

A Great Canadian Industry. (From Our Own Correspondent.)

TORONTO, Feb. 23, 1885. As it is of so much importance to the mining interest, and through them to every other business interest of our country, to be well supplied with the best labor-saving machinery of every kind, some notes in regard to the largest manufacturing establishment of the kind in the Dominion will, no doubt, prove of interest to your many readers. While visiting Toronto recently I spent part of a day going through The Massey Manufacturing Company's Works, located at the west end of this city, and was much surprised at their extent and importance. Only after visiting some such establishments that one gets an idea of what labor-saving machinery has been produced in connection with Canadian agriculture, and to what a fine state of perfection many of these labor-saving machines have been brought.

The present buildings on the premises now occupied by the company are certainly very complete and extensive. There looms up a vast building or series of buildings, of brick, with a single frontage of 750 feet and four stories in height. It would require too much space to undertake to give here any detailed description of these fine buildings. They were erected for this express purpose and planned by practical men with many years of business experience, they are models of convenience and adaptation to the business. To give some idea of the extent it may be here stated that the space alone of these buildings amounts to nearly 200,000 square feet, or four and a half acres, and would equal to one vast floor of one mile in length and thirty-seven feet in width. In these buildings the entire work is carried on in all departments—foundry, blacksmithing, iron-fitting, wood-working, and engineering.

The labor employed in 350 to 450 hands are constantly employed in these works. As a large proportion of the men are skilled artisans, nearly all of them strong able men, of full prime, it will be at once seen that a thriving village of themselves, directly dependent on the success of the enterprise. The men are of more ordinary intelligence, and of temperate habits, and the fact that, as a whole, they take such a deep interest in the business of the important factors of the industry.

It may be here mentioned that a library and reading room was opened some months ago for the benefit of the employees. There is a large well-furnished cheerful room with the leading representative magazines and newspapers in the various departments of literature, to which every access without charge. The officials are encouraged to note the interest in this fine hall. At noon and certain evening hours a large number of men may be found assembled enjoying the rich intellectual feast laid before them.

Hall has also been provided for lectures, concerts, and the like, immediate benefit of the men and families, and also another large hall, capable of holding from six hundred to a thousand people, for still larger gatherings. It is quite probable that in this regular religious service soon be established by some of the churches, the Company freely offering the room, lighted and heated for the purpose, but not desiring, as a rule, to take special control of the services. Probably no other firm in Toronto is giving better evidence of its interest in the industrial and social well being of the men employed.

IMPLEMENTS MANUFACTURED. The attention of the establishment is given to the manufacture of harvesting implements. A few kinds of the machines have been singled out and men and the best machinery provided for making them in the most perfect manner. Nearly everything in connection with the machines is manufactured directly in the works, care being taken that everything is the best of its kind in this way a high reputation for reliability has been obtained. The machine is not only put carefully through the tests, but is also submitted to more severe tests than the field tests, so that any defect is found out and remedied before the machine goes to the workshop at all. The "Toronto" is fitted with the new and efficient mechanical gear, and the "Massey" is made, and these have now an

increase in size, some thousands of them being made each year and sent to every Province in the Dominion. Of their peculiar excellence I cannot speak. The fact, however, that they have a well-established reputation for good work is good evidence in their favor.

A good deal of attention is now being given to the manufacture of the "Toronto Light Binder," also equipped with a novel shaft carrier. It is only quite recently that the practicability of a self-binding machine was established, and in some localities they have not yet been introduced. There can be no longer doubt, however, in regard to their success. A few years hence and no farmer will think of doing his binding by manual labour no more than he now thinks of mowing or reaping "by hand." Every binder here made is put to a severe test before it is declared completed, and I am informed that the demand for them is becoming very great. About fifteen each day are being completed and it is doubtful if the demand of the coming season will not be in excess of the supply.

