

which it is wound preparatory to being transferred to the cutting machine.

THE CUTTING MACHINE.

Five or six rolls of paper are put on the frame of the cutting machine, and the ends of all are started through a set of rollers together, which rollers are set to run out as many inches of paper as may be required, when they stop, and a long knife, the whole length of the machine, cuts the paper off smoothly. On its way to this last knife there are revolving knives that cut and trim the edges, by taking off a narrow strip like a ribbon. These knives are all moveable and can be set to cut any size required. A man and a couple of little girls attend this machine, the girls having only to catch the sheets as they are cut off and lay them in an even pile.

THE FINISHING ROOM.

The paper is now passed to the finishing room where it is sorted by girls and all the broken or parts of sheets, or any that are defective in any way, are taken out; after which it is passed into the hands of the finisher, whose duty is to count the necessary number of sheets to a quire, fold it once in the middle, reverse the backs of the quires, and tie it up into bundles of forty quires each. He also attends to marking the sizes and weights on the outside wrapper. It is now sent down a shoot to the lower storey, from whence it is hauled to the station by teams, and there stored in a warehouse, ready for shipment by car to their establishment in the city.

THE DRIVING POWER.

The power to drive all the above mentioned machinery is procured from a large overshot water-wheel of about thirty feet diameter and nine feet face, which is estimated to develop from fifty to one hundred and fifty horse-power, according to the quantity of water available. This water power is supplemented by a steam engine of about sixty horse-power, and another smaller engine of ten horse-power, which latter is used only for driving the paper machine.

There are thirty-three hands employed in the mill, and it requires two teams continually hauling wood to keep their fires going under the numerous boilers and evaporating pans.

SAVING THE CAUSTIC SODA.

The evaporating process will scarcely need particular description, suffice it to say, the first liquor (caustic soda) from the pulp boilers, where it has been used once, is conveyed in pipes to the retort house and there distributed into large pans and ovens with fires surrounding them, where the fluid is evaporated, leaving a residue, which, in turn, is burned and what remains is called soda ash. This soda ash is mixed with the pulp in the first process of boiling, where it answers the purpose of the caustic soda, only requiring a larger proportion to do the same amount of work.

THE CAPACITY OF THE MILL.

At present the capacity of the mill is about nine tons of printing paper a week. A considerably larger quantity of wrapping paper can be made weekly, the manufacture of which does not require the same particular skill and careful handling that is necessary in the production of printing paper.

THE LEATHER BOARD MILL.

About half a mile from the paper mills, and in the immediate vicinity of the village where the employees

dwelling are situated, is the leather board mill, which was originally the paper mill, but which has been turned into a manufactory of leather board stock. This material is largely used in the manufacture of boots and shoes and is nearly all exported.

This mill gives employment to eight hands and produces about three tons a week. This leather board finds a ready sale at about eleven cents per pound. It is made principally from old rope and rags that are not suitable for paper-making. Here again is a repetition of the water-wheels, engines, cutters, beating engines and board-making machines, that are very similar, only smaller, to those that have been already described in speaking of the paper mills proper.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The water is supplied by a large never-failing spring which rises from a small cavern at the foot of a commanding hill. The water is very clear and cold, while, as a natural curiosity, the place is well worth a visit by those at all interested in studying out the curious and fantastic freaks of nature. The spring is only about two hundred yards from the leather board mill, and the water is of sufficient volume, in an ordinarily wet season, to furnish the larger part of the power required at both mills, besides supplying all the water used in other ways.

GENERALITIES AND CONCLUDING REMARKS.

The visitor leaves the vicinity of these mills deeply impressed with the herculean task this company have imposed upon themselves of transforming the forest into newspapers, bibles and other books, which, mayhap, will lead many a poor untutored savage to forsake his wild, impious ways for paths of peace and piety.

The village, where the numerous employees of these mills reside, is a very grateful sight to the eye of one who loves to see his fellow-workman happy and comfortable. The houses present a very neat and clean appearance, and the inmates, judging from those seen at work in the mills, are of a very intelligent and industrious class.

One thing that will strike the visitor to the mills, is the quiet and orderly manner in which everything is done. There is no shouting nor hustle, where it might be excusable, considering the incessant noise and clatter of the machinery. Mr. Williams, the manager, seems to understand every movement of his men and machines, and his men as thoroughly understand his every look and movement as well.

Mr. Freeze, one of the directors, who resides at Penobscus, seems indefatigable in his labors in connection with the mills. He has his hands pretty full, with the shipping and hauling of the paper and stock to and from the station, nevertheless his energy is only exceeded by his urbanity. The company would miss him very much, no doubt, and, indeed, would scarcely be able to fill his place, if by any means they were to lose his services.

The paper turned out by this company is far superior to that produced two years ago, and it is fully expected, and with every prospect of realization, that in a very short time they will be able to challenge competition as regards quality. And, judging from what the Sec.-Treasurer says, they will not allow themselves to be outdone in price by any other concern now in existence. However, time will try both, and, in the meantime, it is to be hoped that all provincial printers, at least, will test them well on the above points, and, if they are found correct, render their verdict accordingly.