

## A LIVE, BUSY INDUSTRY.

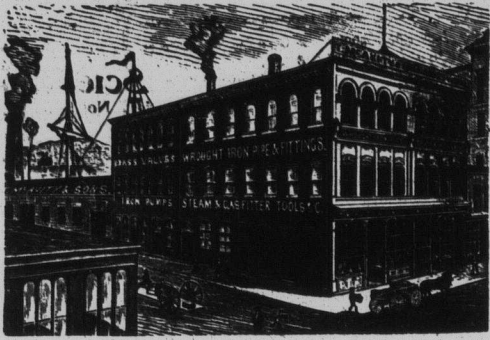
### THE FRUITS OF WELL DIRECTED SKILL AND ENTERPRISE.

T. McAvity & Sons' Brass Foundry and Machine Works—A St. John Firm that Manufactures for the Whole of the Dominion and Foreign Parts as Well.

Among the large manufacturing industries of St. John there is perhaps none which turns out a greater variety of goods, and whose products are more widely distributed, than the establishment of T. McAvity & Sons, brass foundry and machine works, and manufacturers of plumbers' engines, and steam and gas-fitters' supplies. At their factory and works in Water street they employ nearly 150 men when running full, and notwithstanding that the present time is the dull season in nearly all lines of manufacturing business, they

machine shop and the iron machine shop, in which the rough castings are shaped and bored and drilled and fashioned as desired; the fitting room, and the electroplating and galvanizing department.

The fifty thousand feet of floor space occupied by these various departments is crowded with machinery of every description, all of the most improved pattern for the work required. The brass working room contains nine large monitor turret lathes, and seventeen smaller ones of similar pattern, besides other machinery, and the iron working room is equipped with a 26-foot lathe of 60-inch swing, six engine lathes of 18-foot bed, tapping machine for iron pipe fittings up to six inches, two planers, two milling machines, universal drill, etc. A small chaper and a universal milling machine are about to be added. The iron casting for this department of the



are running well up to their capacity, with increasing activity in all departments.

This is one of the maritime industries which manufactures for the whole of Canada, and sends besides large quantities of its products to foreign countries. It is therefore of especial interest to the people of this section, and one in which they naturally take pride, as a perpetual advertisement throughout the upper provinces and abroad, of the city of St. John and its business enterprise, and of the manufacturing resources and abilities of the maritime section of the Dominion.

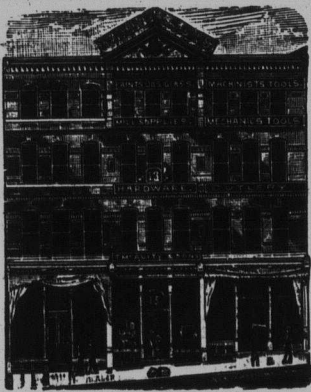
An idea of the variety of goods turned out by this establishment may be gathered from the fact that the illustrated catalogue issued by the firm—a large book of more than three hundred pages—contains upwards of three thousand cuts illustrating the different products of their manufacture. These are chiefly embraced within the wide range of goods known to the trade as "supplies" for plumbers, engineers, steam fitters and gas fitters, each line of which is multitudinous in detail. As an example, the plumbers' goods include all kinds of fittings for soil, waste and supply pipes—basins, sinks, taps, faucets, cocks, pumps, etc.; in steam goods there are valves, couplings, cocks, injectors, lubricators, oil cups, journal bearings, bushings, gauges, whistles, and myriad articles too numerous to mention; and in gas goods there are all kinds and styles of burners and tips and cocks and couplings and fittings. But besides these their products embrace many other general lines, such as steam and hotwater boilers, radiators and apparatus; bells and gongs for churches, ships, houses and electrical purposes; pumps of many descriptions for every conceivable use; ship fittings and marine work of many kinds; boot calks for lumbermen's use, of which they are the only manufacturers in the Dominion; creamer taps, for creameries, of which they make perhaps a hundred thousand yearly; spray pumps, or syringes, in various styles and grades of cost, for spraying potato vines, grape vines and fruit orchards; and other goods which cannot even be enumerated within the limits of a newspaper article. The firm also manufactures many specialties, under their own patents, which have a large demand—such as their improved boiler feeder, check valves, gauge cocks, and various other steam appliances and machinery fittings—and they are constantly adding to the number, and by this means pushing their trade into new markets.

