

MR. JOSEPH HICKSON

The Railway Age, an influential American journal, devoted the interests of railways, and published in Chicago, contains an engraving and sketch of the career of Mr. Joseph Hickson, General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada. Both are taken from Appleton's Railway Guide. The following is the sketch:—

DOMINION SALVAGE AND WRECKAGE COMPANY.

The merits of this company's measure will come before the Parliamentary Committee for discussion on Friday next. The specialities of the St. Lawrence Wreckage and Salvage Company were more particularly adapted to the Upper St. Lawrence, but the negotiations between that company and the promoters of the Dominion Company—instituted with similar purposes—the advocates of both measures mutually agreed as to the advisability of combining their measures, which have now developed under one head.

THE TRADE OF MONTREAL.

Imports and Exports for Fiscal Year ending 30th July, 1880.

The following figures are worthy of attention at the present time:— Total imports at port of Montreal, 1st July, 1879 to 1st July, 1880, \$25,552,690; being an increase over fiscal year ending 1st July, 1879, of \$991,329; imports from Great Britain, in the above period, 1879 to 1880, at the same port, \$13,868,120; imports from United States in the above period, 1879 to 1880, at the same port, \$5,668,826; imports from United States, from 1878 to 1879, \$10,018,259; or more than from imports from United States from 1879 to 1880 (1st July to 1st July) by \$3,349,633; total imports from Great Britain and the United States (1st July to 1st July 1879 to 1880) by \$20,534,746; total imports from Great Britain and the United States (1st July to 1st July, 1878 to 1879) by \$21,838,661; or \$1,303,915 more from 1879 to 1880. Imports from other countries from 1879 to 1880 (1st July to 1st July) by \$2,393,741—more than in the same period, from 1878 to 1879.

1880, went to the United States, whilst only 39 per cent. went in 1879. Imports from the United States to Canada were \$23,602,107 in 1878 over exports, whereas, in year ending 30th June, 1880, the imports from the United States to Canada were less than the exports from Canada to the United States by \$3,228,195, or a difference in favor of Canada, in two years, of \$27,184,592.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

A mis-apprehension having arisen as to the true intent and meaning of so much of that part of section seventeen of the Patent Act of 1872, as specifies the period at which the extension of a patent may be obtained, the Minister of Agriculture moved the second reading of the Senate Bill, the object of which is to remove such apprehension. It provides as follows:—

- 1. In all cases in which not more than a year has elapsed since the expiration of a patent, and application to renew the same has been made to the Commissioner of Patents within ten days of such expiration, the Commissioner may, in his discretion and after such hearing of conflicting interest (if any) as he may deem expedient, revive the expired patent and continue the same for the period for which, if application has been made in time, it might have been extended under "the Patent Act of 1872;" but no such patent shall be revived after the 31st of October in the present year.
- 2. The fee to be paid to the Commissioner of Patents, in consideration of such revival and extension as aforesaid, shall be computed at the rate of four dollars for each year of the duration of such extension, and shall be paid by the applicant in accordance with the provisions of the act above cited.
- 3. Nothing in this act contained shall, in any way, affect the right of any person who, previous to the granting of the original patent, as provided by section 48 of the Patent Act of 1872, or of any person who, since the expiration of such patent, and previous to the date of the revival thereof under this act, has purchased, acquired, constructed or made use of the invention forming the subject of such patent, or revived patent, to construct, use or sell the specific article, machine, manufacture or composition of matter patented, so purchased, constructed, acquired or made use of.

According to the report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, for the year ending 31st March, 1881, it appears that the quantity of spirits charged with duty in the United Kingdom was 28,219,721 gallons, being a decrease as compared with the previous year of 1,576,413. The quantity retained for consumption as beverage in the United Kingdom was 27,289,952 gallons, a decrease as compared with the previous year of 1,617,813 gallons. The quantity consumed per head of the population in 1879 was 6.610 gallons in England, 1.877 in Scotland, and 0.946 in Ireland. In giving these figures the Commissioners say: "There are not wanting indications of a growing disposition on the part of many in all classes to reduce, if not to discontinue, the use of spirits as an ordinary beverage, and probably the decrease in the aggregate consumption is in part due to this cause."

