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## Captains of Canadian Industry.

"THE nation that manufactures for itself, prospers." In the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of June 1 we began the publication of a series of illustrated biographical sketches of "Captains of Canadian Industry." It was an entirely new departure in journalism, either in this or in any other country; and the very excellent artotype portraits of leading Canadian manufacturers which have been displayed in each successive issue of this journal have made it valuable as a pictorial album which must of necessity become a part of the history of the Dominion. The publication of these portraits and the biographical sketches of their originals will be continued indefinitely; the object being that when the publication in this journal is finally discontinued, to assemble and reproduce them in book form, which arrangement will be all the more valuable in that the matter which is now being extended through many months in the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER will all be brought into the compass of one attractive and convenient volume. To assist our readers in keeping in mind the names of the "captains" of this grand army whose portraits have already been published, we reproduce them here. They are as follows:—

### PLATE I.—June 1.

W. H. Storey, Acton, Ont. Bennett Rosamond, Almonte, Ont.  
Samuel May, Toronto. George Booth, Toronto.

### PLATE II.—June 15.

Thomas Cowan, Galt, Ont. James Watson, Hamilton, Ont.  
R. W. Elliot, Toronto. John F. Ellis, Toronto.

### PLATE III.—July 6.

William Bell, Guelph, Ont. John R. Barber, Georgetown, Ont.  
John Bertram, Dundas, Ont. Wm. Chaplin, St. Catherines, Ont.

### PLATE IV.—July 20

William Doherty, Clinton, Ont. Alex. Gartshore, Hamilton, Ont.  
John Fensom, Toronto. Charles Raymond, Guelph, Ont.

### PLATE V.—August 3.

William Christie, Toronto. Henry Bickford, Dundas, Ont.  
Robert Mitchell, Montreal. James Hendrey, Peterboro, Ont.

### PLATE VI.—August 17.

John Abell, Toronto. George W. Sadler, Montreal.  
H. A. Massey, Toronto. John Taylor, Toronto.

### PLATE VII.—September 7.

James Crossen, Cobourg, Ont. Thomas G. Mason, Toronto.  
Vincent M. Risch, Toronto. Wellington Boulter, Picton, Ont.

### PLATE VIII.—September 21.

D. R. Van Allen, Chatham, Ont. C. E. Britton, Gananoque, Ont.  
Thomas Robertson, Toronto. James Hall, Brockville, Ont.

## CHARLES E. BRITTON.

MR. CHARLES E. BRITTON, of the firm of Cowan & Britton, Gananoque, Ont., proprietors of the Gananoque Nail and Hinge Works, was born in that town in 1842. As a boy his life was an even and uneventful current showing only such ripples as usually occur with strong, healthy boys with good appetite and unimpaired digestion—expeditions for the surreptitious obtaining of forbidden fruit; raids upon neighboring fruit orchards; playing "hookey" occasionally; the acquirement of some acquaintance with the three important educational R's and the regular absorption of three square meals every day. Later he was a clerk in his father's store in Gananoque; and in 1861, when less than twenty years of age, he went into business with Mr. D. C. Cowan, establishing the Gananoque Nail and Hinge Works for the manufacture of every description of nails, hinges, butts and similar iron hardware goods. These works are now among the most important in Canada, supplying as they do a very large proportion of the demands of the trade not only of Ontario, but of the Dominion. The business of these works has steadily increased ever since their establishment, and the capacity of them is sufficient to produce largely in excess of current demands. Mr. Cowan, who was senior member of the firm, died in 1885, since which time the business has been conducted entirely by Mr. Britton, he being sole proprietor, although the name of the concern has never been changed. Mr. Britton is a man of fine executive ability, as is apparent in his management of his works, which add so much to the value and importance of Gananoque.

Gananoque is a flourishing manufacturing town on the Gananoque river at its confluence with the St. Lawrence, and is also on the line of the Grand Trunk railway. Two dams across the river near the town afford an almost unlimited water power, which is utilized in a large number of manufacturing establishments, included in which are the Cowan & Britton nail and hinge works; several saw and grist mills; manufactories of woolen goods, iron castings, edge tools, machinery, agricultural implements, leather, organs, wooden ware, boots and shoes, etc. Being opposite the most beautiful part of the Lake of the Thousand Islands, celebrated for its scenic and sporting attractions, it is a favorite resort of tourists and pleasure-seekers. A special feature of these attractions is the facilities which are afforded tourists to view the beauties of the Thousand Islands by the excellent steamboat service supplied by the Alexandria Bay Steamboat Company in their fine new steamer "Island Wanderer." This company is composed largely of American capitalists, and Mr. Britton is Canadian director of it. This steamer is said to be the fastest and most popular