

OUR LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

A VISIT TO MESSRS. T. CONNOR & SON'S CORDAGE WORKS.

An Enterprising Firm of Young Men who have Conquered Success in the Face of Many Difficulties.

Nineteen years ago Thomas Connor who a few years previous had commenced the manufacture of cordage in a small way died, leaving behind him a widow and four sons. Mr. Connor had been an industrious thrifty man, and his establishment, though small when judged by modern standards, was one of the largest and best equipped in the city. His boys or those of them who had left school had been instructed in the art of cordage making so that when left fatherless they were able to carry on the business. They were fortunate in having a mother possessed of rare business talent and with their own practical knowledge under her guiding hand, were able to increase their business every year. Difficulties had to be overcome, but the young men recognizing that a good article was always in demand, kept on making the best article that could possibly be made out of the best qualities of raw material. This proved the keystone of their success, for notwithstanding the competition forced upon them by larger concerns backed by almost unlimited capital, they were enabled to continue their business long after all other cordage works in the city had been closed down—and this at times in the face of most adverse circumstances. Their modest factory at the marsh bridge, after its size had been increased and steam machinery had replaced that driven by hand, was destroyed by fire. Discouraged but not undaunted the young men rebuilt on a larger scale in Lancaster. For several years they conducted their business most successfully in their new premises still cleaving to their original purpose of making a first-class article. In 1882 they purchased the extensive works of the defunct New Brunswick Cordage Company on Adelaide road. The works had only been erected a few years before and possessed many advantages over the sites Messrs. Connor had occupied before. They had been equipped with the latest modern machinery and were first class in every respect.

Fortune seemed to smile on the young men and everything seemed to augur a great future for them when one cold December night the building took fire and in a few hours the fine machinery and stout factory buildings were a smouldering heap of ashes. Nothing could be done during the winter, but as soon as spring opened the foundations of a marked degree. Mr. John Connor visited the United States and after a careful examination of the newest machinery was successful in making arrangements for the equipment of the building with the very latest inventions in labor saving machinery. Consequently when the new factory was set in motion four years ago it was not only as well equipped as any similar factory in the world, but it was a long way ahead of any of its competitors in Canada. The reputation of the firm as manufacturers of a first class article of cordage had spread through Ontario and Quebec and from the hour they started business afresh, orders have poured into them enabling them to keep continuously at work throughout the entire year, stopping only long enough to make such repairs as are always necessary in large factories. The New Brunswick Cordage Works are without exception the best equipped works in Canada and they turn out the finest qualities of rope of every size. Besides the manufacture of all classes and grades of manilla and hempen ropes, Messrs. Connor have recently added to the list of goods they make binder twine for reaping machines and tallow laid ropes for factories and mills. The latter class of ropes are made under a patent for an Ontario Company who are rapidly introducing their article into mills of every kind to replace rubber and leather belting. It is claimed that ropes of this special make are not only cheaper than either rubber or leather belting, but are also more durable and in many respects better. At all events rope is coming largely into use for transmitting power, and will no doubt in time be a great competitor of rubber and leather belts if it does not entirely replace them in the larger factories where expense has to be considered.

It used to be that all except the smallest sizes of rope was made in the rope walk, but now-a-days only heavy hawsers and tarred ropes are manufactured there. The introduction a few years ago of compound laying and coiling machinery has rendered it possible to manufacture ropes up to five inches by machinery. Messrs. Connor are the only firm having a complete outfit of the latest makes in this class of machinery and the latest improvements mean a great deal. They not only make a better class of goods, finer and better laid than by the old processes, but also greatly improve the appearance of the goods by making the coils neat and uniform in size. It is an interesting sight to witness a dozen of these machines at work making all sizes of rope from 6 and 9 thread up to 5 inch. The bobbins of thread are placed at one end of the machine and as they unroll the strands are first formed and then laid into rope. Besides rope the New Brunswick turns out many tons of binder twine annually. This is a large and growing trade. At present the consumption is practically in the West where the self-binding reaping machines is rapidly driving all competitors out of the market. Over 2,800 tons of twine were consumed during the present season and the estimated consumption for next year is 1,000 tons in excess of that of last year. In this article it is gratifying to note that the Canadian rope manufacturers supply large quantities of binder twine to the farmers of the Western States. Lath ties are also a specialty of the Messrs. Connor and this article which is extensively used in New Brunswick is also largely bought by the saw-mill owners of Ontario and Quebec.

