

During the hostilities of 1812, the embargo upon American salt rendered it imperative for Canadians to resort to every expedient to make their own salt. Every available salt-lick was consequently laid under contribution, and salt in small quantities was manufactured at all these brine springs. A few years subsequent to the declaration of peace, a company was incorporated, and proceeded to sink a well upon the spot where one of these salt springs existed, on the banks of the Twelve-Mile Creek, within the present limits of St. Catharines. Salt was profitably and largely manufactured for some time, but hoping to obtain a more powerful brine, the depth of the well was increased to about six hundred feet, and the water of the present well was obtained, yielding a smaller per centage, and deliquescent salt, but containing a larger proportion of valuable medicinal substances. The Company dissolved, and the well passed into the hands of a gentleman engaged in the drug business, and a rude bathing-house was established in 1843. After enjoying a high local reputation for more than twenty years, the property came into the hands of the present proprietor, who has brought its healing virtues so prominently before the public.

St. Catharines is distant from the Suspension Bridge, 11 miles; Hamilton, 33 miles; Toronto, 72 miles by rail, and about 33 miles by water. Mails daily, and money order office. Population, about 10,000.

MANUFACTURES.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.—The principal establishment in the manufacture of Agricultural Implements is that of N. M. Samson, who employs a large number of men, and turns out threshing, reaping and mowing machines, and every description of farming implements.

BREWERIES.—That of Taylor & Bate is situated on Yate street, near the canal. This is one of the largest breweries in this section of Western Canada.

FLOURING MILLS.—Of these there are four: Hutchinson's Mills, on the Welland Canal, rear of Niagara District Bank; Thomas Hostetter's, on St. Paul street; Norris & Neelon's, on Head street, corner Race; and the Welland Canal Mills, carried on by Thomas R. Merritt.