

LISTWELL STANDARD.  
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1882.

The supplementary report of the Commission appointed to examine into and report upon the number of new factories and the increased number of hands employed in the old established factories since the fall of 1878, together with the state of wages, price of goods, etc., was presented to the House by Sir Leonard Tilley on Tuesday afternoon. The report is an important one, since it deals conclusively with the question of the development of manufacturing industry under the Factory Act. The result of the Factory Commission's investigation will be exceedingly gratifying to every true Canadian; but of course, will not be very comforting to those who, for party purposes, have ridiculed the fact of there having been a large increase in the number of factories started and in the number of hands employed since the advent of the N. P. Ninety-six new factories have come under the observation of the Commission during its investigations. This list, however, the Commission does not represent the whole of the factories which have been started in the Dominion during the past three years. A detailed statement is given of the 96 new factories, employing 7,242 hands, established since 1878. The percentage of increase in the number of hands employed in factories which were in existence prior to September, 1878, is also given. In foundries, however, the increase is 14 per cent; in boot and shoe factories, 20 per cent; in glass and pottery works, 11 per cent; in cigar, cigar and piano factories, 28 per cent; in wool knitting factories, 19 per cent; in tobacco and cigars, 7 per cent; in cotton factories, 20 per cent; in rope, flax and brush factories, 11 per cent; in miscellaneous manufactures, 16 per cent; general miscellaneous manufactures, 23 per cent. A comparison of the prices of manufactured goods between January, 1879, and the date of visit in 1881, shows the number of factories which have increased in price of goods to be 222; factories which have increased by 25 per cent, 4; factories which have increased by 10 per cent, 1; factories which have increased by 5 per cent, 18; factories which have decreased by 20 per cent, 3; factories which have decreased by 15 per cent, 5; factories which have decreased by 10 per cent, 11; factories which have decreased by 7 per cent, 25. The number of factories from which no information was obtained is 13. The increase in most of the factories was stated to be on account of an advance in the price of raw materials. A comparison of the state of wages between January, 1879, and the date of visit in 1881, shows the number of factories where wages have increased since January, 1879, to be 20; factories showing an increase of 25 per cent, 3; factories showing an increase of 20 per cent, 2; factories showing an increase of 15 per cent, 4; factories showing an increase of 10 per cent, 5; factories showing an increase of 5 per cent, 18; factories showing a decrease, none.

ACROSS THE CONTINENT.

The following interesting sketch of a trip to the "Big Horn" was written by a friend by the name of Armstrong, late teacher of the public school at Tyrone. Left Stratford on Tuesday January 23rd and arrived at Chicago next morning about eight. Stayed there until one and took a stroll around the city. It is a wonderful business place. The depot of the North-Western is a handsome building and fitted up to perfection. Left Chicago at noon and arrived at Council Bluffs next morning at 10 a. m. For about ten miles after leaving Chicago the country is perfectly level, and hills in town lots without any fences to hide the view, with clusters of 40 or 50 houses every half mile, and there are a few little park trees planted as far as possible. It looked very pretty. From here there was nothing interesting until we crossed the Missouri river. It was very broad, but I think very shallow. We then travelled over level prairie land until we reached Omaha. We changed cars at Council Bluffs, where there is a very handsome depot, and went across the Missouri by rail. It is a muddy, dirty town, about the size of London, and situated on the river bank. The main street here was about two feet high. Left Omaha at 6 o'clock in the evening, and when I awakened I found myself on the wild and level prairie. There was but a few inches of snow on the ground, leaving the bunch grass and sage brush sticking up a foot or two. We are continually being overtaken by a herd of 500 miles, when we reach the Black Hills, 7,000 feet higher than Omaha. We crossed the river in Nebraska, famous in dime novels, in Nebraska, which flows into the Platte. In this valley we saw a flock of 100,000 antelope. Low hills begin to rise on both sides of us, a few miles off. Fremont is the first important place we come to. From here we follow the Platte river, sometimes on the very edge of it, then again miles away from the river bed. The valley is very level and rises almost straight up on north and south, and away to the east and west as far as the eye can reach, nothing but a dead level of the prairie. The old emigrant trail led when the early pioneers travelled in covered wagons to the west, best there was a headboard marking the place where some of these brave pioneers fell beneath the lashes of the Indian, or laid down their weary bones in their trials to overcome to rise. Here it was that the western scouts displayed their noble daring and ingenuity in defeating those committed to their charge. The next place of any importance that we reach is Grand Island, 1,500 pop. Had a real western dinner at a place called Elm Creek, where a \$10.00 hotel, the Inter-Ocean, rather good for a small place. Soon after leaving here we reached the summit of the Rockies. There is a station here

called the Summit. We had a foot race of about 50 yards and were clean up and the air is so pure and healthy. We then sat out to contemplate the beautiful scene. The moon was shining bright, and on one side could be seen clouds of steam from several steam trains that wandered away glittering in the soft moonlight as they trickled down to join the flowing river, from there to glide peacefully away to the Atlantic. On the other side the scene was repeated with the difference that the waters steamed away through the soft and snowy air, and the clouds of steam from the other side of this mighty continent. It is like twin children, who, as they grow older drift apart to different lands, and on one side are supported by the vast extent of a whole continent or ocean. This is the centre of the great American continent, the backbone, where the smaller ranges and spurs that slope away to the east and west. From this point range on range, going east to the coast and west to the coast, and there with peaks that reach away beyond the peaks of the Rockies. Nothing of any great interest comes up until we reach Utah. Sometime after we get to this state the mountains are all on one side and we wind in and out along the course of a small stream through Echo and Weber canyons where we pass a grand scene of the mountains. The first great sight is the Castle rocks, formed of red sandstone, rising perpendicularly from 500 to 1,500 feet above the level of the sea, and we can almost reach out and touch them, while on our left a tremendous chain of peaks rises above the level of the sea, and on our right a range of peaks, passing Pulpit rock, which stands out like some dome almost round and rising several hundred feet high, passes out into the open air a short distance into the Weber canyon where the rocks rise to a fearful height on both sides, and the river rushes foaming and boiling in a large pine tree on the side of the cliff, exactly 1000 miles from Omaha, called the thousand mile tree. To the left of the mountain to the Devil's Slide, two narrow slabs of rock about 100 feet high and 20 feet apart, running parallel from top to bottom, and with a narrow opening out of here we reach Ogden, a Mormon town, where we change cars and get on the Central Pacific Railway. We cross over the American divide in Nevada, and after about a day's travel reach the boundary of California, where the beautiful summer scenery of the Sierras is to be seen. We pass along through miles of snow-capped mountains, and on the side of steep mountains, where we appear to be in a garden, and everything is green and beautiful. The hillsides covered with ferns and pine trees, and like the domes which come out of the hills at first time in spring, we shout "everything is living." On we hurry past mining towns where the water runs here and there, and the hillsides are covered with the golden grains of sand that glitter for greedy eyes. We pass a mighty precipice called Cape Horn. A comparison of the state of wages between January, 1879, and the date of visit in 1881, shows the number of factories where wages have increased since January, 1879, to be 20; factories showing an increase of 25 per cent, 3; factories showing an increase of 20 per cent, 2; factories showing an increase of 15 per cent, 4; factories showing an increase of 10 per cent, 5; factories showing an increase of 5 per cent, 18; factories showing a decrease, none.

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