

that the whole stock of the country equals about 430,000 barrels crude, representing, at present price, (September, 1869,) \$602,000.

Refining for export is now carried on at the rate of 3,000 barrels weekly, this being the full capacity for export of the Canadian refineries, but which, it is expected, will be doubled within a few weeks. The quality produced is fully equal to the American oil in color and absence of smell, and excels it in density and fire test.

The home consumption this year (1869) has been, up to 1st September, about 100,000 barrels crude or 70,000 refined.

The state of the trade is good, the demand being in excess of the supply; but the need of a reciprocity treaty is much felt. The duty on exports to the United States is 20 cents per gallon, and is, of course, quite prohibitory. The duty on refined, for home consumption, is five cents a gallon, with twenty-five cents inspector's fee per barrel.

Operations at Petrolea are carried on mostly by Americans, and American capital is largely represented in the refineries.

I have taken the above particulars from the *Titusville Herald*, as quoted in the *London Daily Free Press* of 1st September, 1869.

Salt.—For some time since the last issue of the *Year Book* the Goderich salt manufacture was in a languishing state, owing to American competition. During the last six months it has revived. The surplus stocks have been worked off, and all the works have commenced boiling again. About 250 barrels, worth about \$350, are now made daily. It is thought that salt can be produced more cheaply by "Platt's Patent" than by the present boiling system.

Peat.—Two Companies—the Anglo-American and the Ontario—are at work on the Welland Peat Bed. The former has been in successful operation for some time. The property of the latter is considered by it the best peat property in Canada. They have only lately commenced, and have made about 250 tons. The price of prepared peat is at present \$3 per ton on the Welland Canal. Demand unlimited.

MINING REGULATIONS.

Mining in Ontario is now regulated by the "General Mining Act of 1869," whereby the "Gold and Silver Mining Act of 1868" is repealed, all royalties removed and reservations rescinded in patents already issued, and abolished as regards patents hereafter issued.

In territories bordering on Lakes Huron and Superior, French River, &c., mining locations are to be in blocks of 320, 160, or 80 acres each, and to be paid for at the rate of one dollar per acre. In other unsurveyed districts they are to be of such dimensions as may hereafter be fixed by Order in Council.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may declare any tract of country a mining division, and appoint inspectors of such divisions, who shall be Justices of the Peace.

Crown lands may be freely explored,

Inspectors may grant mining licenses, good for one year, on the receipt of \$5 from applicant. Licensees may stake out and work claims on Crown lands.

Dimensions of Claims.—For any one person, 200 feet along the vein by 100 feet on each side thereof. For companies of two or more licenses, 100 feet along the vein for each additional miner until 1,000 feet are taken up.

QUEBEC.

Gold.—I am informed by R. Pope, Esq., Inspector, that "in the Chaudiere Division mining has been actively carried on during the past year. Several new shafts have been sunk for alluvial gold, and a considerable amount of work has been done in the way of testing the quartz veins in the Seigneurie of Rigaud, Vaudreuil. All the mining hitherto, both in the alluvial and quartz deposits, has been carried on in this Seigneurie.

"The amount of gold extracted in the fifteen months ended on the 30th September, 1869, was 1,338 ounces, worth about \$25,000. The number of mining licenses issued during this period was 876, and three mill licenses.

"Some of the miners have very recently introduced the hydraulic method of washing the auriferous earth, and good results are confidently anticipated from this economical and effectual way of mining."

Copper.—At the Hartford Mines the smelting works were closed in April last, and work is now done exclusively with a view of obtaining sulphur for the manufacture of sulphuric acid at the Company's works now building in Boston, and for the extraction of copper by the wet way,

About 100 tons of ore can be raised at these mines daily, averaging 3 per cent. of copper, and worth about \$1,500. The lowest depth reached is about 525 feet.

At the Huntington Mine the product has averaged 200 tons of 10 per cent. ore a month during the last year, worth, probably, \$10,000. Some of this has been shipped to Baltimore and Liverpool, and there remains on hand at the mine about 1,000 tons of this, and about 30,000 tons of 3 per cent. ore. The Company intend to erect reducing works on the Monnier system whereby the low grade ores can be utilized. The product of this mine can be trebled at any time should the state of the market warrant it.

During the past twelve months the progress made at Harvey Hill has been very satisfactory. A