

Milling in the West.

PROGRESS OF THE INDUSTRY DURING 1888.

OUR MILLS CAN GRIND 8,500,000 BUSHELS OF WHEAT ANNUALLY.

The milling industry in Manitoba and Western Canada continues to expand, though the number of new mills established during last year was not as large perhaps as in one or two other years since 1882, in which year the first roller process mills were established in the country. A list of roller process mills in Manitoba and the Territories, published a little over a year ago, was as follows:—In Winnipeg there are three mills with an aggregate capacity of 1,800 barrels per day. The other mills have a capacity of from 50 to 300 barrels each per day. They are located at the following places (one at each place):—Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Carberry, Oak Lake, Virden, Moosomin, Indian Head, Qu'Appelle Station, Fort Qu'Appelle, Moose Mountain, Assessippi, Prince Albert, Regina, Rapid City, Plum Creek, Shoal Lake, Morden, Crystal City, Stonewall, Balmoral, Wolseley, Minnedosa and Millwood. Since this list was published, two mills were destroyed by fire. These were the McMillan mill in Winnipeg, capacity about 300 barrels; and Leitch Bros. mill at Oak Lake, Man., capacity about 100 barrels. A mill at Portage la Prairie, not included in the above list, and run partially on the roller process, was also burned about the same time. The other mills mentioned in the list have all been in operation during 1888, with the exception of the one at Indian Head, which has been closed down for some time.

THE INDUSTRY EXPANDING.

Though the destruction of these mills by fire temporarily reduced the milling capacity of the hard wheat section of Canada, yet this loss has been more than made up by the construction of new mills. The following new mills were completed and put in operation during last year:—A large mill at Keewatin, with a capacity of 1,200 per day; a mill at Oak Lake, to replace the one burned, with a capacity of about 250 barrels; a mill at Holland and another at McGregor, Man., having each a capacity of about 100 barrels. It will thus be seen that though the destruction of the mills by fire decreased the milling capacity of the country by about 400 barrels per day, the construction of new mills has added about 1,650 barrels to the daily capacity during 1888, or a net gain of 1,250 barrels per day.

The complete list of roller mills in the hard wheat region of Canada can now be given as follows:—Two mills at Winnipeg, with an aggregate capacity of say 1,400 barrels daily. On the main line of the C. P. R. east of Winnipeg, one mill at Keewatin, capacity 1,200 barrels daily. On the C. P. R. main line west from Winnipeg, one mill at each of the following places, in their order going westward:—Portage la Prairie, McGregor, Carberry, Brandon, Oak Lake, Virden, Moosomin, Wolseley, Indian Head, Qu'Appelle Station, Regina. On the Manitoba & Northwestern railway, one mill at Minnedosa, one at Shoal Lake, one at Millwood, and one at Rapid City. On the C. P. R. Pem-

bina branch, one mill at Morden and one at Crystal City. On the Southwestern branch, one at Holland. On the Stonewall branch, one at Stonewall. The following mills are located at points off the railways:—One at Balmoral, north of Stonewall; one at Assessippi, Russell county, Man.; one at Fort Qu'Appelle, north of Qu'Appelle Station; one at Moose Mountain, south of Moosomin; one at Plum Creek, south of Brandon; one at Prince Albert, in Saskatchewan territory, the latter the most northerly roller mill on the continent. In all we have therefore a list of

TWENTY-EIGHT ROLLER MILLS,

and all established during and since the year 1882. The capacity of the various mills outside Winnipeg and Keewatin mills, may be estimated at 150 barrels each, or a total of 3,900 barrels per day. Adding the capacity of the Winnipeg and Keewatin mills to this, we would have the grand total of 6,500 barrels per day. There are also several of the old stone process mills which have been in operation during the past year, for a portion of the season. They would not, however, add much to the grinding capacity of the country. At 4½ bushels of wheat to the barrel of flour, our mills could grind nearly 30,000 bushels of wheat per day, or say 8,500,000 bushels in a year, providing they were kept running pretty steadily, on full time. Only a few of the mills, however, run full time, that is, day and night, and several are usually closed down during a portion of the year. From statistics gathered by the Winnipeg board of trade, it is learned that from the crop of 1887, the mills in Manitoba ground 2,600,000 bushels of wheat, of which 1,950,000 bushels were exported. This was only the work of the Manitoba mills, and did not include the eight mills included in our list, which are located in the Territories, west of Manitoba. Exports of flour from Manitoba for the present crop year, should be considerably larger than last, as the large Keewatin mill alone can grind 5,400 bushels of wheat per day. A number of the smaller mills through the country work mainly for the local and farmers' trade.

