

but for 1894 none at all. The new use of mica as non-conducting packing for steam pipes should furnish an outlet for much material that formerly went to waste in cutting dimension mica, and thus help out this industry.

PETROLEUM.

All the petroleum produced in Canada comes from the Petrolia region in Ontario, where the industry seems well established and the value of its products steadily increasing. The first important production of petroleum was about 1861, when a few thousand barrels were obtained from wells at Enniskillen; but it is difficult to follow the rise of the industry statistically, since in the earlier years no distinction is made between the oil refined from American and Canadian crude petroleum. Apparently not more than 500,000 bbls. were obtained in any year up to 1887; but since then the amount has gradually increased, until in 1894, nearly 1,000,000 bbls. are reported, affording products valued at \$2,146,937.

NATURAL GAS.

The closely related fuel, natural gas, though long known to occur in the province, has not been put to use until quite recently. In 1892, gas to the value of \$160,000 is reported. In 1893, 2,342,000 cubic feet, valued at \$238,200; and in 1894, 1,653,500 valued at \$204,179. There are over one hundred wells producing in the Welland and Essex fields, but most of the gas is piped across the border to Buffalo and Detroit.

SALT.

Salt was first discovered in Ontario, when boring for oil at Goderich in 1865; and it has since been found at various points in southwestern Ontario, from Goderich to Essex Co., where it has been obtained within the last few months. Practically, all the salt produced in Canada comes from our province. The amount running from 30,000 to 60,000 tons, and the value from \$100,000 to \$230,000.

No salt is mined in the province, all being made from brine pumped from wells and evaporated; but the amount is unlimited; beds of rock salt from six to one hundred feet thick having been proved to exist under hundreds if not thousands of square miles of territory.

It is to be hoped that the attempts now being made on a small scale to develop the chemical industries dependent on salt as a raw

material may be
chloric acid and
home manufac

Turning
which has been
the Ottawa val
in all, but very

Iron is of
all the chief o
contains, espe
bodies, some c
some hematite
bog ore, and V
ore in the Atik
beds of hemat
carbonate of ir

In the ear
also smelted in
charcoal iron
operations may
where we find
ore on Lake E
for smelting in
stoves, potash

No iron
similar charco
under quite si

These ol
difficulty of tr
were available
in all, since th

Since tho
hematite has
the east.