Passing from the factory to the walk, the visitor is shown a building nearly 1,500 feet in length. Rope belts run down on both sides of the building, and supply the power for driving the forming and laying machines. The walk is a double one, having the machinery for forming the strands on one side and for

laying them into rope on the other. The coiling machinery is at the far end. Compared with former times, the walk is but little used, but the increased demand for the manufactures of the New Brunswick Cordage Works in other departments compels them to run the walk at its full capacity for the manufacture of large hawsers and tarred ropes of various sizes. The above gives but an imperfect idea of the manufacture of cordage. As intimated at the beginning of this article, the process is interesting. What only a few years ago had to be done entirely by hand is now done by machinery and better done than was probably by hand labor. By keeping abreast of all improvements in machinery the Messrs. Connor are enabled to manufacture cordage as good as the famous article turned out by New Bedford makers and better than any other maker in Canada. Besides the factory and the walk—which buildings cover a large extent of ground and are considerably over a mile in length—they have a brick building entirely devoted to steaming. This building is provided with tall chimneys for keeping the tar at an even temperature, and machinery for winding and unwinding the bobbins. So exact has this process become that a given quantity of tar can be put on a rope—that is, it can be thoroughly or only partially saturated, as occasion demands. Within a stone's throw of the tar house is the coal shed, oil and tar warehouse, while at the opposite end of the ground is the warehouse for raw material and manufactured cordage. A visit to this warehouse furnishes conclusive proof that the manufacture of the firm are in good demand, as considerably over two-thirds of the space is stored full of raw material, the other third containing however an assortment of sizes of rope to fill immediate orders.

Messrs. Connor have many other advantages over other concerns, and from the enterprise and business tact and ability they have already displayed there is every reason to hope that their establishment will continue to increase in size. They are all young men yet, and although they have had a business experience of upwards of twenty years the oldest member of the firm is not yet thirty-seven years of age. Their record is one of which any young man might be proud, and one of which their townsmen should also feel a degree of pride commensurate with the enterprise and ability displayed in making and managing so large a business—for the New Brunswick Cordage Works furnish employment for over 150 people. The best possible arrangements have been made to prevent fire. A hand fire engine and a quantity of hose are owned by the firm. They have a large steam pump in their boiler house, and two years ago sunk an artesian well which provides them with an inexhaustible supply of good water. Fire extinguishers are scattered throughout the building and a night watchman is kept on duty throughout the year.

Mrs. Langtry Innovates. (Two Years.) Freddy Gebhardt's treat is a subject of general comment at Newport. It occurred the other evening at the public bar of the United States Hotel, at which he, accompanied by Mrs. Langtry, ordered, before a promiscuous crowd of men, two glasses of a potent concoction, which he and his fair companion deliberately drank. This is an English custom which is not likely to become a general habit among refined folk. Mrs. Langtry has also introduced the unique practice of carrying a sunshade while riding home. She is a very graceful equestrian, an excellent whip, and her riding habits are the envy of all the fair riders at the Branch.

A Pittsburg parson recently delivered sermons under these titles: "How is the Score?" "He held an Ace Full;" "How is the Show?" "Who is the New Girl?" "Has She Just Struck the City?" "Let Us Have a Game of Pool;" "Are You Trying to Make a Mash?"

