

United States in 1891 was 54,291,980 barrels, and notwithstanding the competition of Russian petroleum, American production has gone on steadily increasing, the exports in 1888 having been 456,427,221 gallons, in 1889, 502,257,455 gallons, in 1890, 523,295,090 gallons, and in 1891, 571,119,805 gallons. In 1892 the exports amounted to 564,896,658 gallons.

741. The earliest records of production of petroleum in Russia commenced in 1821, though the existence of oil was known hundreds of years before. The Baku oil fields at the eastern extremity of the Caucasus Mountains are the most important. The total shipments of petroleum products from Baku, from 1883 to 1891 have been:—

	Galls.
1883.....	145,180,705
1884.....	262,621,710
1885.....	300,149,775
1886.....	377,006,120
1887.....	389,816,630
1888.....	609,428,571
1889.....	806,399,999
1890.....	842,742,074
1891.....	898,915,749

742. The petroleum industry in Burmah is not, at present, in a flourishing condition. In Burmah.

743. Natural gas has been known to exist in Canada for many years, but no attempt to put it to any practical use was made until July, 1885, when a well was sunk at Port Colborne, Ont., from which gas was utilized in the following August. Since then numerous wells have been sunk, but the two most productive gas fields, so far discovered, are situated in Ontario, one in Essex County and one in Welland, the daily flow of gas in the latter county being 30,895,000 cubic feet. A pipe line connection has been made from these wells with the city of Buffalo. In Essex County, one well has a daily flow of 7,000,000 cubic feet, which gas is utilized in lighting the streets of Kingsville. Gas has also been found in small quantities in Quebec and the Northwest Territories. The estimated available daily flow of natural gas in Ontario in January, 1891, was 50,000,000 cubic feet. Natural gas.

744. Natural gas has been found in considerable quantities in the United States, and has been very largely utilized. It is not easy for many reasons to give any exact figures of its consumption, but measured by the displacement of fuel and the amount actually received from the sale of gas, it appears that in 1891 the value of the natural gas consumed in the United States was \$15,500,000. In 1889 there were 7,150 miles of pipe line used in the distribution of natural gas, and some \$60,000,000 invested in this industry. Natural gas in United States.

745. The salt produced in the Dominion is almost all manufactured in Ontario, the largest number of wells being situated in the county of Huron, while a few are being operated in the counties of Lambton on the south; Bruce on the north, and Perth on the west. A small