

Markdale Standard.

O. W. Rutledge, Proprietor.

MARKDALE, SEPTEMBER 8, 1891.

A LIVE INDUSTRY.

Armstrong Bros. steams saw mill and factories are located about twenty rods west of the Canadian Pacific Railway station, and a visit to this thriving establishment cannot but prove interesting and gratifying to any citizen who desires an evidence of the progress of our town.

The premises comprise 350 frontage with six buildings all connected by steam piping for the transmission of power, also a complete system of tramways and drying racks, and a large pond of water at the west end for preserving the logs during summer.

Here the gigantic trees of the forest are being transformed into Lumber, Cheese Boxes, Cheese Box Stock, Fruit Baskets, Egg Cases and Sewing Machine Tables in a manner surprising to the uninitiated.

The saw mill, which is thoroughly equipped, does its portion of the work chiefly during the winter and early spring months while the other departments begin the first of May and are continued through the summer in full swing.

The growth and development of this industry has been healthy and vigorous and is now a source of material revenue to the place.

In the first place thousands of dollars are paid out annually for the raw material, chiefly soft chaff, a timber which until recently was considered of little or no value. This money goes directly into the pockets of farmers in the community.

Then there is the wage bill through the season paid to employees in working up the rough logs, amounting to from \$125,000 to \$150,000 per week.

The mode of paying wages is very systematic and deserving of a passing notice. An office having been erected on the premises, the employees—from twenty to twenty-five in number—repair either at 6 o'clock on Saturday p.m. and each is handed a sealed envelope containing a sum of his time and his wages for that week; thus a very important matter is disposed of in about five minutes' time.

The various kinds of material produced is of a uniform superior quality, and there are good reasons for this.

In the first place the timber of this district is A 1.

Then the plant and machinery is of the most modern and latest improved class.

And lastly, the members of the firm are experts with machinery and are by nature eminently qualified to manipulate the most intricate parts of the business with singular ingenuity and ability.

The trade is rapidly extending and this season the put off cheese box stock will foot up sufficient to make two hundred thousand boxes, fifteen thousand of which are finished complete at the factory and delivered to local cheese factories by team, 310 to 400 to a wagon load, while the balance is shipped in the vehicle by rail to various points up to 250 miles distant.

The Basket Works are also fast developing and leading fruit shippers pronounce Armstrong Bros. baskets the best and strongest in the market.

The branch factory at Thornbury is turning out thousands of fruit baskets as well as the basket department of the Markdale factory.

The Egg Case part of the business is also receiving its due share of attention and the market for this class of goods is being supplied with a good article.

Another class of material is manufactured, viz.: veneer for sewing machine tables. Enough to make from twenty to twenty-five thousand machine tables is expected during the year, and this is the only factory in the Dominion which manufactures this article.

The importance of having such an industry as above described in our midst cannot well be over-estimated, and we are gratified to see the commendable enterprise and indomitable perseverance of our worthy townsmen meeting with that success which they richly deserve.

Walter's Falls.

Business as dull as ever. Lots of wet, turned out with sick times.

Kirkham Bros. are now fitting up their store with first-class goods.

Mr. R. Oldmstead's new mill was erected last Wednesday week. Though the timber was heavy, no accidents occurred.

The Temperance Society has already over sixty members. Long may she prosper.

Dr. McCullouch is the happiest man in town, as he has been presented lately with another young son.

Another of our young ladies has apparently got tired of single life and joined herself in wedlock which took place on Wednesday last at Mr. D. Squires' residence, Elphinstone. The eldest daughter was married to a gentleman who resides near Amherst.

KIMBERLEY.

We are likely to have a roller flour mill here soon. The farmers of this neighborhood are forming a joint stock company to either build one or purchase Mr. Pellow's mill and fit it up as a roller mill. There is about one half of the necessary stock already taken and we expect soon to have about 200 share holders which would insure a good custom and make it a success. The shares are a \$25 each.

The dry weather last spring and the wet weather recently has made this the latest harvest for many years.

Mr. Sing, P. L. S., is here surveying square Purdy's farm into town lots. There are quite a number of them already sold. It will be a great help to the village as nearly all the available lots in Kimberley had been sold.

Miss G. Burritt and Miss Walker have gone to the Normal School at Toronto.

Mr. Erwin Fawcett is visiting here with his brother, J. R. Fawcett. He looks as though Uncle Sam's demands agree with him.

Mr. H. Hurd left here last week for Dakota, there to visit friends and see the country.

Our marmots are beginning to put their nests in trim, some intending to avail

At Rutledge's Grocery.

DUNDALK.

Farmers are longing for dry warm weather. At time of writing, the prospects for good harvest weather are improving. The Reeve of your village was in Dundalk one day last week.

Our junior foot-ball club went on Friday to play the heavy weights of Fletcherston, and were defeated; score 1-0.

Mr. McGregor has exchanged his mill property with Toronto contractors for city property.

Our local editor filled the pulpit of the Presbyterian church on Sunday last, in the absence of the minister, Rev. A. Hudson. The congregation gave him a hearty welcome.

The trials growing out of the recent riot will continue. Two more were committed for trial on Monday. There is an idea abroad that the cases might have been tried earlier, and disposed of here, and the one side expect the Grand Jury to throw the case out. At the suit of P. Herring, Geo. & Joe. O'Connor were committed for assault. The case of Gilder, Mr. McDevitt ended by McDevitt being fined \$5 and costs.

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