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Toronto, 1871.

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THE MONETARY TIMES,

AND TRADE REVIEW.

TORONTO. CAN., FRIDAY, OCT. 20, 1871.

## CANADIAN MANUFACTURES.

The progress of Canadian manufactures is not the least satisfactory sign of the times. Their development has not been so rapid, probably, as some have desired; but it must be admitted, on looking back over the past ten years, that they have kept pace in the race of progress with the other industries of the country, and that at present nearly all branches of manufacturing are healthy and prosperous. We rejoice at this, for history surely teaches, that not only the prosperity, but the power and greatness of nations, are promoted by the existence of diversified forms of industry among their people.

When Mr. Dunkin's census returns come to be published, we believe that the development which they will prove to have taken place throughout the Dominion in industrial pursuits, will take many by surprise. The amount of capital now invested in buildings and machinery has swelled to handsome proportions, and a good sized army of skilled and unskilled labourers are kept constantly employed. Many classes of goods which we formerly imported from Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, are now wholly or partially made among ourselves—in fact, the different

branches of manufactures now in operation make up quite a handsome list. Besides those minor forms of industry common to most countries, and which we need not specify, there are now successfully manufactured in one part of Canada or another, the following:

Woolen Cloths, Tweeds and Flannels, Underclothing, Nubias, Yarns, &c. Carpets and Worsteds Goods. Cotton and Linen Fabrics, Machinery and Machines of all kinds. Railway Engines and Carriages. Iron and Iron Rails. Axes, Edge Tools, Forks, Rakes, &c. Iron Safes and all kinds of Scales. Malleable Hardware, Locks, Nails, Nuts, Printing Presses and Type. [&c. Sewing Machines of all descriptions. Furniture and Cabinet Ware. Carriage Material—both iron and wood. Musical Instruments—various kinds. Leather, Boots and Shoes. India-rubber Goods. Glass, Glassware, Pottery and Wooden Books, Stationery, and Wall-paper. [ware Chemicals, Perfumes and Dye Stuffs. Buttons, Brushes, Combs, Paper Collars, Tobacco, Cigars and Snuff. [Lasts, &c. Starch, Soap, Cordage, Bells, and Gun-Petroleum and Salt. [powder.

We do not claim in the above inventory to have covered every kind of manufactures carried on among us, but we have specified sufficient to show that Canada is not lagging behind in this most important department of national industry. Some of the branches referred to, have not been long commenced, whilst others have not yet so far advanced as to enable a correct judgment to be formed of their success. Among these we may mention Worsteds Goods and Carpets, which some enterprising firms have recently been induced to take up. But of all the other branches, if we except Linen Goods, it may truly be affirmed that, in nearly all cases where they have been managed with sufficient capital, ability and skill, they occupy a sound position, and make a fair return for the money and labour invested in them.

There have no doubt been some losses in connection with the establishment of our manufactures, and, occasionally, absolute failure. But this is nothing strange. There have also been failures in farming, in fact, the history of all classes of business, however lucrative, is a record of the success of some and the failure of others. Many persons have embarked in manufacturing in years gone by who would not succeed in any occupation; others commenced without sufficient capital, or it may have been, without adequate knowledge of the branch taken up by them. Under such circumstances the conditions of success were wanting, and the same results would have followed the same causes in mercantile or any other pursuits.

On the other hand, good business men, with a thorough knowledge of their particular trade, and sufficient means to carry it on, have generally succeeded, and not a few of such now enjoy a handsome competence. Striking off a fair share of the losses, as compared with other occupations, we think it can be justly said that the establishment of our present Canadian manufactures has been attended with as much success as those of any other new country in the world.

It is an exceedingly gratifying fact in connection with our industrial pursuits, that they have attained their present position by a natural and healthy growth, and not by means of any forcing or hot-bed process. This is the right foundation on which to build—one upon which we can raise a superstructure of solid and lasting prosperity. In consequence of this policy, we hope to see the day—and it is not so far in the future as some may think—when the coal, iron, copper, wood, and other natural facilities for manufacturing which we enjoy, will be turned to such good account, that Canadian manufactures will find their way to many foreign countries. There is a wide door open for us in the British and Spanish West Indies, Mexico, Brazil, and other South American countries, and if regular steam communication were once established between us, there is every reason to believe that a considerable increase of our annual trade would immediately result. By this means these countries would gradually begin to purchase some of our manufactured goods, and we feel every confidence that, in not a few classes, our manufacturers would be able to keep control of their markets.

One of the greatest obstacles in the way of the rapid growth of manufacturing industry among us has been the limited character of the Canadian market. In consequence of this, we have frequently seen very discouraging contrasts drawn between the position of the American and Canadian manufactures. It should be remembered, however, that if our market is smaller than that of the United States, there is, on the other hand, not such immense capital required, nor such a burden of taxation to be borne. The Canadian market, too, is gradually increasing. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick now purchase many classes of goods from us which they formerly imported from abroad. A considerable field, and one which promises rapidly to increase, is also opening up in the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia. These circumstances, together with the natural increase of our population, must soon give our manufactures