FACTS. I. Saint John has cooler and more enjoyable summer than any other city in America. II. Feet I, combined with the elevated position and perfect ventilating facilities of the St. John Business College renders study, during the warm weather, as agreeable as at any other time of the year. III. This combination of favorable circumstances is enjoyed by no similar institution. IV. We give no summer vacation. V. Students can enter at any time. VI. We give a fuller course of study than any other business college. VII. Telegraphy is a prominent specialty. Kerr's Book-keeping mailed to an address for \$1.00. Circulars mailed free. S. KERR, Principal.

WANTED. Hides, Calfskins, Sheepskins, Wool and Wool Pickings. Persons in the country sending the above will promptly receive the highest market prices. THOS. L. HAY, Store-room—Head of Alley, 15 Sydney St., Residence—41 DeLadoc Street.

SPECIAL GIFT SALE

Great London & China Tea Co's, No. 33 King Square, SATURDAY, SEP. 3rd. And ending the following Saturday. To purchasers of 2 lbs. of Tea we will give a handsome French China Mocha Cup and Saucer, worth 60c. ALSO—To Purchasers of 2 lbs. Tea @ 60c. lb., or 2 lbs. @ 50c. lb., or 5 lbs. @ 30c. lb., we will give a handsome pair of Bohemian Vases, worth \$1.00 a pair. Coffees always Fresh. Sugars at Net Cost.

G. L. & C. Tea Co's, 33 KING SQUARE.

Secretary's Notice.

The undersigned non-resident ratepayers of School District No. 1, Parish of Lunenburg, in the City and County of Saint John, hereby require to pay their respective School Rates, as set out in their names, together with the cost of advertising (6 cents each) within two months from this date, otherwise legal proceedings will be taken to recover the same: 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886

Dated June 1st A. D. 1887. A. H. DEMILL, Secretary.

HOTELS.

Hotel Dufferin, SAINT JOHN, N. B. FRED. A. JONES, Proprietor.

Royal Hotel, T. F. RAYMOND, Prop'r SAINT JOHN, N. B.

New Victoria Hotel, ST. JOHN, N. B. D. W. McCORMICK, Prop'r.

CONTINENTAL HOTEL! (LATE ROYAL.) King Square, St. John, N. B. G. RIX PRICE, Owner and Proprietor.

The Intercolonial Express Co. (LIMITED).

Canadian Express Co. for all points in the Province of Quebec and Ontario and the Western States, and at St. John with the American Express Co.

TO LET. Shop, No. 9 Canterbury St., Late Occupied by R. WELCH, as a Custom Tailor. Also SHOP, 161 BRUSSELS ST., Suitable for a Jobbing Blacksmith or Horse Shoeing. Immediate possession given. Rent Low. Apply to A. G. BOWES & CO., No. 21 Canterbury St.

J. D. McAvity, 39 BRUSSELS ST., DEALERS IN Coal and Groceries. Everybody says that McAvity's Buttermilk is the best in the City. J. D. McAVITY.

HOWE'S FURNITURE WAREROOMS.

City Market Building, German Street.

We have in Stock and are constantly Manufacturing Walnut Bedroom Suits, Wardrobes, Ash Bedro Suits, Hat Trees, Painted Bedroom Suits, Centre Tables, Bookcases, Whatnots, etc., Sideboards, Office Desks and Tables.

In Stock and made to order, Medium and Low priced Bedroom Suits, in great variety.

J. & J. D. HOWE.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., July 21st, 1887.

MR. JOHN HOPKINS, Union Street. Dear Sir,—For some years we have been using your pressed Beef and Tongue and have never experienced any injurious effects from their use. We have confidence in your care and method of preparing the same, that you would not allow anything to be done to affect their purity, and we have no hesitation in continuing the use of the same.

