

# CANADIAN MECHANICS' MAGAZINE

## PATENT OFFICE RECORD

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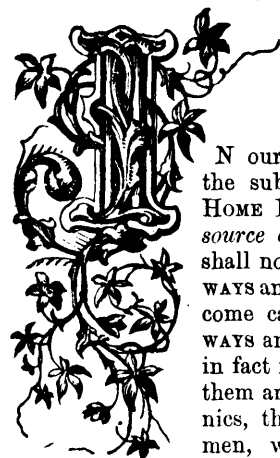
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No. 2.

### HOME INDUSTRY.

(Continued.)

#### THE WAYS AND MEANS.



IN our January number we brought the subject before our readers, how HOME INDUSTRY might be made the *source of income in hard times*. We shall now endeavour to point out the WAYS and MEANS by which a small income can thus be realized. These WAYS and MEANS are not few, they are in fact numerous, and yet so many of them are totally unknown to mechanics, that hundreds of skilled workmen, when thrown out of employment, are unable to direct their

thoughts to any way by which, through their own trade, they might earn, for a time, a living for their families. Too frequently they sit down depressed and gloomily brood over their difficulties, totally unable to think of any method by which they could, with the help of their mechanical knowledge and handicraft, set to work and manufacture articles from the sale of which they might support themselves in comfort until better times arrived.

We do not mean it to be understood that we suppose any article manufactured under such circumstances would meet with a ready sale, many probably would, if sold at moderate prices, but advances could be obtained on articles manufactured, and the goods placed in the hands of various parties, having shops or stores, who would sell them on commission, or, what would be better still, in a large city, to organize a society which should advance the means, if needed, to purchase such materials as would be required to be worked up, and when these articles were made to dispose of them to the best advantage for the makers' benefit—this is a suggestion which might very easily be carried out, and we feel confident it would be productive of much good. It would not only be the means of helping the mechanic in time of trouble, but it would be an instrument in educating the members of his family to industrious and profitable pursuits.

A society of this sort might be extended to other members of the community besides mechanics, but as it

is the latter we have particularly to consider in this Magazine, we merely at present, throw out the hint, feeling how much better it is for society that none of its members should be dependent upon the charity of others for a subsistence, when they have health and skilled hands to procure it in an independent way, if only shown the *ways and means* by which so desirable an object can be brought about. And here let us remark that we have hundreds of wealthy manufacturers in this city, who in a very short time could organize a society of this kind and set the machinery in motion and that too with a trifling amount of capital. We may further suggest that if the clergymen of this city, (who are ever active to solicit contributions for charitable and praiseworthy objects), were to direct their attention, also, to this matter, and form a society of ladies for the promotion of *Home Industry* amongst those of that sex, we believe that, if properly managed, it would turn out a source of pleasure to those connected therewith, and a boon to many a well deserving family.

We have stated that there are many articles which skilled workmen could make at home in hard times, but there are many things which, to construct them, require the use of the tools and machinery of the work-shop; now we feel certain that where there is a proper spirit evinced by a body of industrious and worthy men, to employ their unengaged time to advantage, many manufacturers would not object to keep their workshops open, and their men around them, rather than see them dispersed and reduced in circumstances; in fact many of them would find it very convenient to have the workshop open and the men there, so as to be able to employ them occasionally as small orders required to be executed.

The WAYS in which a man with skilful hands can employ his unengaged time to advantage are various and numerous, but it is not necessary here to enumerate them, those details would form a matter for the consideration of a committee of practical men to decide upon, and if some active members of the community will take the first steps to organize a society for such a laudable purpose, then we will be prepared to place before them the WAYS by which it could be made to work successfully, if they will provide the MEANS, for we are resolved to make the CANADIAN MECHANICS' MAGAZINE—what it should be—the INSTRUCTOR and BENEFACTOR of the mechanics of the Dominion.