THE OUTLOOK FOR 1889.

The present season does not promise as prosperous for the millers as last year, owing to the high price which has ruled for wheat throughout the hard spring wheat region of this continent, in comparison with the prices obtainable for flour. Millers in the winter wheat districts to the south, have been buying their wheat proportionately much cheaper than ruling prices in the hard spring wheat region. Despite this discouragement to the millers, there is every probability that the milling industry in Western Canada will be considerably extended during 1889. Several new mills are already projected, including a 600 barrel mill which will be built by Hastings Bros. & Co., of Winnipeg. This mill will likely be located at Port Arthur, on Lake Superior. Work will commence at once on this mill. Though some distance east of the Manitoba boundary, this mill will grind western wheat exclusively. In the far west, there is almost a certainty that a mill will be built at Calgary, Alberta Territory, during the coming summer. Regina, 356 miles west of Winnipeg, is now the most westerly point in the

prairie country having a mill. Calgary is 840 miles west of Winnipeg. In Manitoba there are a number of projected mills, at various points, and in some instances local bonuses have been offered to assist these enterprises. It is, therefore, likely that some of these projected mills may be built during next summer. There are oatmeal mills, one each at Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, and also an oatmeal mill in connection with the flour mill at Brandon, and another in connection with a grist mill at St. Leon, all in Manitoba.

Be Polite.

"Nobody who knows anything will deny the advantages that arise from being polite," says the *Men's Outfitter*. "Under no circumstances lose your temper. No matter what a customer says to you, smile pleasantly. If you sell him a pair of all-wool half-hose and he sneeringly says they're cotton, don't contradict him flatly. Simply smile as though you appreciated the humor of this remark. Make him think he is a born humorist, and cannot help saying funny things. When he tells that he can for 50 cents buy the same scarf for which you are asking 75 cents, do not lose your patience; smile some more, and if you can, without attracting too much attention or wasting too much time, hold your sides and laugh immoderately, as though you had just encountered the most expert mirth provoker in the world. You may be sure the delicacy of such attention will be appreciated."

Duluth and Winnipeg.

The position of the land grant in Minnesota to the Duluth and Winnipeg road, will be shown by the following from the *Mississippi Valley Lumberman*:—

Before the Duluth & Winnipeg railway, work upon which was commenced last fall, comes into possession of the swamp land grant, which was originally attached to the charter, there is likely to be a sharp contest in the courts, and possibly considerable manœuvring in the legislature. At the session of the legislature two years ago the land grant was transferred conditionally to the Brainerd & Northwestern, which is now controlled by the Manitoba. Recently the Duluth & Winnipeg made application to the governor for deeds to swamp lands claimed by the company. Action was begun by the Brainerd & Northwestern to restrain the Winnipeg from getting patents on the ground that its right had become forfeited, and that the Brainerd had succeeded to it, having performed the conditions to date. The action is for an injunction. An order was obtained to show cause why a temporary injunction should not be granted. The governor, on application, in view of opposing claims, decided to give a deed for part of a single section to the Duluth & Winnipeg, on the ground that it would furnish the means for an action to test the title of the land. The Brainerd & Northwestern did not desire to have a stay pending the action, and offered to stipulate, to waive the stay, and gave notice to that effect and practically abandoned the motion. The attorney for the Duluth & Winnipeg appeared and objected to such a course. The action for injunction is still pending, and will come on for hearing at the April term at Duluth.