The "Massey Harvester," a self-raking machine is also being extensively manufactured, and it has enjoyed a large sale for many years. Probably no other reaper is more extensively in use in the harvest fields of Canada, and the Company have long staked their reputation on its excellence. It may be here stated that all the knives for the various machines are manufactured on the premises. It is claimed that this is the only firm in Canada manufacturing its own section knives. They look small, but in the process of cutting, shaping, tempering, polishing and sharpening every section passes through the hands of nine experienced workmen, and a considerable machinery specially adapted to the purpose is used. There are many elaborate and expensive iron working machines specially made for these works.

PROBABLY NO WHERE ELSE IN CANADA is there anything like as large a number of steel tooth horse rakes manufactured as here. The "Sharp's Horse Rake" is the only kind made. Everything in connection with the rake is manufactured on the premises. The machines by which the wheels are made are such as would well repay a long journey of any carriage maker to see. The process of making and tempering the steel teeth is also very ingenious and elaborate. How so many thousands of these rakes can find yearly sale is a matter of wonder, and yet the demand has grown from year to year.

FOR REPAIRS. The great drawback to many a valuable harvest machine is its danger of breaking just when the hurry is greatest. Where machines are severely tested before being pronounced finished the danger is not so great but "accidents will happen" even to the best tried machinery. Arrangements have been made to supply any desired piece of any machine with the least possible delay. A large room is stored with completed parts, piled up in large stalls and ready for shipment at a moment's notice. During the busy season a man is always ready for a call, and telegraph and telephone offices are on the premises, besides several express services a day, so that not a moment is allowed to be lost.

HOW SOLD. Comparatively few machines, I am told, are ever sold at the works. A show room is fitted up with facilities to show every machine in actual motion, but its demand is not very great. The agents of the company are scattered abroad in every one of the Provinces, and through these the sales are being made. There is a branch house in Winnipeg and the sales in Manitoba are very large. At one time last year a special train of twenty one cars loaded was shipped direct to Winnipeg, and almost every day during the season some car loads are being sent. Shipments by the car load from April till the end of the season are of daily occurrence.

I am informed that an agent is also employed purchasing lumber expressly for the company, and, being an experienced man at such business, they are always fortunate in getting a good quality. The samples of paints, oils, and the like, are also put to severe practical tests before quantities are ordered, and then they are mixed and ground by machinery on the premises. Though nothing is done in the way of newspaper advertising, yet some thousands of dollars are being expended each year in reaching the public. A very neatly printed paper of sixteen pages, "Massey's Illustrated," is issued in immense editions and sent to every available farmer in the Dominion. Any man dropping a post-card with his name and address to the company will be gratuitously supplied with a copy.

There are many other features of importance in connection with this large establishment of which I would like to write, but I fear I have already trespassed too much on your space.

A VISITOR.

The British Navy. In the House of Lords the Earl of Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty, said that the British navy was superior to that of France or any other nation. He said it was the intention of the Government to build thirty torpedo boats. Ten of them had already been ordered. With regard to the naval defences of the various colonies of Great Britain, the Earl of Northbrook gave assurance that the Government would gladly assist them in any way possible to improve the defences on their coasts. The total of the enrolled volunteers in Great Britain at the present time is 215,000 men, the greatest number yet attained.

CHOICE RECIPES.

FRUIT CAKE.—One-half cup butter, one and one-half cups milk, two and one-half cups flour, whites of four eggs, one-half teaspoonful cream tartar, one-quarter teaspoonful soda; just before putting into oven sprinkle over the top one cup pecan's broken into pieces.

RAISIN TARTS.—One heaping coffee-cup stoned and chopped raisins, two small cups powdered sugar, the grated rind and juice of two lemons. Put all together in a bowl and set in the teakettle till the sugar is dissolved; when cool fill the shells.

LOAF CAKE.—Three cups of light dough; work in one cup of butter, one cup of sugar, one cup molasses, two eggs, one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in three tablespoonfuls of milk or cream, one teaspoonful of copped raisins; spice to the taste, and let it set quite light before baking.

BLACK BEAN SOUP.—Three pounds of beef shin-bone, one quart of black beans, soaked all night. Chop an onion and boil with the beans and bone for five or six hours; then strain and season with salt, pepper, one tablespoonful catchup and two of hard cider. This is a soup much fancied by city epicures, but seen less often than it deserves upon farmers' tables.

