be opened for Canadian timber. Already the beginning of this trade has been made by the despatch of twenty cargoes to France, Spain and Germany, in 1861. The products of the forest hitherto exported have been confined to a few species of timber trees, not exceeding a dozen at the most. When it is known that there are upwards of thirty kinds of forest trees, out of some sixty or seventy species with which our forests are filled, well adapted to the wants of European manufacturers, it is confidently anticipated that a new impulse will soon be given to the lumber trade of the Province, in a different direction to that which it has hitherto taken.

Prior to 1858, England imported more timber from the British American Provinces than from all other countries. This predominance ceased in the next succeeding year, when the British importations stood thus:

1859,	from	British America.....	1,301,248 loads.
"	"	Foreign countries.....	1,655,532 "
1860,	"	British America.....	1,264,360 "
"	"	Foreign countries.....	1,537,920 "

Last year (1862) eight vessels sailed for German ports, their destinations and cargoes being as follows:

Port.	Ves.	Cargo.
Stettin.....	1 ...	Oak.
Hamburg...	3 ...	Oak and pine.
Bremen.....	4 ...	Red and white pine, walnut, &c.

This trade promises to be of the greatest value to Canada; and if the Government adopt wise and liberal measures to secure a foreign European market, the gain which will result to Canada in many ways is incalculable. Emigration from those countries can be fostered in no better way than by a growing trade in the natural productions of the British Provinces.

PETROLEUM AND WATER GAS.

The first and second January numbers of the *American Gas Light Journal*, for this year, contain some articles on the subject of gas from petroleum and water, which show the interest now excited in this important branch of illumination. We do not consider it necessary further to refer at present to a lengthy communication by "*An Advocate of Coal Gas*," on an article which appeared in the November number of this Journal, further than to notice the unusually violent strain in which it is worded—a characteristic which does not in the least degree improve the value of the many groundless statements made by the writer of that "ferocious" document. We are glad to find that other correspondents of the *American Gas Light Journal* join in our views. The attention which has been directed in Europe and America to the problems involved in the production of gas from hydrocarbons and water, is very great, and continually increasing; and in order to show what has been done in this obscure department of science, we have prepared, with some trouble, a condensed statement of the claims of a number of patentees in England and America, which will serve, we hope, to show not only the importance of the subject, but particularly the difficulty of deciding upon the validity of patents which do not involve some new principle similar to that which so excites the apprehensions of "*An Advocate of Coal Gas*," who has yet to learn much respecting the properties of water in certain conditions or states. The following list of English patents will supplement in some slight degree an excellent article on the "History of Water Gas," part of which is contained in the 74th number of the *American Gas Light Journal*.

LIST OF ENGLISH PATENTS

FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF ILLUMINATING GAS FROM COAL, HYDROCARBONS AND WATER, WITH REFERENCE TO THE WORKS IN WHICH THE DESCRIPTIONS WERE FIRST PUBLISHED.

IBBETSON, JOHN HOLT. 1824: No. 4954.

Admits steam into the decomposing chamber, when in operation, among the ignited coal or coke, alone or mixed with tar or oil.

Rep. of Arts, vol. V, p. 335; London Journal (Newton's) vol. IX, p. 69; Register of Arts and Sciences, vol. II (New Series) p. 594.

MONTAUBAN, HYPOLITE FRANÇOIS, Marquis de Bouffet and Meridos. 1838: No. 7581.

Uses steam or water in separate retorts; makes gas from bitumens, oils, &c., "or bitumenous matter in a liquid state."

London Journal, vol. XIII, p. 185; vol. XXI, p. 476, for disclaimer (disclaims apparatus).

RADLEY, WILLIAM. 1845: No. 10652.

Uses three retorts: the first supplied with the gas material, the third with water, and the middle receives the mixed vapours, gases and steam. The vapours from the first and the steam from the third are conducted into the second or middle vessel, which is filled with lumps of quick lime, coke and scrap iron, and is heated to redness. The gas or gases resulting from the action of these matters one upon another, is conducted into the main.

Mechanics' Mag., vol. XLV. p. 510.

MANBY, EDWARD OLIVER. 1839: No. 8062.

Uses steam passed into a retort containing anthracite or stone coal, charcoal, coke or bituminous coal heated.