

Manufacturing Notes.

A meeting of citizens of Ottawa interested in the organization of a woollen manufacturing company was held recently. It was decided to locate the factory at Hog's Back. The company will have a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Among the promoters of the enterprise are Messrs. G. Merrick, E. McGillivray, C. H. Mackintosh and Hon. Jas. Skead.

Mr. A. H. Ronfeuillet, agent of the Thompson William Company of Stratford, has contracted to furnish Wm. Parks & Sons, cotton mill at St. John, N. B., with one of their 500 horse power Brown pattern engines. The Company say this will be the largest engine of the kind ever made in Canada.

Mr. B. Globensky, Solicitor to the Coleraine Mining Company in the vicinity of Sherbrooke, has arranged for the working of 2,000 acres of the Company's property for 25 years by the Mineral Working and Forwarding Company, who will invest half a million dollars in the enterprise immediately. The Company is formed for the purpose of extracting asbestos and forwarding it to the European market. The contract provides that the lessees have to pay a royalty of \$15 a ton to the lessors, and bind themselves to extract not less than 8,000 tons a year. The new Company expect to realize as much as \$150,000 a year by the arrangement.

At a meeting of the Hochelaga Council held recently, it was decided to give the Canada Iron and Locomotive Company a bonus of \$500 yearly for the first ten years that the company has works in operation within the limits of the municipality, giving employment to not less than 100 men. The stock of the Company has been subscribed and the Company intend selecting a site and beginning building operations immediately. The Company, through some of its subscribers, has control of several valuable patents for applying the steam to the cylinders of locomotives and for reducing the consumption of fuel, and the promoters of the Company claim that they will be able to turn out locomotives, which, for service on Canadian railroads, will excel any at present in use.

Mr. R. T. Wilson of Dundas has disposed of his interest in the General Store and Malt House, formerly owned by him, and now devotes his entire attention to the Dundas Edge Tool Works, of which he is the proprietor. He has lately put in a set of large axe rolls, made in the most improved pattern that could be found in the United States, and it is his intention to shortly enlarge the factory. Several fine brands of axes are made in this establishment, the "Pioneer" being an especially popular one, and it is bound to win a reputation amongst lumbermen and woodcutters.

Messrs Wanser & Co., Sewing Machine manufacturers, of Hamilton, have at the present time a force of 300 men employed, most of whom are working overtime, and they have also recently made additions to their factory. The principal machines made by this firm are constructed of hardened steel, which gives them a lightness, durability and noiselessness in running not to be obtained when made of iron. The Screw Factory owned by Messrs. Wanser & Co. has been kept busy supplying screws for the Sewing Machine department of their extensive works.

The Hamilton Cotton Mills Company are erecting an addition to their factory 60 x 50 ft., 3 storeys high, being a continuance of their present building, which, when finished, will give them a frontage of 170 feet. They are also adding a new dye house, which will be of sufficient capacity not only to supply their own needs but to enable them to engage in custom dyeing. When these improvements are completed they intend running almost exclusively on cotton yarns. About 100 hands are at present employed, which number will very shortly be increased.

The Hamilton Tool Company have lately acquired an additional acre of land to the north and half an acre to the south of their works, and are now putting in a siding from the G. W. R. into the shops, and also erecting

additional buildings. They have a large amount of work on hand, both railway and highway bridges being in course of construction, as also a large rivetting machine for the Kingston Locomotive Works.

In the last number of the *Canada (official) Gazette*, notices are given of the following new manufacturing enterprises:—

The Ball Electric Company, London, Ont.; capital \$500,000
Eureka Woollen Mill Company, Lower Hopewell, Pictou, N.S.; capital \$300,000.
Apothecaries' Hall Company, Montreal; capital \$100,000.
Canada Jute Company, Montreal; capital \$50,000.
Dominion Barbed Wire Company, Montreal; capital \$60,000.
Almonte Knitting Company, Almonte; capital \$100,000.
Canadian Iron and Steel Company, (Limited) Montreal; capital \$1,000,000

A movement is on foot for the establishment of car-works at Peterborough. Commenting on the proposal the *Review* says: "Not only are existing establishments overcrowded with work, but the demand in Canada must rapidly increase for some years to come, thereby ensuring a steady market for all that can be made, and the question would really seem to be narrowed down to where the manufactures will be carried on." Mr. Cox, of Peterborough, has promised to subscribe one-tenth of the necessary stock provided the paid-up capital be not less than \$100,000 nor more than \$200,000.

EFFECTS OF REMOVING FORESTS.

Attention has been given to devising means to limit the ravages of these torrents, which ruin the land, threaten estates, destroy roads, and sometimes even compromise the existence of villages. Walls have been built along the banks to protect them, or across the streams to allay the force of the waters. The most efficacious means, however, as yet discovered, has been to maintain the woods on the slopes of the mountain. The effect of cutting away the trees in promoting the formation of torrents has not been doubted by the inhabitants of mountainous regions, and is clearly set forth by M. Surrail, who says: "When we examine the tracts in the midst of which torrents of recent origin have been formed, we perceive that they have in all cases been despoiled of their trees and bushes. If, on the other hand, we examine hills whose sides have been recently stripped of wood, we observe that they are cut up by numerous torrents, which have evidently been formed very lately. Here is a remarkable double fact: wherever there are recent torrents there are no longer forests, and wherever the ground is cleared these torrents are formed; and the same eyes that see the woods fall on the declivity of a mountain, may see appear there immediately a multitude of torrents." The disastrous consequences of removing the woods from the Alps began to attract attention in the last century, and have since been discussed by many publications and official reports. In 1853 the prefect of the Department of the Lower Alps said, in a report to the Minister: "If prompt and energetic measures are not taken it will be almost possible to designate the precise moment when the French Alps will become a desert. The period from 1851 to 1853 will produce a new diminution in the number of population. In 1852 the Minister will remark a continuous and progressive reduction in the number of hectares devoted to agriculture; each year will aggravate the evil, and in a half-century France will count more ruins and one department less." The department of the Upper and Lower Alps actually lost thirty thousand inhabitants, or one-ninth of their population, between 1851 and 1876. A law for re-covering the mountains with wood, which had been prepared by M. Forcade de Rouguet, director-general of the administration of the forests, was adopted by the legislative bodies, and was put in operation shortly afterward.—*Popular Science Monthly*.