The McAvity works are situated on the city's harbor front, embracing 673 Water street, and extending into the wharves to the rear. The main building is about 100x80 feet, three stories, to which is joined a two-story annex, 200x40 feet. The front part contains the store, where the goods of the firm's manufacture and others in which they deal are kept in stock, including ingot metals, piping, and a general line of heavy hardware, while across the street is a large one-story brick warehouse, 100x160 feet, where are stored the heavy pipe and other stock too bulky to lumber the store space. In the rear of the store are the brass foundry and the casting room, where the metal is first compounded—of copper and tin, or copper and zinc, according to the grade required—and the articles or pieces are then moulded and cast. In the stories above are the pattern department, with a woodworking shop where the patterns are made, and rooms in which hundreds of thousands of them are stored away on shelves and in boxes, numbered and systematically arranged for ready use, with a large fire-proof vault or safe in which the more valuable patterns, such as could not easily be replaced, are stored; the brass

business is done at McLean & Holt's foundry on the city road, where the Messrs. McAvity keep a dozen to fifteen moulders constantly employed.

This prosperous manufacturing industry is a striking example of what may be accomplished by mechanical and inventive skill combined with energetic and pushing business methods. Nearly sixty years ago the firm of T. McAvity and Company was established in St. John, as a general mercantile house making hardware a specialty. It consisted of three brothers, of whom Mr. Thomas McAvity was the senior and head of the firm. About twenty-five years later this firm bought out the New Brunswick brass works, then a comparatively small local industry, and conducted it as a branch of their business. Today the house of T. McAvity & Sons, which has succeeded the original firm, and is composed of the six sons of Mr. Thomas McAvity, is one of the largest mercantile and manufacturing institutions in the maritime provinces, and not only fully covers the local field with its trade, but has cultivated outside markets so energetically and ably, that nearly or quite two-thirds of its immense manufactured product is sold in the upper provinces, even as far west as the Pacific coast, while an already large and steadily growing trade is being developed in England, Australia, the West Indies and other foreign parts. Many of their specialties are having a large sale abroad, and their ship pumps especially are in increasing demand in England and the West Indies. On the last steamer they shipped a large government order of machinery supplies to St. Kitts, and of their ship goods they are selling a good many at Bridgetown, Barbadoes, and elsewhere in the West Indies. Their local trade, by which is meant the trade of the maritime provinces, is especially large in heavy mill and marine work, while their western trade as a whole calls for a lighter class of work. They have agencies in the larger cities throughout the Dominion, and of their eight travelling representatives, the routes of all but two are confined to the upper provinces, where their trade is increasing year by year.

The manufacturing department of T. McAvity and Sons is in charge of three sons of the founder, while the other three conduct the large wholesale and retail



store in King street, which in its commodious arrangement, fittings, and equipment, and in the extent and varied completeness of its stock, ranks with the first of its kind in the Dominion. The two establishments, although entirely separate and distinct from each other in their practical operation, are yet in reality one and the same, and one set of books is kept for both. It is an immense business, under a perfect system of executive management, and it is still growing.

It is said that the year 1894 was the first in which the great Car of Juggernaut has failed to find devotees enough to drag it over the usual route.

## Provincial Industries.

The St. George granite works are all at work again, with one exception, and the business is looking up.

J. Lyons Hatfield, Yarmouth, N. S., has a handsome, novel and costly residence just nearing completion by Melford Sims & Son, contractors, designed by Geo. F. Barber & Co., architects, of Knoxville, Tenn.

Among new building enterprises under way at Halifax are a new structure for the deaf and dumb institution, to cost \$48,000, and a \$28,000 brick and stone edifice on the site of the Victoria infirmary building, Barrington street, which is in process of demolition.

Hardland is anticipating a brick building season. C. Humphrey Taylor will build a large three-story brick block for business purposes, dwellings will be erected by R. W. Richardson, James Campbell, George Peoples, Mrs. A. Boyer and others, and a number of houses are to be built for employees at Sawyer J. Craig's new steam lumber mill.

