1,060,000. This is a decrease of 2,092 flasks, but the total value shows an increase of \$80,811. Utah produced 87 flasks of quicksilver in addition to the above. The production of quicksilver vermilion increased to 700,000 pounds, and its value to \$392,000 owing to the increase in price of quicksilver.

Nickel.—The production includes 182,345 pounds of metallic nickel, 122 tons of nickel and cobalt matte, 35 tons of exported ore, and 46,138 pounds of nickel-ammonium sulphate; total value, \$127,157.

Cobalt.—In addition to 8,689 pounds of cobalt oxide at \$2 per pound, ore and matte were produced making the total value \$36,878.

Chromium.—Production of chrome iron ore decreasing. In 1886 about 2,000 tons were sold, all from California, where its total value was \$30,000.

Manganese.—The production of manganese ores was 30,118 long tons, valued at \$277,527. In addition to this, 257,000 tons of iron ore, containing from 2 to 4 per cent. of manganese, were produced, and 60,000 tons of manganiferous ores containing from 4 to 20 per cent. of manganese that were used as fluxes in the silver region. The production of manganese ores in 1885 was 23,258 long tons, valued at \$190,281.

Tin.—Development work in the Black Hills resulted in the accumulation of considerable ore piles at the mines awaiting concentration.

Antimony.—Production, 35 tons of metallic antimony, valued at \$7,000. A small amount of sulphide of antimony was also sold for chemical manufacture.

Aluminum.—Aluminum bronze containing 10 per cent. aluminum was made to the extent of 50,000 pounds, valued at \$20,000 at 40 cents per pound. About 2,500 pounds of iron alloy containing 6 to 8 per cent. aluminum was also sold for \$7,000.

Platinum and iridium.—The production of platinum sand was only 50 ounces, valued at \$100. About 300 ounces of domestic iridosmine for pen points were sold in 1886 for \$1,000.

#### FUELS.

Coal.—The following statistics have been compiled principally from the direct returns of the operators of individual coal mines, supplemented by valuable contributions from State officials.

The total production of all kinds of coal in 1886, exclusive of that consumed at the mines known as colliery consumption, was 107,682,209 short tons, valued at \$147,112,755 at the mines. This may be divided into Pennsylvania anthracite, 36,696,475 short or 32,764,710 long tons, valued at \$71,558,126; all other coals, including bituminous, brown coal, lignite, and small lots of anthracite produced in Rhode Island, Arkansas and Colorado, 70,985,734 short tons, valued at \$75,554,629. The colliery consumption at the individual mines varies from nothing to 8 per cent. of the product, being greatest at special Pennsylvania

anthracite mines and lowest at those bituminous mines where the bed is nearly horizontal and where no steam power or ventilating furnaces are employed. The averages for the different States vary from 3 to 6 per cent., the latter being the average in the Pennsylvania anthracite region.

The total production including colliery consumption was: Pennsylvania anthracite, 34,853,077 long or 39,035,446 short tons; all other coals 73,707,957 short tons, making the total absolute production of all coals in the United States 112,743,403 short tons, valued as follows: Anthracite, \$76,119,120; bituminous, \$78,481,056; total value, \$154,600,176. The total production of Pennsylvania anthracite, including colliery consumption, was 699,473 short tons in excess of that produced in 1885, but its value was \$552,828 less. The total production of bituminous coal was 1,086,408 short tons greater than in 1885, while its value was \$3,866,592 less. The total production of all kinds of coal shows a gain of 1,785,881 short tons compared with 1885, but a decrease in spot value of \$4,419,420.

Coke.—The total production of coke in 1886 was 6,835,068 short tons, valued at the ovens at \$11,552,781. This is the largest production ever reached in the United States, the nearest approach to it being in 1883, when 5,464,721 tons were made. This declined in 1884 to 4,873,805 tons. The year 1885 showed a gain upon 1884, the total being 5,106,696 tons. The production for 1886 shows a gain on that of 1885 of 1,728,372 tons, or nearly 34 per cent. The total increase in value was \$3,923,663. The production of 1886 is 1,370,347 tons, or 25 per cent. greater than the maximum of previous years.

