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PROSPERITY AHEAD.

Although there are still no symptoms of change, or much improvement in the demand for goods owing to the quietness which is inevitable at this season, merchants are able to see in the present outlook the hope and promise of a better time which must follow as a happy result from another abundant harvest, and it is the endeavor of every right-minded man in business to lead the country further forward by the observance of the sound economic principles which alone develop and maintain commerce. The crop prospects, together with the arrangements for the meeting of an European Congress have continued to depress the price of breadstuffs. Every where throughout Canada there is promise of a great crop of wheat; the acreage of barley is found to be nearly one-half less than last year but the yield is likely to be above an average. Unless the crops suffer from rust the yield will be unprecedented in the Dominion. Regarding the crops in the Western States a Chicago grain firm says:—

When the harvest is over it is to be made up they will certainly show very large totals; for instance, from the 1st of September, 1877, to the 25th of April, 1878, Great Britain imported 11,227,420 qrs. wheat and flour, a quantity which, considering that the wheat-sown surface of that country is over 3,200,000 acres, can be pronounced little less than enormous. Yet if we are to credit the reports which now reach us from all sides as to the growing crops in this country, these figures seem likely to sink almost into insignificance, as compared with those looming up in the near future. From the various sections of Illinois we have the most favourable reports; from Michigan we learn that the yield bids fair to become larger than was ever before known; from the Miami Valley comes the news that the winter-wheat crop is expected to be 'tremendous,' that there is little anxiety felt as to rust in the wheat, and no fears of anything unless it should be the fly; from Missouri and Southern Kansas arrive reports stating that the rains had washed off the red dust; from Nebraska we hear that that State has increased her wheat production this year from 60 to 75 per cent., and that farmers there are scarcely expecting to realize anything approaching the present prices for their wheat, while from California such adjectives as 'splendid' and 'magnificent' are used in speaking of the 1878 crops. As to the reports from such hitherto almost unknown wheat sections as Western Minnesota and Dakota, they too speak of abundance. The few cries of damage to crops are drowned by the general chorus proclaiming magnificent prospects, and grain expected to prove a drug on the market. The railroads find themselves called upon to get nearer to the farmers; we hear of extensions of existing lines being built or planned in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Colorado, and of preparations elsewhere to meet the great demands which it is considered will be made on the rolling stocks of the roads.

In a word, it would seem as though at last 'the teeming clouds' were to 'descend in gladsome plenty o'er the world' or at all events over the western portion thereof."

OTTAWA INDUSTRIES.

NEW EDINBURGH BRICK WORKS.

CLARK'S PATENT PRESSED WHITE BRICKS.

Montreal is justly celebrated for the number of its magnificent buildings, and few travellers pass through our city without the expression of admiration for not only the fine appearance of our public buildings, but also for the solidity with which they are constructed. The limestone, which is found so plentifully in close proximity to the city, is peculiarly adapted to the wants of the stone-cutter, and the latter are noted for their skill, and turn out specimens of their craft which would not discredit Italy itself. Our architects also deserve praise for their noble conceptions, and can point with pride to such buildings as the Windsor Hotel and others too numerous to mention in the limited space at our command. Yet we fancy that a variety would be not out of place, and we have often admired the dwellings in other cities erected with brick of a light shade of color. Hitherto the scarcity of this style of material and its high price have deterred our builders from its use, but we are, however, pleased to be able to say that both objections are now obviated, and to call the attention of our readers to the fact that Mr. T. M. Clark, proprietor of the New Edinburgh Brick Works, Ottawa, is prepared to supply his cream-colored white bricks, for which Dominion and United States patents were granted in 1876, in any quantity, and at such prices as must lead to their extended use. The final successful perfecting of these fine bricks has been the result of many years experience in experimenting with the raw material in order to discover a cheap process of bleaching or deoxidizing red brick clay, with which, with but little additional cost on that of red brick, the most beautiful cream or fawn colored bricks are produced. These bricks will favorably compare in density and uniform finish with the celebrated Philadelphia and Baltimore pressed bricks, and large deposits of the bleaching material used in their manufacture can be found in almost any part of Canada or the United States, and in the latter country there is a wide field for enterprise to work on, especially in St. Louis, Mo., and in the State of Vermont near the navigable waters of Lake Champlain, and in order to supply the cities in the States it is the intention of the proprietor of these works to organize a company to manufacture these fine bricks under his United States patent, thereby obviating the drawbacks to their general use attendant upon the expense now added to their cost by the United States duty on the finished bricks. During our visit to Ottawa we noticed that white bricks have been very extensively used in buildings

there, which on enquiry we learned were brought from Toronto at a cost of \$23 per thousand. This was all the more strange as they are not pressed brick, neither are they equal in quality, color or uniform finish to those manufactured at the New Edinburgh works, which latter are 8 dollars per thousand cheaper, whilst those who can judge quality of brick pronounce Clark's bricks to be worth a premium on the former. This invention, and the formation of the proposed company, is well worthy the attention of capitalists in Montreal, where is located vast deposits of the bleaching marl used in their manufacture. The excavation of the line of the Lachine Canal revealed large deposits of the raw material specially adapted for making the bricks, and we should be pleased to hear of sufficient inducement held out to Mr. Clark in order to open a branch of this new industry here. He is now prepared to become associated with any party willing to take hold of this enterprise and establish a branch for manufacturing in Montreal, and any one visiting the New Edinburgh Works, which are now in full operation making these bricks, can obtain full particulars and much interesting information from Mr. Clark, who is always pleased to afford the same, and who will be found to be a most courteous and genial gentleman. The qualities above claimed for these bricks, and their value as a superior article, is endorsed by all our leading architects, therefore the industry is one which will not only retain its present substantial standing, but must advance and rank ere long as another of Canada's leading items of manufacture and export. Capitalists who will avail themselves of the present favorable opportunity of establishing a monopoly cannot fail to reap profitable returns for investments. Contractors and builders will do well to place themselves in correspondence with Mr. T. M. Clark, and satisfy themselves of the truth of our remarks concerning quality, etc. According to the tests made at the Stephens Institute, these bricks will stand a pressure of over 6,000 lbs. to the square inch, and, being made in the newest improved Philadelphia presses, they have the same finish and density as the bricks made in that city, which are so famous throughout the continent. They can be ordered moulded to any shape, or ornamented as required according to any particular design or fancy. Circulars and price lists giving full particulars, also certificates from many well-known architects who certify as to their superior quality, can be had on application. To those interested in the above products, we wish in conclusion to state that our remarks are the result of observation and impartial enquiry, made during our recent visit to the city of Ottawa, and the works under notice. In Montreal Mr. Clark is represented by Mr. Hector Munro, 60 St. James street, where samples of the brick can be seen of this year's make, which are vastly superior to those turned out previously. Another very important feature in this business is this, we have throughout this Dominion large deposits of this marl or tufa, having