

of previously patented inventions, and in many cases save the expense and annoyance of making fruitless applications for patents. The public would also be promptly informed of the nature of all inventions and discoveries patented, and would have an opportunity of examining and judging for themselves as to their utility.

It would also tend to prevent the setting up of false "claims" by patentees, and be of great assistance to inventors, if the issue of letters patent were announced monthly in the *Canada Gazette*, with a short "claim" registered by each patentee, in the same manner as these are published in the United States, and of which we give two examples for illustration :—

41,141.—Machine for making Horse-shoe Nails.—Daniel Dodge, Keeseville, N.Y. :

I claim, first, the employment in a machine for making forged nails, of cutters so constructed, arranged and operating as to serve the purpose of cutting metal from the side to reduce the thickness and produce the desired form of the point of a nail, substantially as herein specified.

Second, the finger, f, or its equivalent operating in combination with the upper cutter, b, and with a fixed guide or gage, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

41,142.—Washing Machine.—Samuel Davis, Providence, R. I. :

I claim the combination and arrangement of the dasher, B, and upright, C, with the deflector, D, lever, E, standard, I, rest, e, and shelf, f, substantially as described.

There are numerous anomalies and uncertainties in the legal construction of the present law, which will no doubt be remedied in the framing of the new Bill.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS OF ONTARIO.

Our correspondent, *WORKER*, on the subject of Grammar School Education, in this number of the *Journal*, clearly demonstrates their primary object to be the imparting of a high standard of "practical English and commercial education ;" and in which provision is also intended to be made for the thorough instruction of pupils intending to follow engineering or mechanical pursuits ; and that the character given these schools by those to whom the duty of controlling them has been entrusted, in making them mere classical institutions, as preparatory to the admission to the Universities and the professions, is, that "the interests of 90 boys are sacrificed to the interests of 10," or, in other words, that the grammar school funds are perverted, or misapplied, and an injustice is done to the people who contribute them, and to nine-tenths of the pupils who avail themselves of them.

WORKER is undoubtedly right, when he says that grammar schools "could easily be made to supply

nearly all that is required" in the matter of technical education ; and were the grammar school means of instruction supplemented by provisions for evening class instruction for adults, and the "brushing" up of those who had previously passed through the grammar schools, all appliances requisite for a high standard of technical education would be provided, short of the actual workshop for practical operations. The subject demands the attention of the school authorities, and especially of trustees of grammar schools.

By the way, the impression is abroad that no boy can be admitted as a pupil in any of our grammar schools, unless he enters for one or both of the Latin and Greek classics, or can pass a much higher grade of examination than what is required for entering the classical course. If this is the case, it is plainly contrary to the spirit and intentions of the statute ; as a "practical English and commercial education" may certainly be imparted distinct from a study of Latin and Greek, or the course of studies laid down as preparatory to the surveying or civil engineering professions.

If there is any doubt as to the intention of the statute, our view of it is certainly sustained by the circular of instruction to the head masters of grammar schools, dated 1st December, 1865, in which the chief superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, in reference to the comprehensive objects of the grammar school law, says, first, it is "to make the grammar schools the high schools of their respective localities ;" and after naming the other objects contemplated, such as preparatory schools for the Universities and the professions, concludes by remarking that they are intended "to impart the higher branches of an English and commercial education to those youths whose parents do not wish them to study Greek or Latin." This leaves no room for doubt, as to the primary and most important objects for which these schools have been organized.

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE OF THE JOURNAL.

This number commences the Eighth Yearly Volume of the *Journal*. We look back with some degree of satisfaction at its past history, which shows no mean record of the best and most useful inventions and discoveries, and improved industrial processes, of Great Britain and the other nations of Europe, and the United States of America.

We have neither the time nor the ability to write elaborate original articles on technical subjects ; nor has the Board the means necessary to enable it to employ an editorial staff in that department. We do, however, in the midst of a