

covered with grain, and not wishing to cut into my hay-stack till I should have room enough to take it all in at once.

" December 15.—Commenced cutting down the trees on the land I had under-brushed, and chopping them into lengths for piling. Cutting fire-wood and drawing it. Cutting, splitting, and drawing out rails for fences, and drawing out timber for a new barn, threshing and tending the cattle; getting out hemlock logs for the saw-mill, for boards for the new barn, drawing them home and making shingles, oc-

cupied our time all winter, with the exception of my journey to Montreal with butter and a few bushels of grain, which I sold, and, with the proceeds, bought some groceries and other necessaries, preparatory to my anticipated change of circumstances.

" In the following spring it was the 20th April before the snow was all off the ground, when vegetation commenced, and progressed with a rapidity unknown to the British Isles; it is indeed a disadvantage for the snow to go away earlier.

MANUFACTURING REVIEW.

OCTOBER.

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THE CANADIAN NATIVE OIL COMPANY.

The cause of the decline in the yield of the Pennsylvania wells is very probably due to the exhaustion of the gas which forced up the oil to the surface. We do not agree with the "uncertainties" spoken of by the Committee of the Canadian Oil Association which precedes this notice. Petroleum is neither derived from coal, nor is it of recent origin. It was formed long before the coal, and is the result of the decomposition, under pressure, of an infinite number of oil-yielding animals which swarmed in the seas of the Devonian period, long anterior to the coal. The decomposition of marine plants may have given some oil to the rocks of Canada and the United States, which are saturated with this curious substance. The shale beds of Collingwood furnish an answer to those who object to the infinite number of animals it would require to produce the oil locked up in the earth. Those shale beds are composed almost altogether of the remains of Trilobites—they extend from Lake Huron to Lake Ontario, and far west and east of those lakes. The oil-bearing rocks of Canada were once a vast coral reef, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Superior. There is the best ground for belief that the supply of oil will last for a long period, and that new discoveries will be made in different localities. But as soon as the motive power which forces the oil to the surface is exhausted by finding free access to the air, recourse must be had to pumping, and the sinking of the necessary deep wells will soon throw out all those owners of wells who are not possessed of capital. Deep shafts will eventually have to be sunk, and the oil will continue for a very long period to flow into the wells, but the cost of pumping will be so small that the price of oil may not rise much beyond its present market value. That value will be of course determined by the cheapness of other illuminators, and as the supply will doubtless be ample, we do not anticipate any considerable rise in price. The London Company have made purchases of land, we understand, in different parts of the peninsula, but it does not appear that these purchases have been made with a knowledge of the geological formation of the country or of the distribution of the accumulations of oil.

The area of oil or petroleum yielding rock is very great in Western Canada, extending over the whole region occupied by the Corniferous limestone, but the fissures in which the oil has accumulated, are probably found only in the main and subordinate anticlinal axes which run through the western peninsula. If the land purchasers for the company have not had this remarkable geological peculiarity prominently and constantly before them, in vain are their purchases of "oil lands," they may have secured good farm lots as the country settles up, but when they come to bore for oil, the returns for their labour may be chiefly couched in the words *non est inventus*.

The directors state in their prospectus, that in order to show the comparative advantage of this Petroleum or Rock Oil over all other burning Oils, the following statement, the result of careful experiment and calculation is submitted:—

Description of Oil.	Price per Gallon.	Intensity of Light by the Photometer.	Amount of Light from equal quantity.	Cost of an equal quantity of Light in decimals.
Petroleum or Rock Oil....	s. d. 2 0	13.70	2.60	2.00
Sporm.....	7 6	2.00	.95	20.00
Camphine....	5 0	5.00	1.30	10.00
Rape or Colza.	4 0	2.10	1.50	6.50
Lard.....	4 0	1.50	.70	14.50
Whale.....	2 9	2.40	.85	8.25

Petroleum Gas.

The Stevenson House, St. Catherines, is now lighted with Petroleum gas. The light is very white and brilliant; and although one foot burners only are used, the illuminating power is fully equal to that of a four foot burner supplied with the coal gas in ordinary use. There is no smoke or smell perceptible during the burning; and as the works are situated some short distance from the hotel, the odor of Petroleum is not apparent. The works are constructed according to Messrs. Thompson and Hind's patented process. The success which has attended the lighting of the Stevenson House, has already induced other parties to adopt Petroleum gas. Among several others