

square miles. This great industry is reputed to represent a capital investment of \$700,000,000 with natural annual profits of about \$100,000,000, and produces each year about eighty million short tons of hard coal valued at more than \$175,000,000. It furnishes a freight traffic worth sixty million dollars a year to eight important railway systems, and pays annually approximately eighty million dollars in wages to about 180,000 mine employés.

The anthracite communities in northeastern Pennsylvania in their broad aspects are not unlike other American communities. The largest city is Scranton, with a population in 1910 of one hundred and thirty thousand, and the second largest Wilkes-Barre, with sixty-seven thousand inhabitants. Other important cities, each having twenty-five thousand or less, are Hazleton, Pottsville, Pittston, Mahanoy City, Carbondale, Shenandoah, Tamaqua, and Shamokin. Surrounding these large cities are numerous smaller towns and villages, or "patches," as the mining hamlets or groups of buildings in near proximity to a mine are called, extending for many miles throughout the valleys, and connected generally by electric railways. There we find a population exceeding one million people, nearly all of whom are dependent directly and indirectly upon this single industry for the means of livelihood.

In the cities and towns of the eight counties the occupations and daily callings of many of