

sale for those days—and the Burrell reaper, probably the first Canadian built reaping machine, were turned out at these works. This Burrell reaper was a crude affair, and was one of the earliest inventions in reaping machinery. It was so constructed as to be drawn behind the disconnected forewheels of a wagon. It was, however, sufficiently practical to warrant its manufacture, and quite a large number of them were built and sold.

In 1855 Mr. H. A. Massey became the sole proprietor of the business by the retirement of Mr. Daniel Massey, who died the following year. Just previous to the death of this gentleman he received an invitation to ride in the first train of cars despatched over the Grand Trunk Railway from Toronto to Montreal. This great Canadian commercial artery was just then finished, and the opening of it to business marked an era in the prosperity of the company, and gave an impetus to farming interests which showed marked and happy effect upon the special industry in which Mr. Massey was then engaged.

To attempt to even mention the different lines and styles of agricultural implements, and the advances and improvements that have been made in their construction by the concern with which Mr. Massey has been connected for so long a time, would be to give a history of the business in Canada from its inception until the present time. But some of the earlier machines were the Massey combined reaper and mower—a manual delivery machine which was introduced in 1857; the Wood mower, in 1861, and the Wood self-rake reaper in 1863. These last two machines were selected by the Canadian Government for exhibition at the Paris Exposition in 1867, where they received the highest gold medal award.

In 1870 the firm of H. A. Massey & Co. was merged into the Massey Manufacturing Company, with Mr. H. A. Massey, as president, and his eldest son, Mr. Charles A. Massey, (who died in February 1884) as vice-president and manager, the capital stock of the company being \$100,000. Under the new management the business increased very rapidly. In 1874 the company began the manufacture of the Sharp horse rake, which was awarded the highest honor at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876. For the sake of a more central location and better facilities for receiving supplies and shipping goods, the company removed from Newcastle to Toronto in 1879, and in 1881 the Toronto Reaper and Mower Company, who were then doing quite a large business in Toronto, and whose works were quite near to where the new Massey works were located, were absorbed into the Massey Company. This necessitated a large increase in the number of hands employed. In 1883 the business done by the Massey Manufacturing Company aggregated a million dollars—an increase of over ten fold over the amount done during the year the company was incorporated. Some idea of the magnitude of this business may be obtained from the fact that the sales of some of the specialties manufactured by this company have reached high up into the thousands, to wit:—the Sharp horse rake, 32,859; the Massey harvester, 11,976; the Massey mower, 5,855; Toronto mower, 20,342; Toronto light binder, 11,596.

In business Mr. Massey is a great favorite, and in private and social life he has many warm and attached friends. He

has always taken great interest in all important public questions both municipal and general, and has always taken a lively interest in the affairs of the Methodist Church of which he is a member. Dating from 1850 he was for twenty years a Justice of the Peace for the counties of Northumberland and Durham, and for several years was councillor for the town of Newcastle. He has now been the active manager of the business of the Massey Manufacturing Company for twenty-three years, and though sixty-five years of age puts as much energy in his work as he did twenty-five years ago.

GEORGE W. SADLER.

GEORGE W. SADLER, of the leather belting manufacturing firm of Robin & Sadler, Montreal, was born in that city in 1852, and educated at the model school there. While yet a child his father died, and at an early age the subject of this sketch was forced to work for his living. At first he served as an office boy, but when fourteen years of age he obtained employment with the late Mr. J. C. McLaren, who was at that time the leading harness maker in Montreal. It was about this time that Mr. McLaren began the manufacture of leather belting, and in this branch of his business young Sadler was employed. This was then an almost untried industry in Canada, about all the leather belting in use being imported from England or the United States. Young Sadler took a strong liking to the business, and determined to master it in all its parts, and he worked steadily at this trade with Mr. McLaren for about four years. In 1869, when seventeen years of age, he went to Boston, Mass., where he obtained a situation with Messrs. King & Adams, one of the largest leather belting manufacturing concerns in that country. Mr. Thomas B. Adams, the practical partner of the firm, became strongly interested in this young Canadian, who was not long in making his services appreciated in the factory, and where he learned all the details of the trade; and when young Sadler left that situation in 1874 he was foreman of the works.

His object in leaving Boston was to accept the management of the leather belting manufacturing business of Messrs. L. J. Campbell & Co., at Montreal; and two years later—in 1876—Mr. Sadler and Mr. Thomas Robin, his late partner, became connected in business with Messrs. Barry, Smith & Co., who were the successors to the business of Messrs. L. J. Campbell & Co. The firm of Barry, Smith & Co. was short-lived, having been in existence only about one year, but the business was conducted by Mr. Robin and Mr. Sadler until 1880, when the firm of Robin & Sadler was formed. Mr. Robin died in 1884, since which time Mr. Sadler has continued the business solely on his own account, but under the old name of Robin & Sadler.

When Mr. Sadler embarked in the manufacture of belting in Montreal, it was at a time when the demand for the article in Canada was small compared with what it now is, and, when the supply was drawn almost entirely from abroad. Foreign-made belting had the preference, and there were reasons for it; but the change in the tariff affording protection to the industry; the development of it under liberal and intelligent management; the phenomenal growth of the wheat grinding and lumber cutting interests of the country; and the establishment of other industries, created a large and steadily increasing