The report of Mr. Keefer, the Executive Commissioner of the Canadian Commission at the Paris Exhibition, was laid on the table of the House of Commons on Tuesday by the Minister of Agriculture. It is a voluminous document. The total number of Canadian exhibitors at the exhibition was 534, and the total number of awards 284. The number of gold medals awarded was 24; silver medals, 46; bronze medals, 92; honorable mention, 100. Ontario was represented by 328 exhibitors, Quebec, 107, Nova Scotia 31; New Brunswick, 8; Prince Edward Island, 23; British Columbia, 29; Manitoba, 4; Dominion exhibit, 1. Of gold medals Ontario obtained 12, Quebec, 6; Nova Scotia, 1; Dominion, 5 silver medals; Ontario, 21; Quebec, 20; Nova Scotia, 4; New Brunswick, 1. Bronze medals: Dominion, 1; Ontario, 47; Quebec, 36; Nova Scotia, 6; New Brunswick, 2. The Commissioner refers to the benefits to be derived by Canada from being represented at the exhibition. The prominent idea of the Commissioner was to show the advantages of this country as a field for emigration. The report contains a comparative statement showing the nature of the great exhibitions which have been held since 1871. In 1851, London had 13,917 exhibitors and 6,170,000 visitors; cost, \$1,404,000; receipts, \$2,530,000; Paris, 1855, exhibitors, 23,954; visitors, 4,533,464; cost, \$4,000,000; receipts, \$1,840,000. London, 1862, exhibitors, 28,663; visitors, 6,211,103; cost, 2,500,000; receipts, \$2,300,000. Paris, 1867 exhibitors 60,228, visitors, 9,309,000; cost, \$4,598,763; receipts, \$2,822,932. Vienna, 1873 exhibitors, 42,548; visitors, 7,254,297; cost, \$9,850,000; receipts, \$7,000,000. Philadelphia, 1876, exhibitors, 35,298; visitors, 9,910,996; cost, \$8,830,000; receipts, \$3,850,000. Paris, 1878, exhibitors, 56,000; visitors, 15,932,725; cost, \$11,000,000; receipts, \$2,830,750. The following is a statement of the expenses:

Table with columns for item and amount. Includes entries for Advertisements (\$1,388.28), Printing (\$3,117.65), Naudies (\$5,942.92), Dominion map (\$4,483.54), Welland Canal map (\$1,822.26), Jacobine Canal map (\$2,224.17), Geological accounts (\$4,284.61), Trophies (\$14,468.51), Show cases (\$6,467.45), Postage and telegrams (\$604.28), Office petty expenses (\$460.22), Freight charges and cartage (\$21,176.22), Space and rent (\$2,738.76), Stationery (\$1,530.38), Claims (\$1,200.92), Candy wages as per pay sheets (\$1,170.51), Food products (\$1,178.94), J. Gordon Brown, expenses as Hon. Commissioner (\$733.04), G. Drolet, expenses as Hon. Commissioner (\$1,228.77), J. B. Dufferin, expenses as Hon. Commissioner (\$180.00), Joseph Perrault, travelling expenses (\$921.00), Joseph Perrault, allowances for personal expenses (\$1,918.00), Joseph Perrault, salary, May 9th, 1877, to March 31st, 1879, at \$225 per month (\$5,125.00), S. P. Mar, travelling expenses (\$1,515.60), S. P. Mar, allowance for personal expenses (\$1,439.50), S. P. Mar, salary July 15th, 1877, to March 31st, 1879, at \$225 per month (\$4,612.50), T. O. Keefer, travelling expenses (\$716.70), T. O. Keefer, allowance for personal expenses (\$1,945.00), T. O. Keefer, sundries July 21st, 1877, to April 31st, 1879, at 25¢ per month (\$9,272.40), Total amount paid on account of Paris Exhibition to date, by order of the House, March 31st, 1880. \$113,905.96