Petroleum.—The total production was 28,110,115 barrels of 42 gallons each, of which the Pennsylvania and New York fields produced 25,798,• 000 barrels. The total value, at an average of 71½ cents, the average value of the Pennsylvania and New York petroleum, was \$20,028,457. The production showed an increase of 6,268,074 barrels over the production of 1885.

Natural gas.—No record is kept of the yield in cubic feet. It is estimated that the amount of coal displaced by natural gas in 1886 was 6,353,000 tons, valued at \$9,847,150. In 1885 the amount of coal displaced by natural gas was 3,161,600 tons, valued at \$4,854,200.

### STRUCTURAL MATERIALS.

Building stone.—Value estimated to be about the same as in 1885—\$19,000,000.

Brick and tile.—Value, \$38,500,000. This value represents an increase of 10 per cent. over last year. The increase in production was slightly greater than 10 per cent. There was some falling off in value during a part of the year.

Lime.—The production is estimated at 42,500,000 barrels, with an average value of 50 cents per barrel.

Cement.—Production of cement from natural rock was 4,350,000 barrels, valued at \$3,697,500. Artificial Portland cement, 150,000 barrels, valued at \$292,500. The total production of cement of all kinds was 4,500,000 barrels, valued at \$3,990,000.

#### ABBASIVE MATERIALS.

Buhrstones.—The total value of the finished buhrstones was \$275,000. The increased use of roller mills affected the French buhrstones more than the domestic stones.

Grindstones.—Total value, \$250,000; produced mainly in Ohio and Michigan.

Corundum.—The production in the past few years has been quite steady; in 1886 it was 645 short tons, valued at \$116,190.

Novaculite.—The rough whetstones amounted to 1,160,000 pounds, valued at \$15,000. The value of the stones is greatly increased by cutting.

Infusorial earth.—The production for the year amounted to 1,200 short tons, with a spot value of \$6,000; all from Maryland.

#### MISCELLA NEOUS.

Precious stones.—The value of the rough gems sold in 1886 was \$79,056. In addition, gold quartz was sold for specimens and for gems to the value of \$40,000. The value of this, when cut, is \$100,000.

Phosphate rock.—Total production was 430,549 long tons—all from South Carolina except experimental lots from Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. The total value was \$1,872,936. The production decreased 7,307 long tons and the value \$973,128 from 1885.

Marls.—The main production is from New Jersey and is comparatively steady at 800,000 short tons, valued at \$400,000. Considerable local use is also made of many small deposits in North and South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida.

Salt.—The total production increased from 7,038,653 barrels (of 280 pounds each) in 1885 to 7,707,081 barrels in 1886. The total value, however, decreased slightly. In 1886 it was \$4,736,585, and in 1885 \$4,825,345.

Bromine.—Both the production and the average price of bromine increased markedly in 1886. The total production was 428,334 pounds in 1886, and 310,000 in 1885. The total value in 1886 was \$141,350, and in 1885, \$89,900.

Phosphorus.-Production, 30,000 pounds, valued at \$20,000.

Borax.—Production, 9,778,290 pounds, all from California and Nevada. Total value \$488,915, at 5 cents per pound for concentrated.

Sulphur.—The production amounted to 2,500 short tons, valued at \$75,000.

Pyrites.—About 55,000 long tons were produced, valued at \$247,500, at \$4.50 per long ton at the mines. In addition 57,000 tons were imported.

Barytes.—Estimated production, 10,000 short tons of crude, valued at \$50,000.

Gypsum.—Estimated total production of crude gypsum was 95,250 short tons, valued at \$428,625. From this, 50,000 short tons of land plaster and 26,000 short tons of calcined plaster were made. In addition 122,270 tons of crude gypsum were imported, chiefly from Nova Scotia.

Mica.—The production decreased to 40,000 pounds, valued at \$70,000. This is exclusive of 1,000 tons of waste, valued at \$10,000.

Feldspar.—Production, 14,900 long tons, valued at \$74,500, at \$5 per ton for the crude material, without being ground. This is an increase of 1,300 long tons over 1885. The price has remained constant.

Flint.—About 30,000 long tons, having a spot value of \$120,000, were used in pottery manufacture, besides a considerable amount for sandpaper.

Asbestus.—The domestic production was about 200 short tons, valued at \$30 per ton at the mines. The production is decreasing, owing to importation of a better quality from Canada.

