

Values of Imports for Three years.

DESCRIPTION.	1863.	1862.	1861.
	\$	\$	\$
China-Ware	1,197	3,156	545
Earthen-Ware	131,761	124,461	177,352
Glass-Ware	80,175	94,960	80,289

PETROLEUM.

In 1862, the trade in Petroleum was one of considerable promise; during the year seventeen of the vessels which left Montreal were laden with that article, most of them having taken in their cargoes here. The capacity of the craft thus employed was 5,076 tons, and the quantity carried away was computed to be 35,532 brls., or 1,279,152 gallons. The proportion of crude in that quantity is not ascertainable. The ports to which it was sent were:—Cork for orders, 6 cargoes; Liverpool, 3; London, 3; Glasgow, 1; Dundee, 1; Bremen, 1; Demerara, 1; and Australia, 1. The quantity exported was looked upon as an auspicious commencement in a new department of Canadian Produce; and towards the close of that year a speculative feeling prevailed, heightened to some extent by the cessation of a few of the "flowing wells,"—a large amount of capital having also been devoted to the establishment of Refineries in the Oil Regions. It has so happened, however, that many of the Refiners had not properly deodorized their oil; and as a large proportion of the quantity shipped to Europe was of that inferior description, the brand is destroyed in the foreign market. Some of the Canadian Refineries, however, produce an article equal to any refined in the United States.

The Oil Wells were less productive in 1863 than in the previous twelve months, but not so much so as to relieve the over-stocked market; and the result has been that the supply continues considerably in excess of the demand,—only about 25 per cent. of the capacity of existing Refineries being needed abundantly to meet the Canadian consumptive demand. A very considerable sum of money has, therefore, been unprofitably invested.

The imports of Petroleum in 1863, on which a duty of 10c. per gallon was paid, (principally Portland Kerosene,) consisted of 65,043 gallons, valued at \$25,837; the quantity in warehouse on 31st December being 2,965 gallons, valued at \$1,334. The quantity entered at the Custom-House for export was 281,190 gallons, valued at \$61,008,—and was shipped chiefly to Liverpool; there having also been, in the early part of the year, 3,800 barrels (about 152,000 gallons) of Crude shipped *via* Portland, for Bremen.

The receipts in 1863 by Grand Trunk Railway were 13,407 barrels, or 536,280 gallons; by Montreal and Champlain Railway, 820 barrels, or 32,800 gallons; by Lachine Canal, 5,311 barrels, or 212,440 gallons;—making a total of 19,538 barrels, or 781,520 gallons.

The prices of Refined Oil ruling in this market, during the past three years, were as follows:—

1861.	1862.	1863.
September,..... <i>c.</i> 60 @ <i>c.</i> 65	Jan. to March. .50 @ .55	Jan. to May,.... <i>c.</i> 35 @ <i>c.</i> 40
October.....55 @ 60	April.45 @ 50	June to Aug.,....30 @ 35
Nov. and Dec.,...50 @ 55	May to Sept.,...30 @ 35	Aug. to Dec.,....50 @ 55
	Nov. to Dec.,...55 @ 60	

These rates included packages.

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