

NICKEL.

In 1883 the first discovery of a deposit of nickeliferous pyrrhotite was made while the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was making a cutting through a small hill near Sudbury, in the District of Algoma, Ontario. 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 the Sudbury mines in 1889-1900 is given below.

ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF NICKEL IN MATTE.

Calendar Year.	Lbs.	Calendar Year.	Lbs.
1889	830,477	1895	3,888,525
1890	1,435,742	1896	3,397,113
1891	4,626,627	1897	3,997,647
1892	2,413,717	1898	5,517,690
1893	3,982,982	1899	5,744,000
1894	4,907,430	1900*	7,080,227

* Subject to revision.

EXPORTS OF NICKEL ORE, MATTE OR SPEISS, FROM CANADA, DURING THE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1891-1900.

Year.	Lbs.	\$	Year.	Lbs.	\$
1891	5,352,043	240,499	1896	6,996,540	486,651
1892	15,233,028	617,639	1897	7,527,422	498,515
1893	8,924,100	427,557	1898	14,760,996	970,531
1894	8,411,276	808,799	1899	14,428,063	994,537
1895	8,042,586	599,568	1900	13,493,239	1,040,498

The United States took all our exports of nickel during the years 1898, 1899 and 1900.

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.