

The Mine of the Consolidated Coal Company at New Salem.—This is the largest mine in the county and an extensive producer of good coal. Although opened up only in the spring of 1901, its output for the year, from July 1, 1901, to July 1, 1902, was 10,000 tons. During the present winter the output will be double that of last year. The mine is situated on a hillside, one mile from the town of New Salem. The entry runs into the hill, following the coal. A uniform double entry and room and pillar system of mining is being developed. The seam mined is six feet thick, including a two-inch clay seam, all of which is removed, the stiff clay above forming a substantial roof. No water has as yet been encountered, and if it develops as mining progresses, conditions for drainage are favorable. The lignite shows a slight dip toward the southeast. The quality of coal from this mine renders it popular for use in stoves, while the mine of the same company at Lehigh, in Stark county, supplies their patrons with steam coal. The men receive 60 cents a ton for pick work in rooms and \$2.50 a yard for running entries. Practically all of the mining is done as piece work. Analysis of the lignite from this seam shows :

| PER CENT        |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Volatile matter | 41.66  |
| Fixed carbon    | 53.86  |
| Ash             | 4.48   |
| Total           | 100.00 |
| Moisture        | 27.48  |

The upper coal seam outcrops along many ravines and valleys south of New Salem, where it has been mined at a number of points. It lies about 160 feet above the Sims coal bed, and 50 to 80 feet below the elevation of the upland in this vicinity. The old mine of the Consolidated Coal Company, located one mile southwest of New Salem was in this upper 6-foot coal bed, and was for several years the largest mine in Morton County, though it is no longer operated. What is doubtless the same seam has been mined in secs. 4 and 5, T. 138 N., R. 85 W., and also in secs. 34 and 35, T. 139 N., R. 85 W. (From 1912 Biennial Rpt. BAJ)