

This firm had at the Industrial Fair perhaps one of the most *recherché*, costly and artistic exhibits ever shown in Canada. The space occupied is about 1,500 square feet, and so rich and varied were the articles of furniture shown that the Allan Furniture Co.'s stand became a centre of attraction and rendezvous in the main building.

It would be almost impossible with the space at our command to enumerate the almost royal designs and rich upholstery of the different pieces of erratically constructed furniture. There were chairs heavily plush mounted, with rich Brocatelle covers and of such shapes that it would have made people even a decade back laugh. Princely sideboards and cabinets, drawing-room suites elegantly designed and richly furnished, Queen Anne bedroom suites in polished antique oak, and all manner of imaginable antique room fixtures and furnishings, arranged with that remarkable taste for the æsthetic and beautiful that only such skillful artists as those of the Allan Furniture Co. could effect. This is not a designedly written article; it is the honest opinion of our reporter (who has since visited the Allan Furniture Co.'s show-rooms), that this firm is one of the foremost, if not really the foremost, in the production of the most elegant art furniture in Canada. This firm also manufactures such furniture as is needed by the most humble, and, indeed, from that up to the requirements of a queen.

THE "EAGLE STEAM WASHER."

WASHING machines are now so much a household necessity that it is difficult to find a well-regulated home without one of the legion of patents that are on the market. The "Eagle Steam Washer," however, commends itself strongly to the household for its very many superior advantages over all others. It is in the first place a wonderful labor-saver and is easy and quick of operation, being as well worked by a child as by a grown-up person. It is also absolutely free from any destructive action on the clothes, and is to-day the universal washing machine, being in constant use in every town and county in the Dominion.

Our representative paid a visit to the Eagle Steam Washer exhibit on the fair grounds at the late Industrial Fair, and witnessed its quick and easy working, and its wonderful effect in cleansing clothes from every particle of dirt, bringing them out in a remarkably short time with no perceptible wear from the process. Hundreds of the fair sex who surrounded the operator expressed their most perfect satisfaction at the work done by this great and effective labor-saver, and scores of the machines were sold.

The manufacturers are G. D. Ferris & Co., 87 Church Street, Toronto, who will mail illustrated catalogues to all who apply.

THE AMERICAN RATTAN CO.

IN a space of about eight hundred square feet, at the Toronto Industrial Fair, the American Rattan Co., of Toronto, made such an exhibit of rattan furniture as was never before witnessed. Around their platform enclosure was a handsome rail, worked, or rather braided, with the finest of fine strips of rattan in tastefully arranged patterns and designs; and the platform itself was covered with a handsome and costly Brussels, lending a charming effect to the magnificently upholstered articles of furniture.

In a remarkably short time this industry has made rapid strides, and the light, yet substantial character of rattan furniture, makes it

very desirable, for it is capable of being mounted with the most costly as well as the most humble upholster work, and the material is so pliable that it can be worked into the most fantastic shapes; thus every article of domestic furnishing, from a cradle to a four-poster, may be manufactured.

In the exhibit of baby carriages the show was very fine, and the mammas who were heard to exclaim, "Oh, my! isn't that a beauty?" were legion. There were complete suites in rattan work. Plush-mounted settees and lounges; chairs and ottomans in white and gold; an English oak in old gold plush, and an enamelled and gold suite in crimson plush, and a large suite with rolled arms, upholstered in peacock blue. If space and time would permit we could fill a volume with a description of this magnificent exhibit. It is enough to say, however, that the American Rattan Co. is now one of the leading manufacturers of Toronto.

The catalogue furnished by the firm should be secured, as it affords every information desirable to the purchaser from abroad. Address, "American Rattan Co., Toronto."

STALSCHMIDT & CO., PRESTON.

THE exhibit at our late Industrial Fair made by this firm was very far in advance of that of any previous year. A space of about 250 square feet, situated near the centre of the annex building, was admirably chosen and well adapted for the display of their manufactures of office furniture, for it is of this we wish more particularly to speak, though Stalschmidt & Co. are perhaps one of the largest general furniture manufacturers in Canada. This well-known firm was established about four years ago, and commenced business in Preston, on the G. T. R., and in a comparative brief period of time, skill and enterprise was rewarded, and it was found necessary, in order to keep pace with the multiplying demand for their goods, to rebuild. The result was the erection of one of the handsomest and most complete furniture factories in the Dominion. The building is of solid stone masonry, and is situated at the east end of the main street of Preston. Its dimensions are four stories high, each flat being devoted to a special branch of the manufacture. Numerous outbuildings surround the main building among which may be specially mentioned the drying-house, fitted up with the Boston Hot Blast Drying Kiln, and from this drying-house lumber in a fit state for passing through its different stages of manufacture is taken out after remaining in a purgatorial state for a few hours.

