

SECTION I.

Class I.

Mining, Quarrying, Metallurgy and Mineral Products.

Stones and Earths. The inland consumption of building and working Stones is completely provided for by numerous Quarries of Limestone, Marble, Sandstone, Granite, Gneiss and other Rocks, spread over the whole surface of the Austrian Empire. Gypsum, hydraulic Lime, refractory Clay, Sulphate of Baryta, Kaolin, coloured Earths and other raw mineral products for Industry are likewise occurring in more or less abundant deposits within the boundaries of this Empire. In general, the commerce of both these materials between Austria and foreign parts is comparatively of little importance; in 1859, its value did not exceed 201,600 florins Austrian money for imported, and 360,000 florins for exported articles. Raw Alabaster and Marbles, Emeri, „Meerschäum“ and Millstones were the chief objects of import.

Graphite. Graphite holds the first place among the objects of export, its productions having more than doubled since 1851 and amounted to nearly 200,000 Cwts in 1860. Considerable quantities of whetstones are likewise exported from Galicia to Russia. Among precious Stones, the Garnets of Bohemia and the noble or iridescent Opals of Hungary are objects of export.

The breaking and working of Stones and mineral products (Mining in the strict sense of the term excepted) gives occupation to a total of 25,000 persons and these productions represent yearly a value of 38 Millions. In this total, the value of the produced raw materials is represented by 28 Millions and the value of worked products by 10 Millions.

Peat. Nearly one Million Cwts of Peat are yearly produced in the Austrian Empire, which are almost entirely consumed for domestic use, except a small portion, used as fuel in Carinthia, Styria and Salzburg for the refining of Iron, or in Bohemia for the high-furnaces. In general, the consumption of this sort of fuel has hitherto remained far behind the rich layers accumulated in the extensive peat-bogs of Carinthia, Bohemia and Styria etc.

Mineral Coal. Since the year 1831, the mining of the rich layers of Black and Brown-Coal in the Austrian Empire and the consumption of this fuel for industrial purposes has increased in enormous proportions. The quantities dug up are as under: in 1831 4,000,000 Cwts.

„ 1851 24,000,000 „
 „ 1860 72,000,000 „

The most extensive working of mines has taken place in the Coal-fields of Bohemia where the products amounted in 1860 to: Black Coal 18,000,000 Cwt, Brown 14,000,000 Cwt.

The increase of the commercial movement in Coal is represented by the following numbers in Cwt.

Import: 1851	1,516,700	1,064,100
Export: 1860	4,687,000	5,576,000

E.

Salt. The production of Salt is a monopoly of the Imp. Government of Austria. The Alpine Provinces produce, nearly exclusively, Culinary Salt; the Carpathian Salt-works furnish chiefly Rock-Salt, and Sea-Salt is produced in establishments along the coast of the Adriatic. The whole amount of Salt produced by these three methods, is shown in the following numbers:

in 1841	6,470,000 Cwts.
„ 1851	6,731,100 „
„ 1859	7,754,000 „

Beside these quantities, an average amount of 300,000 Cwts of Sicilian Sea-salt is imported yearly for Italian consumption, on the other hand, rock and culinary salt is sold to neighbouring Governments at prices fixed by special agreement. The amount of Salt thus exported nearly reaches 1,000,000 Cwts.

Iron. In quantity as in value, Iron holds by far the first place amongst all Metals, produced by the mining and metallurgical Establishments of the Austrian Empire. In 1860, nearly 20,000,000 Cwts of Carbonate of Iron, Sphaerosiderites, brown Hydrate, red oxyd and magnetic oxydule of Iron have been dug up to be worked in 279 smelting furnaces, fed, for the most part, with charcoal. In 1860, these furnaces gave 6,200,000 Cwts of smelted Iron, among which were 700,000 Cwts of cast articles.

This production not being sufficient for fully providing the Austrian Refining-establishments with raw materials, an amount of

smelted Iron	182,300 Cwts.
and raw cast articles	21,800 „

were imported in the course of 1860.

Leaving aside the consumption of smelted Pig Iron for railroads and machinery (which will be spoken of in another place), the Austrian establishments for refining Iron have produced, in 1860, an amount of 2,000,000 Cwts of all sorts of hammered or rolled Iron including:

Puddled Iron	832,000 Cwts.
Square Iron („Winkel-Eisen“) and plates for ships and other purposes	200,000 „
Plate Iron	240,000 „

Steel. The Steel-works of the Austrian Empire produced in 1860

Raw Steel (for sale)	110,000 Cwts.
Hammered Steel and refined Steel	112,000 „
Cemented Steel	18,000 „
Cast Steel	20,000 „

The quantities of refined Iron and Steel produced in the Austrian Empire exceeding by far the demands of home Industry, they take a conspicuous place among the articles of export, as shown by the following numbers, relating to the year 1860: