

through a small hill near Sudbury, in the District of Algoma, Ontario, and since then, though the first discoveries were very much exaggerated, about twenty promising deposits have been discovered in the district, and there is no doubt that this ore is present in large quantities. Operations at present are principally carried on by four companies, viz.: The Canadian Copper Company, H. H. Vivian & Co., the Dominion Mineral Company and the Drury Nickel Company. The ore, which contains on the average about 2.25 per cent of nickel, is roasted and smelted into a copper-nickel matte, the usual composition of which, from average analysis, is about as follows: Copper, 26.91; nickel, 14.14; iron, 31.335; sulphur, 26.95, and cobalt, .935. The matte is also said to contain some ounces of platinum to the ton. The amount of fine nickel in the matte produced at and shipped from the Sudbury mines in 1891 was 4,626,627 pounds; in 1892 the quantity was 2,413,717 pounds; in 1893, 3,982,982 pounds; 1894, 4,907,430, in 1895, 3,888,525 pounds, and in 1896, 3,500,000 pounds. The world's annual consumption of nickel has been estimated at about 800 tons, and, previous to these discoveries, the supply came almost entirely from the French colony of New Caledonia.

PETROLEUM.

Petroleum has been found in Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and particularly in the North-west Territories, where it seems certain there is an immense unexplored oil region, but it is in the County of Lambton, Ontario, whence most of the oil has been and is obtained, Oil Springs and Petrolea being the largest oil-producing districts. The oil is obtained at a depth of from 370 to 500 feet.

The following table contains the only trustworthy statistics of Canadian production of oil that are available, and these figures do not give the total production, since the quantity of crude oil, used as such, is not included:—

CANADIAN PETROLEUM AND NAPHTHA INSPECTED AND CORRESPONDING QUANTITIES OF CRUDE OIL, 1881-96.

YEAR.	Refined Oils.	Crude equivalent calculated.
	Imp. galls.	Imp. galls.
1881.....	6,406,783	12,813,566
1882.....	5,910,787	13,131,993
1883.....	6,970,550	15,490,111
1884.....	7,656,011	19,140,027
1885.....	7,661,617	19,154,042
1886.....	8,149,472	21,445,979
1887.....	8,243,962	21,694,637
1888.....	9,545,895	25,120,776
1889.....	9,462,834	24,902,195
1890.....	10,121,210	26,634,763
1891.....	10,270,827	27,028,492
1892.....	10,238,426	26,943,227
1893.....	10,683,806	28,115,278
1894.....	10,825,350	28,487,763
1895.....	10,928,894	28,760,247
1896.....	10,530,339	27,711,418