Studies on the Industries of Quebec.

BY HUBERT LARUE, M.A. MD.

THE MATCH FACTORIES.

The number of Match Factories of this city, according to the statistics published by the Society for the promotion of local industry, is six. A new establishment has since been erected by Mr. G. E. Paré, of St. Roch; so that the total number of those factories in Quebec and in the surrounding parishes is seven. The number of persons—men and women—employed in all those factories, is about 72. The establishment of Mr. Hall at Montmorency Falls employs 72 persons. In this number is not comprised the important establishment of Mr. Fitch, of New Liverpool.

The smaller factories about—to the number of four or five,—complete the working of the matches, that is to say: the dipping of the splints in sulphur and fixing to their ends the explosive compounds, and the other establishments manufacture the splints only, and export them to the United States.

The following varieties of matches are to be found at our groceries and on our markets.

1. *[illegible] (Hall) and Eddy's* (Sherbrooke), &c. They are enclosed in small boxes made of gray paper, and can be distinguished only by the labels. The splints of these matches are square. The price of those two kinds of matches is the same: three shillings per gross in boxes. Those matches are excellent.

2. Matches having the form of *combs*. This variety is not to be found generally at our groceries; but is offered for sale by the hucksters on our markets to the people of our parishes who find them very cheap. Those matches offer all kinds of defects. In the first place, the splints are not cut, but sawn. Then the chemical operations having been done in a very imperfect manner, it happens frequently that all the splints of one comb, as well as the splints of different combs are sticking together; so that when you desire to remove a splint from one another, or a comb from another comb, the friction produced by that separation often sets fire to a whole bundle.

3. *German Fancy Congreves.*—These matches have been manufactured in Vienna, and are enclosed in small round boxes of a red colour. The colouring matter mixed with the paste is brown, blue, red, &c. Sulphur, in those matches, is replaced by a fatty body. Price: $1 per gross in cases.

5. *Waxed Matches*; not much in use.

6. *Vesuvians and Flaming fusees*, are well appreciated by smokers. Once ignited, they may be exposed to the strongest current of air, without being extinguished; a result which, I think, is due to their impregnation with nitrate or chlorate of potassa. They deflagrate strongly, and the sparks which they produce, very frequently damage dresses, fur coats, buffalo skins, &c. Of all these varieties of matches, those which are best appreciated and command a most ready sale are those of Hall and Sherbrooke. They are of an excellent quality and are very cheap.

The matches having the form of combs are manufactured here. They are sold at a cheaper rate than those of Hull and Sherbrooke; but, in reality, on account of their numerous defects, their cost is found, after some experience, to be double.

ACCIDENTS.—A boy employed by Mr. McCord was most seriously injured on Tuesday last while working at a winch to haul up the steamtug Katie. The chain snapped and three or four links flew off and struck the unfortunate boy, who was about forty feet off, on the head. It is not expected he will recover.

On the same day a butcher boy had his fingers chopped off in the Berthelot Market.

Joseph Pelletier, carpenter of St. Sauveur an employee of the Gosford Railway, was accidentaly killed by falling between the cars.

DIED.

At Little River, St. Charles, Quebec, the 8th instant, Marie Louise Rosalie, only child of Louis P. Caron, Advocate.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.