

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 North-west Territories. The estimated available daily flow of natural gas in Ontario in January, 1891, was 50,000,000 cubic feet. The gross amount received from sales of natural gas in 1893 was nearly \$367,000.

679. 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 1893 the value of the natural gas consumed in the United States was \$14,346,250. There has been a falling off since 1888, in which year—the high water mark year—the value was \$22,629,825, the decrease in 1893 being nearly 37 per cent.

680. The salt produced in the Dominion is almost all manufactured in the province of Ontario the census returns showing 19 establishments in Ontario out of the 20 reported for the Dominion. The salt beds of western Ontario cover an area of about 2,000 square miles, embracing the counties of Lambton and Huron, and portions of Bruce, Middlesex and Kent, and perhaps the whole of Essex. They were first discovered in 1865 at Goderich in boring for petroleum, and since that time wells have been sunk at Clinton, Seaforth, Brussels, Blyth, Wingham, Kincardine, Port Franks, Exeter, Courtright, Parkhill, Windsor and other places. In Kincardine the upper bed is reached at about 900 feet from the surface; in Goderich at 1,000 feet, in Courtright at 1,600 feet. A well drilled at Windsor in November, 1892, struck salt at a little over 1,127 feet. The thickness of the bed is 40 feet. The beds are usually three in number, with an aggregate thickness of about 100 feet, and the salt is of the best quality. The capital invested in salt works, according to the census of 1891, was about \$400,000, and 250 hands were employed.

681. The well referred to above as having been drilled at Windsor is worked by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. Subsequently the company drilled a second well, finding salt at a depth of 1,127 feet. In each case the company drilled through