

COTTON MANUFACTURE IN CANADA.—Few of our readers, perhaps, are aware that a beginning has been made in the manufacture of cotton goods in Canada; that there is a Cotton mill, in fact, in full operation within three hours ride of Toronto, producing a certain description of goods at lower rates than similar kinds can be offered at by American manufacturers. The Thorold mill is the one we refer to. It is situated on the Welland Canal, about four miles from St. Catharines; and we yesterday had an opportunity of inspecting a piece of unbleached cotton—good, serviceable “factory”—which the enterprising manufacturers, Messrs Nutty & Woodward, are putting into the market. The staple comes to Thorold in bales, as put up on the plantations of the south, and undergoes all the requisite processes on Nutty & Co.’s premises. They have some eighteen looms at work, turning out about 600 yards per day; and they state that the facilities for the manufacture afforded by the water privileges of the Welland, enable them to undersell foreign producers. The Thorold article, we think, can be sold at nine cents per yard; being one cent lower than the lowest American. Since 1857, large quantities of batting have been manufactured by the firm; the piece of factory we saw yesterday being a part of the first production of that class of goods. At present the firm buy their cotton at New York. Enlarged monetary facilities would enable them to purchase at Memphis, the best American market, whence the commodity could be brought via Cincinnati at a cost which would give the Canadian owner of water power a decided advantage over foreign manufactures. The enterprise reflects great credit upon Messrs. Nutty and Woodward, who have succeeded in showing that Upper Canada already possesses facilities for the cultivation of an important manufacturing interest.—*Globe*.

CAUSES OF INDIGESTION.—It is certain that if the food be not well masticated and saturated with saliva, we must have the powerful gastric juice of a dog or a lion, to compensate this deficiency; otherwise a larger proportion of the unchanged food will be transmitted to the intestines than they can well manage, or will lie like a load oppressing the stomach. The starch will descend in lumps, and although much of it will be dissolved by intestinal digestion, some will pass away undigested. If the secretion of gastric juice be languid, or if that fluid be not sufficiently acid, chymification will be laborious and painful. If the bile rise in the stomach, digestion will cease; if the secretion of bile be too scanty, the food will lie like a burden, and produce diarrhoea or sickness; and so on to the end of the chapter. Let there be only a little less acid, or a little more alkali, each of which depends on complex conditions, and digestion, what to the young and healthy is as easy as it is delightful, becomes the source of misery. Ill-selected food is one source of these evils; want of fresh air and exercise another. The action of the liver is particularly affected by exercise; and all who suffer from biliousness should pay their fees to the livery stable and waterman, horse exercise and rowing being incomparably the best of prescriptions. A walking excursion, especially in mountain districts, and with resolute avoidance of walking too much, will be of great service to the dyspeptic. It is important to bear in mind, moreover, that although sedentary habits are very injurious to the digestion, they are less so than bad ventilation; those who sit long, and sit in bad air, are sure to suffer.—*Lewes' Physiology of Common Life*.

VELOCITY OF LIGHT.—The velocity with which light travels is so inconceivable that we require to make it intelligible by some illustrations. It moves from the sun to the earth in seven and a half minutes; whereas, a cannon-ball fired from the earth would require 17 years to reach the sun. Light moves through a space equal to the circumference of the earth, or about 25,000 miles, in about the 8th part of a second. The swiftest bird would require 3 weeks to perform this journey. Light would demonstrably require five years to move from the nearest fixed star to the earth and probably many thousand years from the most remote star seen by the telescope. Hence, if a remote visible star had been created at the time of the creation of man, it may not yet have become visible to our system.—*Encyclopædia Britannica*.

SOUNDING SHELLS.—There are few persons who cannot remember the childish wonder with which they were filled, when a sea-shell was first placed to the ear; and the still greater wonder they experienced when told that the strange resonance which they heard was the roar of the sea; this being the common explanation given to children. There are, doubtless, many adults persons who do not know the phenomena of the sounding shell. It is caused by its hollow form and polished surface; these enable it to receive and return the beatings of all the sounds which tremble in the air that surrounds it.