SIGNED: Henry J. Thorne, Mayor; Rev. W. O. Raymond; S. H. Sherwood; J. O. Hannab; J. E. Barnes; Fred. E. Reay; E. E. Kitchin; E. T. C. Kiersey; Thomas Likely; John Jackson; J. Fred. Sullivan; John McLavochian; Andrew McJee; Robt. A. Johnston; M. Hanna; Henry Harvey; John Risk; S. Kerr; Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite; Wm. M. Smith; Thos. C. Lambert; Jos. S. Wetmore; T. Parrow-Mott; W. H. Hayward; Rev. Henry Pope, D. D.; John Crislerbank; Thos. M. Robinson; Chas. C. Ward.

BOILED AND PRESSED YESTERDAY CORNED BEEF AND TONGUE.

Also, Something New PRESSED HAM Also, Fresh Meat, Poultry, Vegetables, Etc.

BOOTS, SHOES & SLIPPERS

FRANCIS & VAUGHAN, 19 KING STREET. Are now Showing a Splendid Assortment of Ladies' and Gents' Boots and Shoes, In all the Leading American Lines. ALSO THE BEST SELECTED STOCK OF Boys', Youths', Misses' and Children's Boots To be found in the City.

FRANCIS & VAUGHAN, 19 KING STREET.

LANDRY & CO., 52 King Street, St. John, N. B. Represent the following First Class Manufacturers. PIANOS. ORGANS. Steinway & Sons, Eskey Organ Co., Aug. Mann & Co., Mason & Hamlin Org. Co., Albert Weber, Ithaca Organ Co., J. & C. Fisher, Shoninger Organ Co., Emerson Piano Co. (with Chimes).

We are the only house in the Province devoted exclusively to Music, and conducted by practical Musicians. We supply the above instruments only, and do not deal in Bogus Pianos. Every instrument sold by us is guaranteed to give the best satisfaction. WE ALSO KEEP A FULL STOCK OF Small Musical Instruments, such as Violins, Banjos, Guitars, Cornets, Flutes, Fifes, Accordions, Harmonicas, &c.

MUSIC.

Our Stock of SHEET MUSIC and MUSIC BOOKS is the largest and best in the City. 50,000 Pieces of Music at 5 10 Cents. Send for our List of Cheap Music. LANDRY & CO., King Street, St. John, N. B.

Wines, Liquors, &c.

IN STOCK: PEDRO DOMINGO'S AND FORRESTER & Co.'s Pale, Very Pale, and Brown Sherries; Sandeman's and Silva & Co.'s Tawny and White Ports; Cognac, Gorton & Co.'s Madeiras; Hennessy, Martell, Bisquit & Co., and Pinet, Castillon & Co.'s Brandy; Vintage distilled in bottle, 1885; James Buchanan & Co.'s Scotch Whiskies; "The Buchanan Blend," (Same as supplied to the Entertainment Department, House of Commons, London); Dublin Whiskey Distillery, Bagots, Hutton & Co. and Phoenix Park Irish Whiskies. From one to six years old; Hiram Walker & Sons, 1870, Club Rye Whiskey; "Old Van Winkle's" Geneva, Ball & Dunlop's; Sir R. Barnett's Old Tom Gin. The above in wood and bottles.

Champagnes.

G. H. Mumm's Dry Verzenay, Extra Dry and Gordon Rouge; Veuve Clicquot, Yellow Label; Piper Heidsieck, etc. and Pils. Louis Dreyfus, Quilke Superieure, etc., etc., and etc. Together with a well assorted stock of other goods which I can confidently recommend to those requiring a pure article as being the finest brands imported. — ALSO — Which I am constantly receiving in medium and high grades.

M. A. FINN.

JOHN CHAMBERLAIN, FUNERAL FURNISHING Undertaker.

Adult Hearse, also White Hearse For Children. WAREROOM: No. 15 MILL STREET, RESIDENCE: 15 Main St., Portland, N. B.

MOXIE NERVE FOOD.

GINGER ALE

Bottled Soda, No. 15 NORTH WEARF, ST. JOHN, N. B.

J. A. WALLIS & SON.

A. E. POTE, Manager.