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THE CANADIAN OIL TRADE. THE REAL PRINCE Petroleum in all its Branches

Mistery of the Business-Early Difficultie Extraordinary Fluctuations—Impor-tant Fluctuation—Impor-tant Fluctuation—Impor-tant Fluctuation—Impor-tant Fluctuation—Impor-tant Fluctuation—Important of the Trade—The Combination — Method of Producing— Mode of Refining.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

The manufactures of Western Canada have condendity increased within the last ter-

wonderfully increased within the last few

years, and now not only is there the large agricultural interest which naturally forms the makbone of a new country's prosperity, but there is a distinct and highly influential manufacturing class, as well as an important and rapidly increasing mercantile community. The importance of extensive mainufactures to any State cannot be overestimated, especially where the manufacture of the control of the contro by, the natural products of been the principal source of the prosperity of such a city as London, and has built up the purpose giving a description—necessarily a quality as that expor from the multitude of interests involved somewhat discursive—of the general condition of the oil trade, together with a slight ordinary home price. sketch of its history.

The Canadian Petroleum industry origi.

to produce oil for burning purposes from a a fair gummy substance resembling tar, which was

Bradley, and the McLean wells, and about 30 more, warying in their yield from 25 to 1,000 barrels a day. The total quantity of 01 produced was larger than had ever been obtained from a similar area anywhere, but a large proportion was foolishly wasted, several millions of barrels, it is estimated, having been allowed to flow aways down Black Creek. Outside Canada, there was no demand to saw tent the oil having

supplies. Meassime, the great temporary success at Oil Springs had led to considerable exploration in various parts of the country; and at Bothwell—a town on the Great Western Railway, twelve miles from Oil Springs—the explorars got some reward for their bobur. Surface wells were first trief by farmers and others, and sufficient oil was obtained to excite hopes of further success. In 1855 the first wells were put down in Bothwell by Harry Lester, of Chicago; James Baxter; Henry Benjamin, now of Montreal; and Dr. Adams, now of Boston. Clude petroleum was pumped from these wells in paying quantities, and both Bothwell and Oil Springs became centres of great excitement. At the latter place, from 200 to 300 barrels a day Etogether were obtained, and sent thence over the roads to Sarnis and Wyoming for manufacture Some of the oil, however, was sent to refineries at London, Woodstock, Hamilton, and even as far as Torosto. At Bothwell the, oil fever was at its height in 1865, and the town was inundated by speculators from all parts of the continent. Fabulous prices were paid for land, which a few weeks or months afterwards was worth little or nothing. Mr. Lester, for instance, was of-