THE SYNDICATE AFLOAT

This morning Messrs. Kennedy, Stickney, Duncan, McIntyre, R. B. Apps and the Hon. J. J. C. Abbott assembled in the syndicate headquarters for the purpose of taking steps in connection with their charter Mr. Kennedy presided, and Mr. Charles E. Drinkwater was present in his capacity as secretary. After a few remarks from the chair, the company was formally organized and the officers regularly appointed. The whole list was not ready for publication in time for one edition, but will be given later. Mr. Stickney, it may be said, will be the general superintendent, and will have entire charge of the construction department. Mr. Wm. Harder, formerly station agent G.T.R. at Point Levis, will be general passenger and freight agent at Windsor, and will enter upon his duties at once. The Hon. J. J. C. Abbott will do the legal business of the company at headquarters. This afternoon Messrs. Angus, Kennedy, Stickney and Abbott left for Europe via New York over the Delaware & Hudson road, and were accompanied by Mr. D. McIntyre and Mr. C. E. Drinkwater, the two last of whom will go no further than New York and Plattsburg respectively. A number of friends were present to bid good-bye to the departing gentlemen, and the scene was very animated. — Montreal Witness, Feb. 17

INDUSTRIAL SECRETS.

A century ago, what a man discovered in the arts he concealed. Workmen were put upon an oath never to reveal the process used by their employers. Doors were kept closed, artisans going out were searched, visitors were rigorously excluded from admission, and false operations blinded the workmen themselves. The mysteries of every craft were hedged in by thick-set fences of empirical pretensions and judicial affirmation. The royal manufactories of porcelain, for example, were carried on in Europe with a spirit of jealous exclusiveness. His Majesty of Saxony was especially circumspect. Not content with the oath of secrecy imposed upon his workpeople, he would not abate his kingly suspicion in favor of a brother monarch. Neither king or king's delegate might enter the tabooed walls of Meissen. What is erroneously called the Dresden porcelain—that exquisite pottery of which the world has never seen its like—was produced for 200 years by a process so secret that neither the bribery of princes nor the garrulity of the operatives revealed it. Other discoveries have been less successfully guarded fortunately for the world. The manufacture of tinware in England originated in a stolen secret. Few readers need be informed that tinware is simply thin iron plated with tin by being dipped into the molten metal. In theory, it is an easy matter to clean the surface of iron, dip it into a bath of boiling tin, remove it enveloped with a silvery metal to a place of cooling. In practice, however, the process is one of the most difficult in the arts. It was discovered in Holland and guarded from publicity with the utmost vigilance for more than half a century. England tried in vain to discover the secret, until James Sherman, a Cornish miner, insinuated himself master of the secret, and brought it home. The secret of manufacturing cast steel was also stealthily obtained, and is now within the reach of all artisans. — Trade List.

WATCH-MAKING IN FRANCE.

Besancon almost monopolizes the watch-making of France, last year coming from that town 67 of the Besancon watches 140,907 were gold and 292,465 silver, the whole being valued at over \$4,000,000, half of which represents labor. Nearly all these watches are sold in France. The foundation of the watch trade at Besancon dates from the close of the last century, when a number of workmen from the Swiss side of the frontier, persecuted for their political opinions, took refuge there and were induced to remain. Since then this industry has continued to prosper, but it was not until after the conclusion of the treaty of commerce of 1860 that the business assumed anything like its present proportions. There is a school for teaching watch-making at Besancon; but though liberally endowed by the municipality, it is said not to be well attended.

