

The Toronto Mechanics' Institute has now fairly taken its stand as one of the leading educational institutions of the country, and especially in relation to the industrial classes of the community—a position it has not attained but by the continuous persevering efforts of its managers for a number of years. A more recent number of the *Globe* says:

"If there is a busy hive in Toronto, it is at the Mechanics' Institute. We instance the proceedings of last evening. The music hall was occupied by the great violinist, Prume; the lecture room by Mr. Carter and his hundred vocalists practicing for 'The Messiah;' the Ontario Literary Society were in their usual room; the book-keeping class room was crowded with sixty pupils; the architectural and mechanical drawing-class room was also full, and the library crowded with numbers exchanging books, and pupils joining the various classes, and the reading-room as crowded as either of the others. In addition to all this, the free library of reference, belonging to the Board of Arts and Manufactures, was open to the public—as it is every Tuesday and Friday evening, (and during each week day from 10 to 12, noon, and 1 to 4 o'clock, p. m.). Truly the directors of the Mechanics' Institute are doing a thriving business, and may feel proud of the extending influence of their useful society."

Machinery and Manufactures.

CANADIAN MANUFACTURES.

Substantial Progress.

Whatever depressions or discouragements may hitherto have affected the material interests of Canada, nothing has thus far retarded the progress of manufactures. They, as a rule, have been continually advancing, as well in extent and variety as in quality of articles produced. Considering the limited extent of the Canadian market, the small amount of capital seeking investment in this direction, and especially the absence of experienced and skilled labour, we may well regard as remarkable the advance which has been made in Canada in this particular branch of industry during the last five years. The country has become rich in the knowledge of those requisites necessary for the manufacture of fabrics best adapted to its people and its climate. Our woollen manufactures cannot be surpassed by anything that is imported, either in suitableness, cheapness, or durability—the three great requisites. From the finest piece of tweed to the coarsest and heaviest homespun, there is the greatest variety of textures; and it is only necessary to go through the stocks of our largest dealers to be thoroughly convinced of the success which has attended the manufacturer of cloth in Canada. Cotton cloths, cotton yarn, and cotton batting, although not large in extent, are of very good quality; and it has been demonstrated that the wants of the Canadian trade can be fully met by a further extension of the business. The mills at Dundas, Thorold and Hastings in Canada West, Montreal,

in Canada East, and St. Johns, New Brunswick, produce goods which meet with a continuous demand; and notwithstanding the difficulty of procuring the best qualities of raw cotton, the manufactured article has been extensively sought after. In flax, too, the evidences of progress are most apparent. At Preston, Messrs. Hunt, Elliott and Stephen have a most extensive establishment, from which they are turning out such articles as bagging, towelling and coarse linen, besides ordinary descriptions of cordage. The Messrs. Perine Bros., to whom we have before referred, have a number of mills in operation; and the immense establishment of Messrs. Gooderham and Worts, at Streetsville, is rapidly going forward to completion. The linseed oil mills of Toronto and Montreal have been exceedingly successful, and there will be no difficulty whatever in making a good profit on all the flax seed that can be spared in Canada. The manufacture of hosiery has been undertaken with remarkable success at Hespeler, Canada West, and articles manufactured there, such as shirts, drawers, and stockings, have been eagerly sought after by the trade. Indeed no small amount of ill feeling has been created in the anxiety to secure goods, and the large demand for this class of articles, and the success of the factory just mentioned, will no doubt lead to the establishment of other manufactories. From the Hespeler manufactory we have seen an article of nubias or ladies' clouds, which is exceedingly creditable, and we understand that immense quantities have been manufactured and absorbed by the Canadian trade for the winter's consumption.

It is hardly necessary to remark upon the great success that has attended the manufacture of leather and boots and shoes within the last eight or ten years. We do not now import a tithe of what we once went abroad to secure; and the number of people employed in Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, and London, is far larger than is generally apprehended. In the manufacture of rubber also, the Montreal factory has succeeded in producing a class of article which has met with very general acceptance, and this establishment, if under proper management, could be made to yield a very large return. The machine shops of the country, such as those of Brush, Bartley and Gilbert, of Montreal, Doran and Davidson, and the Canadian Engine and Machinery Company of Kingston, McGee and Hamilton of Toronto, Gartshore of Dundas, and Goldie and McCulloch of Galt, have given most conclusive evidence of ability to supply the country with every description of motive machinery, and it is now entirely unnecessary to go outside of Canada for any article in this line of manufacture. The furniture trade, too, can boast of considerable progress. The most complete and finished articles are got up at very reasonable prices. We are glad to hear that a company, with a large capital, has been formed in England, consisting of some leading Manchester men, who will on 1st December assume control of the well known establishment of E. Mial & Co., of Oshawa, the intention being to supply the English market with first class furniture of Canadian manufacture. The manufacture of bacon from pork during the last few years has had a