

but as business extends the number will be increased. The new works will be located adjoining the bolt works, which are just without the Western boundary of Toronto, on the shore of Lake Ontario, and where easy access is had by water. The site is already connected by a siding from the Grand Trunk Road, and the Canadian Pacific people give a positive assurance that they will make a connection with the works as soon as it is required.

The new works will make from the smallest to the largest sizes of round, square, flat, oval and other shapes of bar iron, and about one-half of the product will be rolled from hammered scrap blooms, most of which will be produced by charcoal knobbling process. It is estimated that the buildings for the works will cost \$6,000 and the machinery, including three trains of rolls, etc., for an output of 60 tons of finished iron per day, will cost about \$60,000.

Mr. C. E. Doolittle, of the Ontario Rolling Mill Company, of Hamilton, has been chosen president of the new concern, and it is expected that the work of constructing the plant will be pushed with sufficient vigor to ensure its going into operation next fall.

GASOLINE STOVES NOT DANGEROUS.

SOME two years ago when the fire insurance companies in New York and neighboring states were making just such a fight against the use of gasoline stoves there as Canadian companies are now doing here, two of the most prominent gentlemen in the State of New York engaged in the manufacture of the article—Messrs. John S. Perry, of Perry & Co., and Grange Sard, of Rathbone, Sard & Co.—prepared a paper which they submitted to the New York State Board of Underwriters, showing that the fire risk is no greater, but rather less, in dwellings where gasoline stoves are used, than in those where coal or wood stoves are used. Their paper exhibited statistics obtained from eighteen towns in several states, in which careful estimates placed the number of gasoline stoves in use at 27,475. During the twelve months over which the enquiries extended the fires and alarms of fire aggregated 3,261. Of the known causes 1,131 were directly connected with the use of coal or wood stoves. Of these causes 382 were defective flues, and 386 were chimneys burning out; sparks causing 197 fires; while but 47 fires were charged to gasoline stoves.

But these fires which were charged to the use of gasoline stoves never originated from "explosions" of them, for it is impossible for such stoves to explode. There is nothing about them that can explode—nothing to explode—and the fires alluded to could only have resulted from gross carelessness in handling the gasoline. This contention is corroborated by the declaration of the Chief of the Underwriters' Salvage Corps, at St. Louis, who testifies:—"I do not consider gasoline stoves a great source of danger, as they never explode. In the few cases where they do cause fires it is always from ignition."

In the paper of Messrs. Perry and Sard, above alluded to, they say:—"It should be understood that the use of gasoline stoves take the place of the ordinary coal or wood stoves. Thus for the six months that they are generally in use there is absolutely no risk from those fruitful sources of loss—defective flues, burning chimneys, sparks from chimneys, over-heated

and carelessly managed stoves, over-heated and defective stove pipes, and ash barrels. And it is for this reason we wish to show to this board that in the use of gasoline stoves for culinary purposes, in place of those in which wood or coal is used, the general risk is very largely decreased."

In the report of the Chief of the Fire Department of the city of Buffalo, New York, for the year ending June 30, 1885, some very significant facts are given regarding the use of gasoline stoves. Buffalo is a city of about twice the number of inhabitants as Toronto, and the number of gasoline stoves in use there is estimated at over 10,000. The following figures, taken from the report, relate only to the actual fires in which loss resulted:—Defective chimneys, thirty-six fires, loss, \$22,083; over-heated stoves, twenty-five fires, loss, \$14,517; lamp explosions, twenty fires, loss, \$6,247; lamp upset, one fire, loss, \$188,328; gas jet, one fire, loss, \$252,728; "gasoline explosions," two fires, loss, \$2,765.

It will be observed that there were two fires charged to "gasoline explosions" which resulted in a loss of only \$2,765, while two other fires, charged to "lamp upset" and "gas jet" resulted in a loss of \$441,056. In other words, for every dollar lost by so-called "gasoline explosions," one hundred and sixty dollars were lost by carelessness in the use of lamps and gas. In the two instances relating to gasoline, the gentleman at whose residence one of the fires occurred stated, one of them, that there was no explosion whatever, a small quantity of gasoline in the kitchen having become accidentally ignited, causing damage to the extent of twenty-five dollars only; and the other that the fire was caused by illuminating gas, and not gasoline.

PERPETUATING IGNORANCE.

THERE was a meeting of the trustees of the public schools of Toronto held in this city last week at which a remarkable spectacle was presented. According to a unanimous resolution passed at a recent meeting of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council, a deputation, which had been thus appointed, waited upon the school trustees, and Mr. W. H. Parr, president of the council and chairman of the committee, explained that they attended for the purpose of opposing a scheme said to be before the Board to institute a system of manual training in the public schools of the city. To such a scheme the Trades and Labor Council was totally opposed, as the inevitable result would be to increase the number of workmen. Mr. Henry Lloyd, of the Carpenters' Union, said his constituents looked on this subject as seriously affecting them. At present he knew of only three apprentices to the carpentering trade in Toronto, and if a number of boys were taught the use of carpenter's tools at school the result would be that they will go out as full-fledged but incompetent workmen. He also stated that he had to "confess with shame that the best class of workmen came from the Old Country, owing to the cessation of the apprentice system here."

Mr. H. A. E. Kent, chairman of the School Board, in replying stated that the trustees were not pledged to any particular scheme looking to the manual training of the school boys, but they were possessed of a strong desire to meet an evident public demand for their technical education. Mr. Hughes, school