

**PETROLEUM AND ITS PRODUCTS: AN  
ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY, ORIGIN,  
COMPOSITION, PROPERTIES, USES, AND  
COMMERCIAL VALUE, &C., OF PETROLEUM,  
THE METHODS EMPLOYED IN REFINING IT, AND  
THE PROPERTIES, USES, &C., OF ITS PRODUCTS**

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Petroleum and Its Products: An Account of the History, Origin, Composition, Properties, Uses, and Commercial Value, &c., of Petroleum, the Methods Employed in Refining It, and the Properties, Uses, &c., of Its Products by A. Norman Tate

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**A. NORMAN TATE**

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## P R E F A C E .

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PETROLEUM has now become a very important article of commerce, and information concerning it is much required, especially as many erroneous opinions respecting its properties, &c., are prevalent. A large amount of information is scattered through the pages of our numerous periodicals; but there does not exist, as far as I am aware, any work specially devoted to the subject of Petroleum. In order, therefore, to supply, to some extent, the want which was felt for such a work, I have prepared this small book, which I trust may be found useful in diffusing a knowledge of a very interesting and valuable substance. It is impossible, in a small volume like this, to include all that is known of Petroleum, especially as every day is bringing to light new facts concerning it; but I have endeavoured in the following pages to give as complete an account of the crude Oil, and its various products, as my space would allow. To those who wish to keep themselves well posted up on the subject, I would recommend a perusal

of some of our standard periodicals ; and, amongst others which I have found to contain the most reliable information, and which I have largely availed myself of in preparing this book, I may particularly mention the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, *Chemical News*, *Technologist*, and *Oil Trade Review*.

In conclusion, I would acknowledge, with thanks, the kindness of those gentlemen who have assisted me in obtaining information. To Messrs. Holt and Banner, of this town, I am particularly indebted, not only for the information which they have given me, but also for a large number of samples of Petroleum and products, which have been of great use to me in my analyses, &c. I am also indebted to Alexander S. Macrae, Esq., a gentleman well known in the Petroleum trade, for several samples which he kindly supplied to me for the purpose of illustrating a lecture, which I delivered on the subject at the Liverpool Free Public Library, in December last. These samples have been of much service to me in my examinations.

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LABORATORY, 79a, LORD STREET, LIVERPOOL,  
July 28th, 1863.



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