LYONNAISE POTATOES.—Slice a pound of cold boiled potatoes. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter into a saucepan with a small onion chopped fine. Set the pan over the fire, and when the onion has fried to a delicate brown add the potatoes and turn and toss them till they begin to color, then stir in a little minced parsley and serve immediately.

BEEFSTEAK BALLS.—Broil very slightly two pounds of lean steak from the round. Chop it very fine, add one tablespoonful of flour, two of milk, and salt and pepper to taste. Fry in hot fat. Serve hot with mashed potato.

HONEY PUDDING.—Three pints thinly sliced apples, one pint honey, one pint flour, one pint cornmeal, small piece butter, one tablespoonful soda, the juice of two lemons, and three grated lemon rinds. Stir the dry soda into the honey, then add the apples, melted butter, and a little salt. Now add the other ingredients and stir in the flour. Bake one hour and serve with sauce.

OATMEAL MUFFINS.—One cup of oatmeal, one and a half pints of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, two of baking powder, one tablespoonful of lard, two eggs, one pint of milk. Sift together meal, flour, salt, and baking powder; rub the lard in cold, and then add beaten eggs and milk.

PARSNIP FRITTERS.—Scrape the parsnips, and, if large, put them into boiling water and boil, with salt enough to season them nicely, till quite tender; then mash them, adding to four or five parsnips a heaping tablespoonful of flour, one or two beaten eggs, and pepper and salt to taste. Make up into cakes and fry in hot pork fat. Even those who have a rooted prejudice against parsnips will generally like them in this form.

Chickens and Pills.

Dr. Jones, who practices in a suburb of Philadelphia has an elaborate machine for making pills. The doctor's practice is quite extensive and when he puts the machine in operation the result is enough to scare a nervous patient into convalescence or fits. Not long ago Dr. Jones made several quarts of pills and waited for a bright day to dry them. As soon as he got a good look at the sun he spread the pills carefully on the roof of a convenient outbuilding and drove off to see his patients. About half an hour after the doctor's buggy had disappeared Mrs. Jones heard an unusually vociferous squawk from the boss rooster of the back yard, but she had not time enough to investigate the cause, being confident that no colored brother would invade the chicken reservation on such a bright day. If she had looked she would have seen the rooster perched on the roof of the outbuilding eating pills as though he were laying up for seven lean years of famine.

Attracted by the rooster's summons to the banquet, and his evident enjoyment thereof, one or two hens flew up to the top of the shed and proceeded to devour the pills. They cackled and clucked a little after satisfying their appetites, and more hens came. Then more hens cackled. Then there were still more hens and less pills. The increased volume of the cackling, indulged in by the hen convention, finally attracted Mrs. Jones's attention again and she went forth to learn the cause. She didn't learn it just then, for the entire cause was concealed within the hens. Not a pill was to be seen. Two or three hens lay on the ground wreathing from the effects of blue mast. The boss rooster sat grimly in a fence corner laboring under a dose of podophyllin. Two or three gay young pullets had been so highly benefited that they were fighting out the disputed title to a pill that one of them had swallowed. Other fowls staggared about in a dazed sort of fashion, as if wondering what was the matter with them.

Two hundred and thirty-seven pills were found in the craw of one of the chickens which was killed for dinner that day. Nobody could explain how they got there till the doctor came home. He examined the shed roof and the pills taken from the plain chicken's craw and said one or two little words. The family dined that day on eggs bought at the grocery store.

There is probably no better illustration in this world of the terrible weight of grave responsibility than a five inch dog standing on a box with his forepaws on the tailboard of a four-horse express wagon, alertly guarding its passage through the streets of a crowded city.

ROUND THE WORLD.

Slavery also hard in Brazil. The province of Pernambuco has still 83,000 slaves. Abolitionists are not in favor in that province.

The new English Postmaster-General, having gone down to his office and let himself in with a latchkey, was promptly arrested by a detective and held until identified as a non-dynamiter.

A stage was upset in Applegate Creek, in southern Oregon, the other day, by a rush of salmon. The horses were out loose, and the driver escaped on their backs. The salmon crowded the river from bank to bank, and the school was over a mile long.