Asphaltum.—The production increased to 3,500 tons, valued at \$14,000 at the deposits in California. In 1885 the value was \$10,500.

Ocher.—Production, including "metallic" paint, umber, and sienna, 15,800 short tons, valued at \$285,000.

Graphite.—The production in 1886 was 415,525 pounds, valued at \$33,242. In 1885 the production was 327,883 pounds, valued at \$26,230. The price remained constant at 8 cents per pound. This is exclusive of 500 tons of impure graphite mined at Cranston, Rhode Island, for metallurgical purposes.

Alum.—Production, 90,000,000 pounds, valued at \$1,350,000. About three-fourths is made from imported cryolite, bauxite, aluminous shale, and other raw materials.

Copperas.—Production, 22,000,000 pounds, or 11,000 short tons; value, at 50 cents per hundredweight, \$110,000.

Fluorspar.—The annual production for the past three years has been about 5,000 tons, valued at the mines in Indiana at \$4.50 per ton, or \$22,500 in all.

Rutile.—Production, for coloring artificial teeth, about 600 pounds, valued at \$2,000.

Mineral waters.—Considering only the amount sold, the production was 8,950,317 gallons, valued at \$1,284,070. This shows a slight total decrease since 1885. This may be only apparent. If all the springs had reported, the figures would probably have shown a total increase, although some large springs undoubtedly sold less.

Lithographic stones.—Considerable effort is being made to develop the industry in Tennessee and Kentucky. About 50 tons were taken out and dressed. The use of the stones has proved quite satisfactory, and will probably increase.

Magnesite.—Heretofore the raw materials for making magnesium compounds have been imported chiefly from Germany. The annual imports of magnesite vary from 100,000 to 2,000,000 pounds. In 1886 the production of magnesite was begun on Cedar mountain, Alameda county, California; the product, amounting to several tons, was shipped to New York.

Totals.—As was remarked in the report for 1883-1884, it is impossible to state the total mineral product in any form which shall not be open to just criticism. It is evident that the production statistics of such incongruous substances as iron ore, metallic gold and silver, the spot value of coal mined and the market value of metallic copper after having been transported hundreds of miles, the spot value of a crude substance like unground, unrefined barytes, and the value of a finished product like brick (in which the cost of manufacture is the leading item) cannot well be taken as items in a general summary. The statistics have been compiled with a view to giving information on those points which are of most interest and utility, and are presented in the form usual in the several branches of trade statistics. The result is that the values stated for the different products are necessarily taken at different stages of production or transportation, etc. Theoretically perfect statistics of mineral products would include, first of all, the actual net spot value of each substance in its crudest form, as taken from the earth; and yet for practical purposes such statistics would have little interest other than the fact that the items could be combined in a grand total in which each substance should be rated on a fairly even basis. The following groupings, therefore, are presented with a full realization of the incongruity of many of the items. The grand total might be considerably reduced by substituting the value of the iron ore mined for that of the pig iron made, by deducting the discount on silver, and by considering lime, salt, cement, borax, etc., as manufactures. It will also be remarked that the spot values of copper, lead, zinc, and chrome iron ore are much less than their respective values after transportation to market. Still the form adopted seems to be the only one which admits of a comparison of the total values of the mineral products from year to year.

Comparing the totals since 1882, a continuous decrease in value is evident in 1883 and 1884. The year 1885 shows a slight increase, while notably increased production and also an increase in value have been the general characteristics of the mineral industries during 1886. The total value of the mineral products increased from, roundly, \$428,000,000 in 1885 to \$465,000,000 in 1886. The main factor in this gain of \$37,000,000 was the increased production of pig iron from 4,044,525 long tons in 1885 to 5,683,329 long tons in 1886, and an appreciation

of 75 cents in the average value per ton, making a total gain of \$30,483,360 in this industry alone.

Metallic products of the United States in 1886.

