

with care on the part of the manufacturer there is no reason why he should not be successful in supplying a distinct brand. But as long as we are dependent on foreign makers we cannot hope to be supplied with cement of uniform quality, for where large orders have to be filled it is the common practice even of large mill owners to buy lots from other manufacturers and so make a prompt shipment. The result is that there are as many brands as makers, and with cements of different qualities, some quick setting and some slow setting, it is hardly possible to make a first-rate concrete. This is a risk which may easily be avoided if orders are placed at home, with the home manufacturer, and the good results obtained from our Ontario cements are no doubt due to the fact that orders are honestly made up, each manufacturer being jealous of his own reputation.

As regards the products of clay, it is not necessary that much should be said. Taking the various articles of common and pressed bricks, terra cotta, tile, sewer pipe, and pottery, the number of men employed in their manufacture in Ontario last year was 3,109, with earnings of \$601,686. The aggregate value of their products was \$1,684,873, or more than one-fourth of all the mineral products of the Province in the same year. This fact alone suffices to prove the importance of our clay industries; yet it is obvious that they are capable of greater development. The manufacture of pressed brick and terra cotta began here only five years ago, and last year, in spite of the collapse in the building trade, the value of the output of six works was \$217,373. It gave employment to 224 workmen, and paid them wages to the amount of \$80,686. The improvements already noticeable in the architecture of our cities as a consequence of the use of pressed brick and terra cotta is bringing this material fast into favor, and it may be said that the earth affords no better building material than a properly burnt brick, and none which so readily lends itself to the production of handsome architectural effects. In the strong and fine-textured shales of our Hudson River and Medina formations, conveniently situated and easily quarried, Ontario is favored above most Provinces and States in America.

The same shales are also found to be suitable for the manufacture of sewer pipe, with proper mixtures, and last year the output of two establishments employed in this industry was \$230,000.

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