Truro, N. S., has a new woodworking industry. The old shoe factory building, which has been unoccupied for some time, has been leased by Kent & Co., who are fitting it up with machinery equipment for the manufacturing of furniture, caskets, blinds, and for general woodworking. The manufacture of woven-wire mattresses will also be a part of the business.

The Truro Headlight reports that several local industries, such as the milk condensing and canning company, the knitting factory, the hat factories, the foundry and machine company, and others, are contemplating extensive business improvements in the near future. There are also in prospect the erection of a large brick building on Inglis Street, by Messrs. Black & Co., an addition to the Learment Hotel, and other building enterprises in Truro, involving an expenditure of some \$79,000.

The A. Christie Woodworking Company's factory and planing mill, City road, St. John, is one of the busy industrial establishments of the city, employing thirty-five hands, principally engaged just now in making up stock for the coming season, which promises to be a good one for the building trades. The company manufactures doors, sashes, blinds, both shutters and Genetian, mantels, stairwork, mouldings and interior house finish of all kinds, besides plugs, wedges, stanchions, etc. For marine use, and an infinite variety of other articles. Their trade covers the maritime provinces and Newfoundland, and is extending in the upper provinces. Among large local orders filled this winter, they have just finished the pews, in ash and whitewood, for the Carmarthen street church. They have been building thirty years, and their large factory, 160x60 feet, four stories, run by steam power, is one of the best equipped woodworking establishments in the maritime provinces.

The Sydney, C. E., Advocate urges upon the Sydney hotel company the need of increasing the accommodations at their hostelry in order to meet the requirements of the tourist travel the coming summer. The Advocate says: "Last summer the Sydney was the means of bringing to Cape Breton a very large number of our American cousins and upper province Canadians, who would not have visited our Island had we not had the superior accommodations offered in our summer hotel, and as those people all declared themselves greatly pleased with their visit and the reception accorded them, and also expressed their intention of spending the summer months of 1895 in Cape Breton, it certainly means that next season there will be an influx of visitors as has been altogether unthought of. The Plant Steamship company are, moreover, making extensive preparations for next season's travel from the New England States to northern pleasure resorts. There can be nothing more detrimental to the success of the hotel enterprise than to have strangers arrive here and find it impossible to procure a lodging place, but such is more than likely to happen if the construction of an addition to the hotel is not at once undertaken."

### Field Mice Inoculated.

In the government of Kherson, Russia, the plague of field mice, which is devastating the province, is to be met by inoculating the mice with bacilli. Some have been found that proved fatal to 95 per cent. of the mice experimented upon, and the Ministry of Agriculture has ordered the method tried throughout the district as soon as the snow disappears.

### Anti-Toxine and Horses.

In obtaining the serum for the anti-toxine treatment about ten quarts is the amount drawn from each horse at one time on the average. The animals suffer no perceptible exhaustion, and are not made useless for other purposes. Among the twenty-five horses now owned by the British Institute is a grandson of Blair Athol.

### How the French Cure Colds.

The latest idea of French physicians is to cure colds by applying ice to the spine. Just now when the abrupt changes in the weather have brought influenza, bronchitis, or some kindred trouble, one is always glad to hear of some new remedy for "the cold," but few, we imagine, will be daring enough

to apply this one. Yet the inflammatory sore throat that a few years ago most people treated by poultices and warmth is now quickly and easily cured by sucking ice and keep the victim in a low temperature, and, in a really feverish cold, ice might be of genuine use.

### POP BIG-PIPE.

The Queer Will of A Famous Dutch Smoker who Died at Ninety-eight.