The state of the s	Quantity.	Value.
Pig fron, spot valuelong tons	5, 683, 329	\$95, 195, 760
Silver, coining valuetroy ounces	39, 445, 312	51, 000, 000
Gold, coining valuedo	1, 881, 250	35, 000, 000
Copper, value at New York City (a)pounds	161, 235, 381	16, 527, 651
Lead, value at New York Cityshort tons	135, 629	12, 667, 749
Zine, value at New York Citydo	42, 641	3, 752, 408
Quicksilver, value at San Francisco	29, 981	1, 060, 000
Nickel, value at Philadelphiapounds	214, 992	127, 157
Aluminum, value at Philadelphiatroy ounces		27, 000
Antimony, value at San Franciscoshort tons	35	7,000
Platinum, value, crude, at New York Citytroy ounces	50	100
Total		\$215, 364, 825

a Including copper from imported pyrites.

## Non-metallic mineral products of the United States in 1886 (spot values).

	Quantity.	Value.
Bituminous coal, brown coal, lignite, and anthracite mined elsewhere than		
in Pennsylvanialong tons	65, 810, 676	\$78, 481, 056
Pennsylvania anthracitedo	34, 853, 077	76, 119, 120
Limebarrels	42, 500, 000	21, 250, 000
Petroleumdo	28, 110, 115	20, 028, 457
Building stone		19, 000, 000
Natural gas		9, 847, 150
Saltbarrels	7, 707, 081	4, 736, 585
Cementdo	4, 500, 000	3, 990, 000
Limestone for iron fluxlong tons	4, 717, 163	2, 830, 297
South Carolina phosphate rockdodo	430, 549	1, 872, 936
Zinc white short tons	18,000	1, 440, 000
Mineral watersgallons sold	8, 950, 317	1, 284, 070
Concentrated boraxpounds	9, 778, 290	488, 915
Gypsumshort tons.	95, 250	428, 625
New Jersey marlsdo	800, 000	400, 000
Ocherlong tons	15, 800	285, 000
Manganese oredo	30, 193	277, 636
Pyriteslong tons	55, 000	247, 500
Brominepounds	428, 334	141, 350
Flintlong tons	30, 000	120,000
Corundumshort tons	645	116, 190
Precions stones		79,056
Sulphurshort tons	2, 500	75, 000
Feldsparlong tons	14, 900	74, 500
Micapounds	40,000	70,000
Crude baryteslong tons	10,000	50,000
Gold quartz souvenirs, jewelry, etc.		40,000
Cobalt oxide, oro, and matte		36, 878
Graphitepounds	415, 525	33, 242
Slate ground as a pigmentlong tons	3, 000	

Non-metallic mineral products of the United States in 1886 (spot values)—Continued.

	Quantity.	Value.
Chrome iron ore	2,000	\$30,000
Fluorsparshort tons	5,000	22, 500
Novaculitepounds	1, 160, 000	15,000
Asphaltumshort tons	3, 500	14,000
A sbestus long tons	200	6,000
Rutilepounds	600	2,000
Total		243, 963, 063

Résumé of the values of the metallic and non-metallic mineral substances produced in the United States in 1886.

Metals	\$210, 304, 820
Mineral substances named in the foregoing table	243, 963, 063
	459, 327, 888
Estimated value of mineral products unspecified	6, 000, 000
Grand total	465, 327, 888

