

WE have pleasure in presenting herewith a portrait of a gentleman well known among machinery men in almost every province in Canada—James Clarke—who was several years connected with the extensive machine tool firm of John Bertram & Sons, Dundas, but now superintendent of the Canadian Machinery Hall at the World's Fair, Chicago. Mr. Clarke was born in Prince Edward Island in 1845, and moved to Ontario when he was nine years old. After spending three years on his father's farm, he started at the age of eighteen to learn the business of machinist and engineer with Mr. Munson, the oil well owner of Oil Springs. He soon showed his aptitude for mechanical work, and after working six years at Oil Springs, went to Cobourg with Mr. Munson, where he was put in charge of the dredging and harbor works. He after-

ing a 570 feet well, alone and unaided, to building a pleasure yacht, and fitting her with engines and boilers. When the Colonial and Indian Exhibition was held in London, in 1886, it was found that the exhibits of Canadian machinery were going to be of great variety and extent, and it was a question who could be got to superintend all this machinery in a practical manner. The applications for this post reached the remarkable number of four thousand, and out of these Mr. Clarke was the fortunate man. His selection was well judged and was never regretted by either the Government or the exhibitors. The great Canadian machinery hall was one of the features of this wonderful exhibition of colonial products and manufactures, and in all the six months during which this machinery was in constant operation, not a single accident or breakdown occurred.



MR. JAMES CLARKE.

wards started to learn marine engineering, and obtained a certificate as a marine engineer. After being on the water for about ten years, he returned to Cobourg and took charge of the woodworking department of the Crossen Car Works. From this position he was appointed Superintendent of Public Works at Cobourg, where he acquitted himself with great credit. Although offered an increased salary to remain, he was induced to take charge of the mechanical works of the Cobourg, Peterborough and Marmora Railway. Mr. Clarke, in all his very varied experience, sought to make himself acquainted with every department of mechanical work, and there was nothing he attempted in the mechanical line that he did not accomplish, from sink-

This was not the only satisfactory feature of the appointment, for there was scarcely a firm who did not effect some sales of machinery through Mr. Clarke's judicious explanations, his thorough understanding of the work and his constant attention to business. Indeed, many of the Canadian exhibitors at the Colonial Exhibition laid the foundations there of a foreign trade which has gone on increasing to this day, and when the time came for preparing to open the World's Fair there was a general demand among Canadian exhibitors that Mr. Clarke and no one else should have charge of the machinery. Though Mr. Clarke in no way sought the appointment, but in fact hesitated a long time before accepting it, he yielded to the solicitations of so many