Russia has 15,231 doctors, and maintaining universities at Kasan, Kiel, Charkow, Moscow, Warsaw, Helmsington, and Dorpat. The professional men flock to the cities. In the country thousands of people die for want of medical and surgical attendance.

Arsenical floors, in addition to wall papers of that kind, are threatened in England. A correspondent writes to one of the London papers, showing that an architect directs the washing of joists for cellar floors with an arsenical solution, to prevent dry rot.

According to a careful report in *Comptes Rendus*, coffee is a complex aliment which acts mainly by modifying the phenomena of nutrition and the general functions. It renders the organism capable of consuming and destroying larger quantities of nitrogenous substances, and may consequently be regarded as an indirect source of available energy.

By far the best-looking men in London to-day are the police. The soldiers can't compare with them. The hard times have evidently induced many farmers' sons and others of superior calibre to enter the police force who are persons of education and have excellent manners. Yet a London policeman receives only \$6 a week. He has a pension, though, if he stays on.

The descriptive terms used for neurological conditions are rapidly increasing in number, and bid fair to make an interesting vocabulary. Some of the comparatively recent terms are used by Dr. C. H. Hughes in the *St. Louis Medical Journal*, where he describes a patient who "has anthropophobia, being afraid to meet any one about the house," and polyphobia, "afraid of everything, sometimes;" he has also phobophobia, being "afraid something is going to happen to frighten him."

A recent work, "The London and Provincial Water Supplies," gives the daily consumption of water in London at 144,592,772 gallons, or nearly 30 gallons per head of population. Glasgow is fortunate in her supply, receiving 50 gallons per head per diem from the pure waters of Loch Katrine. The writer says that the population of London is now increasing at the rate of 100,000 per year. If this rate continues until 1919 London will have a population of about 10,000,000, and the water problem will be a very serious one.

A writer in a London paper says: "The most attractive show at the Japanese series—at least for the lady visitors—is the hairdresser's shop; and the first result of the visit of this little colony is a development in the fashion of tonsorial art. Already I have noticed half a dozen ladies with heads trimmed a la Japanese; and now I am assured on the best authority that artists in hair are on their way from Japan, under engagement with two of our best known fashionable West End hairdressers." The Japan village has proved a great success.

A writer in the *Medical Times* describes the island of Madeira as presenting the curious anomaly of a country which is destitute of any wheeled vehicle whatever, a fact due to the almost complete absence of roads. People travel in hammocks, and, with three bearers only, they may journey all day with hardly a halt. The highest temperature of the island in 1885 was 90°, and the lowest 46°; the mean temperature of the months of the whole year varied but twelve degrees. Thus, for the winter months, it was 61, 60, 60; spring, 60, 63, 64; summer, 68, 71, 72, and autumn, 70, 69, 64.

The French Academy of Sciences receives innumerable letters from people who imagine they have made some brilliant discovery. A lady wrote lately that having been suddenly seized with the early symptoms of cholera, she entered a cafe and ordered a glass of absinthe, which she drank. The cholera disappeared at once. The Secretary was complimented for his gallantry in reading the lady's very important communication, but was reminded that people attacked by cholera do not generally enter cafes, but if forced to do so, do not usually call for absinthe.

A NOVEL HEAD LIGHT.—The electric light is beginning to be utilized in a hundred ways not at first even thought of. The *Scientific American* thus describes a new scarf pin. Surely a fashionable gentleman, thus attired with one of these, will shine in society as he never shone before. A couple of fine wires lead from the lamp to a small battery, made in the form of a book and carried in the pocket. By touching a button, also arranged in one's pocket, the necktie lamp is instantly lighted and continues as long as the button is pressed. The battery becomes exhausted after considerable use, but may easily be replenished. This is a device of genuine excellence, and well illustrates the progress of practical electricity.

A KENTUCKY GIRL'S CHOICE.

