Kentucky. These wells, however, are bored through some portion of the coal-measures or underlying conglomerate, though it is not certain that any important supply has been reached by any well which terminated within the range of the coal-beds.

In the lower portion of the Hamilton group is another black shale, known in New York as the "Marcellus Shale," but assuming at the West so calcareous a character that it has not been generally distinguished from the proper limestones of the Hamilton group. It presents itself in Michigan and Ontario as a mass of black, shaly limestone or calcareous shale, overlaid by the thin-bedded and argillaceous limestones of the Hamilton group proper. I am led to regard this formation as the chief source of petroleum in the Enniskillen and Bothwell regions of Ontario.

In the Cincinnati group is another black shale which is believed to supply the wells in the Burkesville region of Southern Kentucky, and on Manitoulin Island of Lake Huron. Not unlikely, some of the impure coals of the sub-conglomerate series have afforded supplies to wells terminating in the conglomerate in West Virginia and the neighboring portion of Kentucky. The oil springs of California are supplied from formations of much more recent date.

No limestone is known to be the mother-rock of large supplies of petroleum. It is true that the Corniferous limestone is saturated and blackened in many localities by the presence of bituminous matters; and it is true that this formation lies beneath the productive oil regions of West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania, and Enniskillen, in Ontario. It is due, also, to one of the most eminent authorities in chemical geology to state that Dr. T. S. Hunt entertains the opinion that the Corniferous limestone is probably the source of petroleum in the several regions named, and especially in Ontario. He has embraced numerous opportu-