- There is quite a rush of work at the Great Western Railway car works.
- The preliminary steps are being taken to arrange a reception for Haulan.
- The merchant who advertises on the blotting paper has mistaken his calling. He will get nothing but blots in return.
- There are now afloat in Gloucester Harbor 400,000 pounds of halibut and 300,000 pounds of codfish, with steady demand.
- The clerks of Montreal are establishing a union for the protection of their rights. Mechanics are beginning to move for an advance of wages.
- Stocks of lard at Cincinnati are about 12,000 casks smaller than a year ago; meats about 8,000,000 pounds more; pork 15,000 to 18,000 barrels less.
- The Assistant Receiver General at Toronto has just received fifty boxes containing \$5,000 in copper, which he sends for distribution to banks.
- It is stated that invitations bearing French and American signatures have been issued for the Monetary Conference, beginning on the 19th April.
- The average weight of hogs in Chicago was 258 lbs. against 263½ last year, and for three months since November 1st, the average is 261¾, against 264¼ lbs. last year.
- Intelligence from Cabul says that Ayoub Khan executed three of his sons for attempting to seize the palace at Herat during their father's absence at Candahar last summer.
- Private despatches received from Flat Portage, on Monday afternoon, state that Chief of Police O'Keefe and Constable Cameron had seized 80 gallons of liquor sent out by express.
- A Rhelst despatch says the Merr chiefs have resolved to resist the Russians to the last extremity. Five thousand of the surviving Tchekes have arrived. The Russians are accumulating provisions for an advance on Tjend.
- The Crown Land receipts for the Province of New Brunswick for 1880 were \$345,000 against \$75,000 for 1879, the increase being in both land sales and stumpage. The average price of land is \$1.50. Out of 17,000,000 acres, the province still retains 7,000,000.
- It is said that the crafty ice-dealers of San Francisco annually buy up the crop of an Alaskan ice company to the amount of 10,000 tons, which is left to melt where it is cut, while San Francisco and California are served with ice artificially made at an exorbitant price.

A deputation of lumbermen from the Upper Ottawa waited on the Hon. Mr. Chapleau at Montreal on Tuesday to protest against the imposition of the additional taxes which have lately been placed on lumber by the Quebec Government. Mr. Chapleau promised to lay their grievances before his colleagues.

In Connecticut there are 3,000 oystermen with a capital of over \$25,000,000. In Darien there are 24 oystermen with an invested capital (exclusive of ground and oyster stocks) of \$5,515, Greenwich, 118 oystermen capital \$163,444, Norwalk, 253 oystermen, capital \$203,954, Stamford, 173 oystermen, \$175,000 capital.

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics reports that the total values of the exports of petroleum and petroleum products for the month of December, 1879, were \$3,011,925, and during December, 1878, \$2,939,447. For the twelve months ended December 31, 1879, \$34,505,645, and during the same period in 1878, \$37,235,467.

According to a report on the Darien canal, made by Joseph Nimmo, Jr. Chief of the United States Bureau of Statistics, the cost of the Suez Canal was \$92,273,007. The receipts last year were \$5,373,186, and the expenditures, including 5 per cent interest upon the share capital, as a sinking fund, \$5,415,542, leaving a net balance of \$357,645.

The boom at Messrs. E. R. Moore & Co's. mill factory, Portland Bridge, N.B., which has been silent since shortly before the opening of the new year, will again be heard on Monday morning. During the cessation the machinery was overhauled, new chimneys built and a floor laid. A gravel roof is to be put on the rear end of the building during next week.

Great Britain and the United States are reported to consume one-third of the world's production of sugar. Great Britain consumes 74 pounds per capita, and the United States 42 pounds per capita. Germany consumes 19 pounds per capita, and Russia only 7 pounds per capita. 90 per cent of the sugar used in the United States is imported from abroad, and it forms one-seventh of all their imports.