The planing-room situated on the ground floor is a marvel of cleanliness, not a particle of dust is seen, and not a shaving is visible to the naked eye, for the reason that every machine is fitted with stove-pipe-like arrangement through which, by means of a fan, every atom of shaving and dust is carried overhead through the building and is dumped in the engine-house, right in front of the fire-hole, and is consumed at the expense of the coal industry. The other departments, which are reached by a steam elevator, are admirably arranged, the office furniture being kept distinctly apart from the general household goods. The office, fitted up as only those can who are in the business, is completeness itself, every imaginable convenience is at hand for the clerks and others, and instead of the time-worn carpet or oilcloth, the floor is composed of hundreds of pieces of inlaid woods, forming a beautiful mosaic carpet that will outlive any carpet of any ply or any patent of any composition. Recently the Stalschmidt Co. have put in a 70 horse-power Wheelock engine and a Northey fire pump.

Since this firm commenced the manufacture of office furniture their goods have been sent to almost every known part of the world, and at the Colonial Exhibition held in London, Eng., a few years ago, some of the most expensive desks, secretaries and other office furnishings were bought for Germany, South America, France, and many other countries, and Her Majesty the Queen ordered a special secretary which has since been made and shipped to its royal destination.

About the exhibit at the Industrial:—It was by far the best show ever made, and many new improvements, attachments and additions have been made in that main piece of office furniture "the desk." There was the "Office King," "Rotary Desks," "Flat Tops," "Cabinet Secretaries," "Office Queen," "Mercantile Flat Top," "Double Rotary," and so many others of different patterns that it would be impossible to enumerate them. All description of church and school furniture, perfect gems of the carver's art, besides all mentionable articles of Masonic furniture—Messrs. Stalschmidt's is one of the many desirable Canadian industries which merits every degree of high praise for the great strides they have made in their underlaking.

NOTE—There has just been turned out from the Stalschmidt factory a gold flute-mounted desk, being a special order from Pope Leo XIII., and it is now already on its way to Rome.

CLAXTON'S EXHIBIT, AT THE LATE INDUSTRIAL FAIR.

IN the exhibit of musical instruments at the Industrial Fair just concluded, Mr. Thomas Claxton, of Yonge St., exceeded his previous efforts, and made a total eclipse of all competitors.

An instrument which Mr. Claxton is now offering for sale, is not only wonderful in its capabilities of producing the "sweet sound" that charms, but more than all wonderfully cheap. It is called the Orchestrone. As a marvel of musical invention it is a wonder. The principles on which all automatic instruments now in use are constructed have been employed in perfecting the Orchestrone. The instrument appears in the shape of the ordinary reed organ, and in its furnishings is quite as complete and ornamental as the finest turned out by our organ companies. To complete the marvels the operator does not need to be possessed of a knowledge of music. You play and the music comes spontaneously, so to speak.

Mr. Claxton's exhibit was very tastefully arranged at the extreme south-east corner of the first gallery of the main building, and comprised nearly every musical instrument known to band and orchestra musicians.

A very handsome plate glass showcase, standing nearly twelve feet high, and probably six feet deep and eight feet wide, covered a portion of the east wall. This case contained nearly every instrument played in a brass and reed combination, and, to sum up, the back ground of the case was ornamented by bagpipes, cymbals, military bugles, etc., etc.

To the south of the showcase and arranged on the east wall were violins of the most costly and foreign master makes, besides those of humbler origin and more modest prices. There were bass fiddles, guitars, banjos, musical boxes, concertinas, accordians, harps, and indeed everything kept in a first-class music store. Mr. Claxton's exhibition was certainly a treat to all band and orchestral instrumentalists who saw it, and that gentleman has reason to be proud of his very fine display.

As Mr. Claxton's store is about to be pulled down and rebuilt, he is offering remarkable bargains, and intending buyers should consult