In its discussion of the question whether it is injurious to smoke tobacco, the Cleveland Plain Dealer recalls the history of Mynheer Van Klee, a famous old merchant in Holland, who was such an inveterate old smoker that he was nicknamed "Pop Big-Pipe." He made a large fortune in the Indian trade, and built a mansion near Rotterdam, in which he collected every imaginable kind of pipe. It was said he smoked 150 grammes of tobacco every day, and died at the age of 98 years. In making his will, after bequeathing to his relatives, friends, and charities a large proportion of his estate, he added the following clause:

"I wish every smoker in the kingdom to be invited to my funeral in every way possible, by letter, circular, and advertisement. Every smoker who takes advantage of the invitation shall receive as a present ten pounds of tobacco and two pipes, on which shall be engraved my name, my crest, and the date of my birth. The poor of the neighborhood who accompany my bier shall receive every year on the anniversary of my death a large package of tobacco. I make the condition that all those who assist at my funeral, if they wish to partake of the benefits of my will, must smoke without interruption during the entire ceremony. My body shall be placed in a coffin lined throughout with the wood of my old Havana cigar boxes. At the foot of the coffin shall be placed a box of French tobacco called 'Capora!' and a package of our old Dutch tobacco. At my side shall place my favorite pipe and a box of matches, for one never knows what may happen. When he rests in the vault all the persons in the funeral procession are requested to cast upon it the ashes of their pipes as they pass it on their departure from the grounds."

It is said that Van Klee, on the day that he made this eccentric will, summoned a notary who was also a notable smoker, and said to him: "Fill my pipe and yours, I am going to die." He then dictated the will and died. The Plain Dealer ironically observes that crusaders against the use of tobacco will find in this striking instance little support for their claim that smoking is disastrous to the human system. Of course, it may be argued that if he had limited his indulgence to 100 grammes a day he might have lived to the advanced age of 120, instead of being out at 98.

### Advice to Inventors.

Mr. A. Siemens' recent advice to inventors is both appropriate and opportune:

- (1) Define as accurately as possible, the want that exists, or the particular object that is to be attained.
- (2) Be well acquainted with the scientific principles which come into play.
- (3) Know how the want is met, or the object attained in practical life.
- (4) Find out what proposals have been made by others in the same or in a similar case.

A careful attention to these requirements will prevent much disappointment and waste of energy, as will be obvious to most people without further explanation.

### A Man With a Memory.

A striking peculiarity of Mr. S. R. Crockett, the well-known author, is his ability to retain for a long period accurate mind pictures of anything he has once seen. Thus on one occasion he described minutely a place which he had not visited for many years; but on going afterwards to verify his description he found that it was accurate down to the smallest details.

### To Much Harmony.

Wiggles: "I understand you've just been away on a three months' trip with Wigglestein. Did you enjoy his company?" Waggles: "Well, no, I can't really say I did."

Waggles: "Why not?" Wiggles: "The fact is, he always agreed with everything I said."

### They Admired His Books.

Agreeable as an author's fame is, it is not invariably alloyed, and Mr. Caine's is no exception. It seems hardly creditable, but none the less it is a fact, that the novelist constantly receives letters from intending visitors to the Isle of Man, asking him to get them lodgings, "because we admire your books!"

### Paper Coffins.

Some undertakers whose customers are poor people are using coffins made of paper. The coffins are made in all styles out of pressed paper pulp, just the same as the common paper buckets. When they are varnished and stained they resemble polished wood, and in point of durability they are much better than the wooden ones, it is claimed.

### When Trouble Comes.

Observation and experience prove that the capacity of the heart for suffering is equalled only by its powers of endurance. How often are we surprised to see a shrinking, sensitive nature survive some great anguish. We never know how much we can bear "till trouble comes."

### Strict Impartiality.

A judge of the Supreme court who tries hard to be impartial and to say nothing in his charges that will lean either way, recently said to a jury whom he charged: "Now, gentlemen, if anything I have said has made the slightest impression on your minds, pray dismit it."

### The Man of Destiny.

"But, sire," urged Marshall Murat, "if you take this step and it turns out disastrously for France, what can you say in vindication of yourself?"

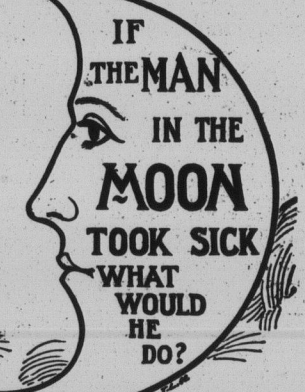
"My vindication," said Napoleon sternly, "can only be left with the American newspapers of 1894-5."



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