In 1860, Alabama was one of the richest States in the Union. Real estate in Alabama was valued in 1860 at \$792,000,000, in 1870 it amounted to not quite \$202,000,000. Cause, the war and emancipation. There are in Alabama 6,500,000 acres of government land, and 11,000,000 acres in timber. Only about 6,200,000 acres are in cultivation. About 1,000,000 bales of cotton are produced in the State annually.

The Grand Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Ontario met on Tuesday in the hall in Bouscock's building, Adelaide street, Toronto. There were 150 delegates present. The Grand Master Workman, G. W. Badgerow, was present, and there were also present Grand Freeman Louis of Chatham, Grand Overseer Miller of Goderich, Grand Recorder M. D. Carder of St. Thomas, Grand Guide Dr. Park of Port Robinson, Grand Receiver Ruston of Ridgeway.

The Windsor Mail says:—We hear that a stock company of about \$200,000 capital is talked of in Windsor, for the purpose of manufacturing agricultural implements. As the sale of these goods is large, and always on the increase, we have no doubt of the success of the undertaking. We have heard it stated that at least \$150,000 worth of agricultural implements have been sold in Nova Scotia in one year, and there is no reason why such a large amount of money should not remain in the province. We look anxiously for further developments.

The Canadian says that Messrs. J. D. Marcoux and C. C. Lagace last year established a boot and shoe factory on a small scale at Beauport. In fact, it was rather a small shoemaker's shop, giving employment to but 20 hands. To-day, thanks to the energy and enterprise of the promoters, the old shop has given place to a regular factory, worked by steam and provided with all the latest labor-saving machinery, while it now gives employment to over 60 hands, and orders are being executed at the most important houses in Quebec and Ontario.

A gang of workmen are now engaged in breaking ground for the foundation of the new mill proposed to be erected on the site of the well-known "Kent Mills" in North Chatham, Ont. A part of the old structure has been removed and the remainder will be merged into the new building, the elevator wing extending from the mill proper to the dock, remaining as it is. The new mill is to be 54 feet on Kent St., by 42 feet on Thames St., and four storeys high including a fine mansard roof. The outward architecture of the building is imposing for a flour mill.

The Thunder Bay North Shore Miner urges the establishment of rolling mills and blast furnaces at that place. It expresses the opinion that "Thunder Bay is the one point most favorable for the erection of rolling mills and blast furnaces, and capitalists can find no better site, and no better time than the present, for the establishment of industries of this nature. There is here the necessary deposit of ore in quality and quantity, the opportunity of disposing of their manufacture at a large profit, and the matter of labor is also favorable, for it is generally abundant at full wages."

In North Carolina there are 1,080 looms in cotton factories, and 102,767 spindles, which consumed 27,508 bales of cotton a year, and give employment to 23,428 persons. These figures indicate about half the extent of the industry in Georgia, which stands foremost in that line in the South. In Massachusetts there are 84,788 looms and 4,664,290 spindles which consume 678,590 bales of cotton annually, and give employment to 62,794 persons. The total number of looms in the United States is 230,223, spindles, 10,921,147, cotton consumed annually, 1,586,481 bales, persons employed, 181,828.

A Montreal despatch says:—About two or three years since, owing to the severe depression in the iron and other industries of this city, Mr. Wm. Clendinning, who is extensively engaged in the stove and foundry business, was obliged to transfer all his real estate, amounting to \$300,000 in value, to trustees for the benefit of his creditors. The improvement in his trade, through the National Policy, has enabled Mr. Clendinning to meet his liabilities, and Messrs. James Crathern, Edward Mackey, and P. S. Ross, the trustees, have this week re-transferred the whole of Mr. Clendinning's property back again to him. The creditors acted in the most liberal manner towards Mr. Clendinning during his temporary difficulties. Although a Liberal in politics, Mr. Clendinning has acknowledged in public the benefits which the industries of the Dominion have derived from the policy of the Government. He has now more than double the number of men employed in his establishment than he had two years ago.