

Ontario out of 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 in 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.

742. 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 40 feet of rock salt, then encountered rock 23 to 30 feet thick, then a second layer of salt 23 feet thick, then rock 5 feet thick, then 38 feet of salt. The rock salt is beautifully white in colour and very free from impurities, particularly from lime, and as a result the company is able to turn out a very pure salt. These works have a capacity of about 600 barrels a day.

The following table gives the production of salt in Canada during the years 1886-95, together with the increase or decrease in both quantity and value.

PRODUCTION OF SALT IN CANADA, 1886-95.

YEAR.	Tons.	Value.	INCREASE OR DECREASE IN	
			Quantity.	Value.
			Tons.	\$
1886.....	62,359	227,197		
1887.....	60,173	166,394	— 2,186	— 60,803
1888.....	59,070	185,460	— 1,103	+ 19,066
1889.....	32,832	128,547	— 26,238	— 56,913
1890.....	43,754	198,897	+ 10,922	+ 70,350
1891.....	45,021	161,179	+ 1,267	— 37,718
1892.....	45,486	162,041	+ 465	+ 862
1893.....	62,324	195,926	+ 16,838	+ 33,885
1894.....	57,199	170,687	— 5,125	— 25,293
1895.....	60,018	180,417	+ 2,819	+ 9,730

From the returns made to Mr. Blue, Director of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, the salt produced in Ontario in 1894 was 35,215 tons. The Geological Survey Returns, embracing the whole of Canada, give the production of 1894 at 57,199 tons. This would indicate that 21,984 tons were produced in the other provinces. Mr. Blue remarks, however, "that with the