Miss Emma L. Henderson of Hopkinsville, Ky., a bright girl of good family, was the heroine recently of an elopement with one lover and a marriage with another. For over two years she has divided her heart about equally between W. H. Martin of Crofton and O. S. Stevens. The lovers were not on speaking terms with each other. On Saturday morning Martin and Miss Henderson, by the invitation of the young lady, took a train for Springfield to be married. Miss Henderson wept so castorally as they travelled along. Having arrived at Springfield, Martin lost no time in procuring a license. When he returned to the hotel Miss Henderson demanded that the ceremony should be postponed a few hours. She then returned to the privacy of her room and took the landlord into her confidence. She told him all, and said she loved both, but preferred Stevens, the man she had left behind. The landlord volunteered his services, and she handed him the following telegram to send:

Mr. O. S. Stevens: Come to Springfield first train. I am waiting for you. EMMA L. HENDERSON.

Stevens received the telegram and left on the 12:28 train. Martin had again asked for the marriage to be solemnized, and had been put off until 3 P. M., at which time the train would arrive with Stevens. The young lady gave as a reason that she wanted to wait for her brother, who would come on the 3 o'clock train.

At that hour Stevens, accompanied by her brother, arrived and went to the hotel. The girl then had an interview with each of her lovers, and each of them also talked with her brother. Stevens was the prize, and the news was broken to Martin as gently as possible. He declared that he loved the girl, but accepted her decision manfully and was present at the wedding. His shook hands with his old enemy, and congratulated his bride with a kiss. The whole party then returned on the evening train, Martin dividing time with Stevens in talking to the bride on the return trip. The train arrived at 8:30 p.m., and the engineer blew his whistle for five minutes while entering the city. Stevens's father has denied him his house for the part he took in the transaction. The bridal couple are at Mr. Henderson's. Young Henderson has obtained parental forgiveness for his sister. Martin has in his possession a marriage license as a memento.

BRIDGING THE JORDAN.—U. S. Consul Merrill, at Jerusalem, reports that during the past summer, an attempt has been made to build a bridge over the Jordan at Jericho. It has progressed slowly, however, as the lumber furnished had to be brought from Europe, and carried on the backs of camels from the port of Jaffa to the river. The Consul suggests that there might be some market in Palestine for American lumber, as the Austrian and Turkish lumber now used there is of poor quality and high priced, but the country is probably too poor to make much of a market for anything at present; the whole yearly imports at Jaffa, which is the Mediterranean seaport for Jerusalem, amount to only about \$600,000.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

A NEW ILLUMINATOR.—In Russia experiments are now going on for the production of pyronaphtha, a new illuminating material, which is destined, it is considered, to take the place of kerosene. This is a new illuminating oil, absolutely free from danger of fire. An experiment was made as to the power which pyronaphtha has of extinguishing fire; and it was found that burning kerosene was easily put out by it. Pyronaphtha can, however, itself be extinguished by water. It is a product of the distillation of naphtha residue, of which large quantities remain from the Baku distillation of petroleum. From these illuminating gas is produced, and likewise pyronaphtha. The specific gravity of pyronaphtha is 0.864, and it ignites only at 230° Fah. It burns without smoke and vapor at 257°; gives a better light than kerosene; is consumed less rapidly; while its prime cost is less. At St. Petersburg it is being adopted for domestic use; and a special burner has been constructed for the purpose.

Mesmerism.

M. Verbeck, a French mesmerist, now in London, performs some surprising illusions, using but one hand. A wedding ring borrowed from a lady is hammered into a bar by some volunteer assistant among the audience. The conjurer borrows a programme, rolls it into a cornucopia-shaped receptacle for the ring, and without the use of the left hand crumples the paper into a ball, which the volunteer holds tight, full in view of the audience. When he is directed to open it he finds that the crumpled ball of paper consists of five sealed envelopes, one within the other, and with the perfect wedding ring in the smallest and innermost. In the exhibition of the effects of mesmeric control, Mlle. de Marguerit, who assists M. Verbeck, bears without sign of feeling, the thrusting of a scarf pin through the fleshy part of the forehead, and afterward, moving rhythmically under mesmeric influence, falls in mesmeric trance, stops with the cessation of the music and preserves her poise, motionless, in attitudes which a pantomime *figuante* would certainly find painful, if not impossible.

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