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	Products.	18	382.	15	883.	18	884.	18	385.	18	86.		
	Products.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
	METALLIC.			177									
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Pig-iron, spot value	36, 197, 695 1, 572, 186	\$106,336,429 46,800,000 52,500,000 16,038,091 12,624,550 3,646,620 1,487,042 300,777	4, 595, 510 35, 733, 622 1, 451, 249 117, 151, 795 143, 957 36, 872 46, 725 58, 800	\$91, 910, 290 46, 200, 000 30, 000, 000 18, 064, 807 12, 322, 719 3, 311, 106 1, 253, 632 52, 920	4, 097, 868 37, 744, 605 1, 489, 949 147, 805, 407 139, 897 38, 544 31, 913 64, 550	\$73, 761, 624 48, 800, 000 30, 800, 000 18, 106, 162 10, 537, 042 3, 422, 707 936, 327 48, 412	4, 044, 525 39, 910, 279 1, 538, 376 170, 962, 607 129, 412 40, 688 92, 073 277, 904	51, 600, 000 31, 801, 000	5, 683, 329 39, 445, 312 1, 881, 250 161, 235, 381 135, 629 42, 641 29, 981 214, 992	\$95, 195, 760 51, 000, 000 35, 000, 000 16, 527, 651 12, 667, 749 3, 752, 408 1, 060, 000 127, 157	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	a sin
10	tons	60	12,000	60	12,000	60	12,000	50	10,000	35	7,000	9	200
11	Platinum, value (crude) at New York City, troy ounces	200	600	200	600	150	450	250	187	50	100	10 11	MD
1.1	Aluminum, value at Philadelphia, troy ounces			1,000	875	1, 800	1, 350	3,'400	2, 550		27, 000	11	MA
	Total value metallic products		219, 755, 109		263, 128, 859		186, 426, 074		181, 599, 365		215, 364, 825		UMMARY
	NON-METALLIC (SPOT VALUES).							TWO					
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Bituminous coal long tons Pennsylvania anthracite do Pennsylvania anthracite do Barrels Lime do Building stone do Building stone do Limestone for iron flux long tons South Carolina-phosphate rock do New Jersey marls short tons Borax pounds Mica do Ocher long tons Crude barytes long tons Precious stones Gold-quartz sonvenirs, jewelry, etc Gold-quartz sonvenirs, jewelry, etc Chrome iron ore do Asbestus short tons	31, 358, 264 30, 053, 500 31, 000, 000 6, 412, 373 3, 250, 000 38, 850, 000 392, 077 1, 080, 000 4, 236, 291 100, 000 7, 000 20, 000	76, 076, 487 70, 556, 094 70, 556, 094 21, 700, 000 4, 340, 140 3, 672, 75 2, 310, 000 1, 992, 462 5, 40, 000 388, 993 250, 000 105, 000 75, 000 75, 000 52, 500 50, 000 36, 600	68, 531, 500 34, 336, 469 23, 400, 229 32, 000, 000 6, 192, 231 4, 190, 000 3, 814, 273 378, 380 972, 000 7, 000 27, 000 25, 000 8, 000 1, 000 1, 000	82, 237 800 77, 257, 055 25, 740, 252 19, 200, 000 4, 211, 042 4, 293, 500 1, 907, 135 2, 270, 280 480, 000 585, 000 84, 000 585, 000 108, 000 74, 050 115, 000 120, 600 60, 000 30, 000	73, 730, 539 33, 175, 756 24, 089, 758 37, 000, 000 6, 514, 937 4, 000, 000 3, 401, 930 431, 779 875, 000 7, 000, 000 147, 410 7, 000 25, 000 10, 000 2, 000 1, 000 2, 000 1, 000	77, 417, 606 66, 351, 512 20, 476, 519 418, 500, 600 41, 197, 734 3, 720, 600 41, 704, 965 2, 374, 784 437, 500 490, 600 368, 525 84, 600 82, 975 140, 600 120, 600 35, 600 30, 606	64, 849, 668 34, 228, 548 34, 228, 548 21, 842, 041 40, 000, 000 7, 038, 658 4, 150, 000 3, 356, 956 437, 856 675, 000 8, 000, 000 3, 950 15, 000 22, 200 23, 258 2, 700 300	82, 347, 648 76, 671, 948 19, 193, 694 20, 000, 000 4, 825, 345, 540 2, 492, 540 480, 600 1, 678, 478 2, 546, 664 437, 500 480, 600 161, 000 43, 575 75, 000 69, 900 140, 000 220, 560 9, 000 9, 000	65, 810, 676 34, 853, 977 28, 110, 115 42, 500, 000 7, 707, 081 4, 500, 000 4, 717, 163 430, 549 800, 000 9, 778, 290 40, 000 15, 800 10, 000 30, 193 2, 000 200	78, 481, 056 76, 119, 120, 028, 457 21, 250, 000, 4, 736, 585, 3990, 000, 2, 830, 297 1, 872, 936 400, 000 288, 915 70, 000 288, 915 70, 000 287, 636 30, 000 277, 636 30, 000 6, 000	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	9

Products.	1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		- 1886.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
NON-METALLIC (SPOT VALUES)—continued.  Graphite	25, 000 4, 000 500	100,000 20,000 1,800 228,410,380 219,755,109		100, 000 20, 000 2, 000 2, 000 242, 111, 889 203, 128, 859	2,000 2,000 3,000 3,000 10,900 13,000 281,100 10,215,328 30,000 4,000	186, 426, 074		181, 599, 365		215, 364, 825