

COAL OIL TRADE.

The Coal Oil business is one which has of late years taken its place in the front rank of Canadian commerce. The great desideratum now is to find an outside market for it; the production at present being considerably greater than the consumption and the surplus oil not required in Upper Canada has been forced on to the Montreal markets and become a drug. This want, we are glad to know, is likely soon to be got over, as we have heard of some enquiries for Oil since the establishment of the Wyoming Rock Oil Company, from foreign ports. The quality of the oil is superior to any that has yet been found in the United States and it only needs the establishment of a regular outside trade to develop the business tenfold—and thus, by increasing our exports, tend greatly to advance the prosperity of the Colonies.

It was at Hamilton that this important business first had its birth, and it still continues to be the head quarters of the trade. The Canadian Oil Company on King Street West, do a very large business,—employing about twenty men, and turning out over one hundred and fifty barrels of refined oil per week; they have upwards of \$50,000 capital employed.

During the summer of last year the wells in the Township of Ennis-killen have been purchased by an American company, who, with a large capital, have been erecting machinery commensurate with the immense work to be done, and are in a position to fully develop this branch of Canadian industry. Mr. R. Benner, of this city, has, we believe, received the appointment of their agent for Canada, and Donald McInnes, Esq., is a director in the Company; so that we have insured to Hamilton the position of the best market for Coal Oil in Upper Canada for the future as it has been in the past.

There is considerable business done here by other firms, but nothing approaching in magnitude the trade of the above.

CABINET MAKERS AND UPHOLSTERS.

The largest Cabinet factory in this city is that of Mr. James Reid, King Street: the shops are in the western portion of the North American Hotel block. Mr. Reid does both a wholesale and retail business, but principally the latter. It is now 24 years since he commenced business in Hamilton. Every description of work in the Cabinet making and Upholstering line is attended to, and the establishment has the reputation of turning out the very best articles—the material used and the style of workmanship being first class. During the past year twenty-five men were employed in the factory—a considerable number less than were here a year ago, owing, of course, to the general dullness of business. The value of the work turned out during the year was about \$25,000. In his present stock is a bedroom set of such rare elegance and finish that we cannot but make especial mention of it. It consists of a wardrobe, a bedstead with spring and hair mattresses,