

nation. Mr. Storey's life presents to us an example for our admiration and imitation.

Born at Ayton, Yorkshire, England, in 1837, he had exceptional educational advantages up to the time he came out with his parents to Canada in 1845. Summerville, on Dundas Street, in York County, was his residence up to 1852, when he was left alone in the world by the death of his parents, he having no brothers or sisters.

Young as he was, he had made up his mind to master a trade and accordingly apprenticed himself to the late John G. Rogers, of Lambton Mills, to learn saddlery. Association with that upright and worthy man developed Mr. Storey's young character along the straightforward lines that have ever since characterized his public and private life. When his term as apprentice was ended he went into partnership with Mr. J. F. Taylor, and together they established the saddlery business of Storey & Taylor, in Acton, in 1856. Three years later Mr. Storey purchased his partner's interest in the concern and began to carry on the business himself.

In 1868 his keen foresight showed him that Canada was a great consumer of gloves and depended upon foreign manufacturers for her supply. The Canada Glove Works was accordingly established and from a small beginning Mr. Storey, by close personal attention to every detail of each department, built up a business turning out a range of products from the finest of kid to the coarsest mittens for binders and wood-choppers, and employing the services of some two hundred skilled operatives. His glove business was conducted as his saddlery business had been, and it might be mentioned as an indication of the character of the man and his work that sets of harness made in his shop were in constant use and in good condition twenty years after he had gone out of saddlery.

Mr. Storey never neglected his business affairs to mix in politics or matters municipal, but, nevertheless in 1874, when Acton was incorporated as a village, he was its first reeve and held that position many years, being its incumbent at the time of his death. In 1888 he was warden of the County of Halton, and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association recognized his sterling worth and executive ability by placing him in the presidential chair—a position which he occupied with credit no less to the association than to himself. On several occasions he was earnestly solicited to become a candidate for parliamentary honors, but he always declined on the ground of the necessity for his care over his large business interests. He was a director of the Manufacturers' Life Assurance Company, and the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and a member of the Executive Board of the Canadian Order of Woodmen of the World.

In 1857 Mr. Storey married Miss Hannah Jane Smith, daughter of Anson Smith, Esq., of Acton. One son and four daughters of this union are left to mourn his loss. Happy in his home life he was esteemed among all who knew him, and in Acton he was beloved of every one. Upon the day of his interment, business in Acton was suspended, and every flag in the town hung at half-mast. The obsequies were performed in the Methodist Church where he had been a regular attendant during his life, and a beautiful feature of the service upon his own suggestion, was the liberation of a white dove from a box on the casket upon the utterance of the words, "But the spirit has taken its flight."

Prominent men from all over the Province gathered to tender the last sad tribute to the man they honored. Should this brief history of his life encourage others to press forward it will not have been written in vain. Such a record of perseverance by unaided exertion cannot but inspire the young man of to-day to do likewise, and in the light of its value to us the life of William H. Storey has a significance broader and deeper, and a usefulness infinitely wider even than as it led to his own success.

CANADA'S PROSPERITY.

BY GEO. D. GRIFFIN.

President Rogers of the Toronto Board of Trade, in his inaugural address in lamenting the slow progress of Toronto in industrial and mercantile prosperity, stated:—"We should ascertain where obstructions to our progress exist, and have them removed." That is, that the Toronto Board of Trade should unite to discover the obstructions, and to remove them.

The Mayor of Toronto is, equally with President Rogers, alive to the interests of Toronto. To assist them the writer, from data collected from government returns, will try to exhibit four leading obstructions for the Mayor and President Rogers to present to their constituents for removal.

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FIRST.—EXCESS OF IMPORTS OVER EXPORTS.—The Mayor and President Rogers will find by the Government returns that, from 1850 to the end of 1895, the importers flooded Canada with \$1,011,000,000 of the products of foreign countries, in excess of our exports. These excess imports were balanced by stocks, bonds, mortgages and other securities, all drawing interest. And in referring to which The London Times, as far back as 1886, asked: "What is the matter with Canada, it appears to be living on borrowed money?" The financial theory of our Finance Ministers, of both political parties, has been that these excess imports have been balanced in some mythical way; but the securities referred to, and the annual interest paid on them, proves that Canada is in debt \$1,011,000,000 for the over-productions of foreign countries. And at an average of only five per cent., Canada has already paid over \$1,000,000,000 of interest thereon, that is \$1,000 per family, and not a dollar paid on the debt itself. That is a sum which would build all the railroads, canals and harbors in Canada. The interest now annually paid is not less than \$45,000,000. Data, furnished by The London Economist, shows that about \$35,000,000 of the interest goes to Britain, the other \$10,000,000 to Canadian money lenders. This interest now is \$17,000,000 more annually than all the tariff and excise tax collected by the Dominion Government. This is an obstruction that can be, and must be, removed before there can be true prosperity in Toronto and Canada. Practically, this is an immense importers' tax, yet where is the Board of Trade, or the Canadian statesman who has risen up for its removal?

This \$1,000,000,000 of interest has been paid on the over-productions of foreign countries flooded upon Canada by importers. The army of foreign producers employed by our importers in foreign countries making over-productions for Canada for the forty-five years from 1850 to the end of 1895, working at \$1.00 per day for 300 days in the year would average 72,278, and their wages paid out of our Canadian banks in gold have, for all these years, averaged \$433,668 for each and every week. Remember that that sum is simply for the imports in excess of exports. And yet in the limitless financial ignorance on this question too many cannot see that there was all the time a Canadian army averaging 72,278 standing idle ready to do the work which foreign nations were doing for us.

The imports from the United States in 1897, in excess of what they took of us, are reported to have been over \$13,000,000 which means that last year our importers employed over 40,000 producers in that country, and every week of the