

H. F. J. Porter, of the Bethlehem Iron Company, lectured to a large audience at the 521st meeting of the Society of Arts, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, recently. His subject was "Modern Forging," and he presented in a very interesting way, with numerous illustrations by the stereopticon, the methods in vogue at the Bethlehem works of forging such articles as hollow and solid shafts, dynamo field rings, guns and armor plate. Defects in the old methods of forging and the steps leading to the present methods were well explained.

We cannot too highly commend the work done by the Thorold and Beaver Dams Historical Society in giving to the public such a comprehensive record of the events which have made that quarter of the Niagara peninsula the Peloponnesus of Canada. The heroic tramp of Laura Secord, 19 miles through a snake-infested woods to warn Lieut. Fitzgibbon of the enemy's approach, the capture of the whole American force by a handful of British as a result of this warning, and many other deeds of daring during the war of 1812, are recounted here, while the less dramatic but equally heroic achievements of peace—the tedious assaults on the primeval forests, the transformation of the woods into wheat fields and of the marshes into gardens—are recorded with a faithful pen. Nor is the industrial and social progress of the township and town overlooked, many instructive bits of history and biography being scattered through the 289 pages of the volume. In fact it is only by the light of such work that the real history of the Canada that is yet to be can be compiled. Much interesting information is given about the Welland canal. The family of Keefer, of whom Thos. C. Keefer, C. H. Keefer and others have been so prominent in the engineering annals of the country, are found among the many sturdy early settlers. The pre-factory days, when the spinning-wheel and the hand-loom were in evidence and the stage coach and ox-wagon were the only means of transport, are truthfully sketched, while the record of the first mills and industrial establishments is very instructive. It is interesting to find, for instance, that Thorold had in 1847 what was undoubtedly the first cotton mill in Ontario, though not the first in Canada, as alleged, for a cotton mill existed in Sherbrooke in 1814, and it is equally worthy of record that this town had the first regular electric railway in Canada, the Thorold and St. Catharines line having been opened on the 5th October, 1887. Taken altogether, the Jubilee History of Thorold is a model of its kind, and is eminently creditable to John H. Thompson, the compiler, and to The Thorold Post Printing and Publishing Co., whose establishment did both the printing and binding.

Industrial Notes.

Lesperance & Theriault, plumbers, Montreal, have dissolved partnership.

Ronald McDonald will establish a machine shop, it is said, in Pictou, N.S.

Edward J. O'Brien has registered as proprietor of the Peoples Plumbing Co., Montreal.

The Bennet Furnishing Co., London, Ont., is about to install a Leonard Engine of the self-oiling type.

T. Dexter, of Sebringville, Ont., has bought the North Branch flour mills, London, Ont., formerly owned by Robb Bros.

Gananoque, Ont., is applying to the legislature for permission to make a loan to Wm. McKenzie to establish a furniture factory.

The Sarnia, Ont., Salt Co. is building a dock, warehouse, etc., and will very shortly be turning out salt and other products.

The Dominion Government has closed a contract for 40,000 bags of cement from the United States at \$2.20 per barrel, laid down in Montreal.

There is an amendment to the Ontario Municipal Act which is aimed at the bonus evil. By it only cases of loss by fire are fit subjects for aid from a bonus and then only when a two-thirds vote of the ratepayers qualified to vote has been obtained.

The Iron Manufacturers' Association of Canada met recently in Montreal and advanced prices on manufactured goods owing to a rise in iron prices.

The lumber mill of C. T. White, Apple River, N.S., which was destroyed last spring, will be rebuilt it is understood during the present winter.

The Nova Scotia Pork Packing Co., Middleton, N.S., has employed F. F. Judd, Boston, U.S.A., to supply the plans, superintend the construction of the building and the installing of the machinery.

The very novel and suggestive advertisement of the Penberthy automatic injector on another page conveys very clearly the idea that an ocean of water is supplied to steam boilers all over the world by the Penberthy injectors.

A. L. Davis, W. J. R. Sims, J. R. Stratton, W. G. Morrow and A. A. Cox, Peterborough, Ont., are applying for incorporation as the Trent Valley Peat Fuel Company, Ltd., to manufacture peat for fuel purposes; capital, \$5,000; chief place of business, Peterborough.

During the recent elections in New Brunswick a great deal of discussion centred on the bridge contracts which had been carried out by the Record Foundry Co., Moncton, at 6½ cents per lb., at the works. The Dominion Bridge Co. quotes 2.65 to 3 cents per lb. for similar work.

An Ontario charter has been granted to S. A. King, M.D., and O. E. Fleming, Windsor, Ont.; C. M. Walker, W. C. Kennedy, Walkerville, Ont., and J. H. Brown, of Rural Retreat, U.S.A., as the Diamond Harrow Company of Windsor, Ltd., to manufacture agricultural implements; capital, \$30,000.

T. Simms & Co., of St. John, who recently purchased the old saw mill, spool and box factory on the German Brook, Hardington, N.B., together with 700 acres of woodland, formerly owned and operated by L. P. Hayden, are putting machinery in the spool and box factory to make brushes.

An interesting folder has reached us from the J. Stevens Arms & Tool Co., Chicopee Falls, Mass., U.S.A., which gives details of the Stevens rifles, of which some new features of great value are the new model pocket or bicycle rifle, and the ideal sporting and hunting rifle, which is very low priced, but accurate in aim, and fully guaranteed by the company.

The boiler in R. O. Konkle's sawmill, Beamsville, Ont., exploded February 18th, causing damage to property in the vicinity. The engineer had just left the boiler room and was unhurt. John Konkle, son of the owner, was injured. The mill building was demolished, and the trees for five hundred yards were damaged, the boiler being thrown that far.

James Wright, of the wholesale and retail hardware firm of James Wright & Co., London, died a short time ago. Mr. Wright, who was one of London's oldest business men, came to Canada in 1858, and after teaching school six years, commenced business in partnership with James Cowan. On the dissolution of that partnership, he went into the wholesale trade, in which he was very successful. From his first settlement in London he took an active part in everything tending to the substantial growth of the city, and was for twenty years a member of the school board.

We have seen plans of the proposed alterations to the Toronto premises of the Union Bank of Canada. When completed, the building will be nearly as wide again as at present, and the front will be on the street line. The banking offices will be inside the easterly entrance, while a new doorway will be placed at the west front. It is intended that the offices other than those for the bank's use, shall be fitted up in a modern manner for general business purposes. The whole effect of the reconstruction will be very fine. Bond & Smith, architects, Temple Building, Toronto, are the architects.

An amendment to the Municipal Act now before the Ontario legislature provides that the corporation shall have power to supply water upon special terms to any corporation or person, whether resident without or within the municipality, including powers to construct, erect and maintain all pipes and mains requisite for the undertaking and for conveying and distributing water to such corporation or person in, upon and through any highway lying between any of their reservoirs, waterworks, pipes and mains and the lands or premises of the corporation or person to be supplied with water.