

Among materials for ornamental purposes may be mentioned agates, jaspers, labrador feldspar, and porphyries. In Grenville and in Chatham are found in great abundance porphyries of fine texture, susceptible of a high polish, and of various colors, rivalling in beauty the porphyries of the old world.

PETROLEUM.

Springs of petroleum or mineral oil occur in several localities in the southwestern part of Canada ; and from numerous wells sunk in Enniskillen, near Lake St. Clair, several millions of gallons were obtained in 1861-2. Since that time however the supply of oil from the wells has greatly diminished. In other localities in this region, as at Bothwell, the existence of natural springs yielding a little petroleum has led to the sinking of wells, which are yielding moderate supplies of oil. The part of the country here underlaid by the oil-bearing rock is very large, and it is not improbable that from some portions of it considerable quantities of petroleum may yet be obtained.

At the other extremity of the province, in Gaspé, natural springs yielding small amounts of petroleum are found over a considerable area, and wells are being sunk in the hopes of obtaining it in available quantities. The oil in this region occurs in Upper Silurian rocks, while in southwestern Canada it belongs to the Lower Devonian limestones. These are supposed to be the source of the wonderfully productive wells of western Pennsylvania and the adjacent regions ; the estimated value of whose produce of petroleum for the current year is stated at not less than \$75,000,000. Although the geological conditions have there been more favorable to the preservation and accumulation of the oil than in Canada, it is probable from the results lately obtained in Bothwell,