

Messrs. Jacques & Hay send to England and to New York for much of their glue, because they find it *better than the home-made article*.

The main building, which contains the machinery, is a large five-storey brick structure. On its south side is a separate building, of the same material, and perfectly fire-proof, for the boiler and steam-engine. At the east end of the main building, a little to the south, and extending in that direction towards the bay to within a few feet of the Grand Trunk Railroad is another large building: this is divided into storehouses, blacksmith's shops, workshops for painters, varnishers, ornamenters in bronze, French polishers, hand polishers, and a variety of others. Hand-polishing is the most delicate kind of manipulation through which the finest articles pass, and it is confined to these. In one of these rooms the floral ornaments in bronze are laid on the common chairs. Other apartments are used for drying the painted and varnished work, which process takes about two weeks, but then, it must be remembered, that in some cases five or six coats of varnish are laid on. The visitor will be surprised, perhaps, to find that on one of the lower floors of this building a number of men are very busily employed in making boxes—altogether too small for packing furniture in—even the furniture that takes to pieces for easy carriage. There is a great deal of that sort of goods manufactured in the States for shipment to South America, and the distinctive name it bears is "knock-down" furniture, from its being easily knocked to pieces. Why should not Canada try her hand at this kind of work? But these are *tobacco boxes*!

That huge chocolate-colored frame building, immediately on the south side of the Grand Trunk Railway track, which is liable to be mistaken for a large railroad machine shop or a freight-dépôt, is a two or three-storey building, filled from floor to roof with thousands upon thousands of chairs, bureaux, tables, picture frames, wash stands, &c. Through the centre of this storehouse there is a roadway, along which furniture cars pass, stopping underneath a large opening in the floor to receive their loads for the city trade, or to be shipped on the railroads or steamboats for other destinations. There is a vast deal of furniture and fine cabinet work that never enters this place at all, but is conveyed direct from the factory to their establishment in King Street.

Here the general business of the concern is transacted. The first floor comprises the counting-house, ware-rooms, packing rooms, &c., and upstairs ware-rooms, showrooms and workshops for upholsterers. On the upholstering part of the

business the ubiquitous sewing machine is brought to bear. All through this building the visitor will behold rich furniture of the most elegant patterns, graceful designs and exquisitely finished workmanship: costly *Étagères*, wardrobes, dressing tables, luxurious couches, sofas, lounges, easy and other chairs, with an almost endless variety of articles fit to adorn the bed-chambers, boudoirs, parlors, drawing rooms, and gilded *salons* of the opulent, as well as abodes of humbler pretensions. These are being disposed of daily and their places taken by others.

Return now to the factory for the purpose of viewing the processes by which the rough timber is made to assume the forms of elegance and utility which you have just seen. You enter at the centre of the building. Mr. Craig, the obliging foreman has consented to devote a few minutes to you in the character of *Cicerone*. Pointing to some machinery you ask a question—that is, you meant to ask it, and you feel sure you did, but—what became of it? You did not hear it. You try again, and this time you would have heard it but for the piercing scream of a circular saw—there are twenty of them in the building. That one is a swinging cross-cut saw, which, in obedience to a touch of the operator's hand, approaches and cuts squarely through the thickest plank of the hardest wood in a moment.

This being the ground floor, all the heaviest machinery is here, and here begins the work. The plank you have seen cut off, having previously been run through a planer, and now being cut into the required lengths, is taken by another workman and passed as rapidly through a Whitney's patent scraper, which is an admirable contrivance for doing perfectly in less than a minute what would require an hour to do imperfectly by hand labor. It takes off a sheet of the wood as thin as tissue-paper, and when the plank or board has been evenly planed, unbroken, from the entire surface, leaving the work as even and smooth as a sheet of fine plate-glass. These pieces are now as expeditiously cut, some into one shape and some into others, as they are to form chair frames, parts of sofas, tables, &c.: this is done chiefly by gig saws. Close to one of these, convenient to receive its work from the preceding operation, is a very neatly constructed moulding machine, with two cutters. Backs of sofas, and other pieces of irregular shape are placed on the table through which these cutters pass, and have the moulding executed on them in a space of time to match the great rapidity of all the other processes. Sand-papering is very effectively done by a revolving cylinder covered with that material. Here, too, is a simple instrument for