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THE
PRODUCTIONS OF THE OTTAWA DISTRICT
OF
CANADA,
BY
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NATIVE IRON.

It is generally supposed that Iron never exists in the metallic state, but it is asserted that pure unadulterated Iron has been discovered at Canaan in the United States. Native Iron is likewise produced by the spontaneous ignition of Coal in the neighbourhood of Iron deposits, and where it is known under the name of Native Steel. The greatest quantity of Iron is found combined with Sulphur Oxygen or Carbonic Acid; the first known as Iron Pyrites, is never worked as an Ore. The best Iron Ores are Oxides, but the greatest proportion of British Iron Ore is a Carbonate.

MAGNETIC OXIDE OF IRON.

Oxydulous Iron, Octahedral Iron.

It is this variety of Iron Ore which produces the Native Loadstone. It occurs in various parts of the world, especially in the North of Europe, and is that of which the best Swedish Iron is made, and it yields also the Wootz Steel of the East Indies. It is of an Iron black colour, darker than common Iron; its powder is pure black—it exerts a decided action on the Magnetic Needle, attracting and repelling, according as the positive or negative points are represented. This variety, which is found in several parts of this continent is called, Native Loadstone. It is infusible before the blow-pipe, and soluble in Nitric Acid; it occurs in primitive