

the only other locality where this can be done being Boulogne, in Germany. The carbonate of lime is also a valuable article of commerce, used for cleaning jewellery. It is perfectly free from sand, and gives a bright polish without leaving the slightest scratch. It seems almost providential that the calcareous clay used in making "Portland" cement should be found directly underneath the strata of carbonate, but such is the case, and the ease with which it is secured must considerably lessen the cost of manufacture.

Specimens of the cement which have been officially tested have stood a higher strain than any other cement, and City Engineer Sproatt, of Toronto, who visited and examined the deposit, has expressed himself as satisfied that Canada can now produce a cement that has hitherto been purchasable only in England or Germany.—*Toronto Globe*.

THE RATHBUN COMPANY.

In describing the town of Deseronto, Ont., a correspondent of the *Canada Lumberman* gives the following information concerning the Rathbun Company, whose headquarters and chief works are at that place:—

The Rathbun Company is strictly confined to the family of the Rathbuns. Mr. E. W. Rathbun is president and manager of the company, and is assisted by Messrs. F. S. and H. B. Rathbun. Some forty years ago Mr. Rathbun came to Deseronto, then a small hamlet, and commenced operations by erecting a sawmill with a capacity of about 30,000 feet a day.

The little mill of thirty-eight years ago and small office, has given place to a palatial building for office purposes, 45x85 feet, three stories high, and fitted with every modern convenience, and fire proof, with their own terra cotta fire proofing material, from cellar to roof, at an estimated cost of erection of some \$20,000. They now have two mills with a capacity of 200,000 and 50,000 feet a day respectively, a shingle mill of 200,000 shingles a day capacity; a flouring mill with 200 barrels a day output; a car works, where they can completely make and turn out four cars per day. This company has also boiler shops where they make locomotive, stationary and marine boilers; machine shops where they build locomotive, stationary and marine engines; and have a full equipment of steam hammers and all modern machinery necessary for

executing first-class work. Their door, sash and blind factory is a building of 400x75 feet, two stories high, and in it they manufacture doors, sashes and blinds which they ship to all parts of the world, besides supplying the home trade. Their chemical works are composed of a nest of eight charcoal kilns, with a capacity of fifty cords each per day. In their terra cotta works they make porous terra cotta fire-proof building materials, flat arches, segment arches, for protection of iron girders and iron columns, partitions, roof linings, furring, etc., and porous terra cotta hard bricks for sewers, drain tiles, etc. This is a daily increasing industry, and the manufactures of this branch are now being used by architects and builders in the large cities and towns throughout the Dominion. It was used in the buildings of the Bank of Commerce, New Canada Life Insurance Co., and Board of Trade offices in Toronto, and in many large buildings in Montreal.

Some conception of their lumber operations may be formed by the fact that their estimated handling from their own mills during the past year are from fifty-five to sixty millions of board lumber and some ten million feet of short lumber, lath, etc. In addition to above they operate rented mills at Ottawa, Calumet, Hawkesbury, Hungerford and Chandos, which swell their annual output to the respectable total of about 100 millions of board lumber for the past year.

In addition they own and run a fleet of some six steamers and ten sailing craft; the sailers are used for lumber carrying only, and a portion of the steam craft are used for passengers and freight, and make daily trips to many ports in Ontario and U.S., and in some instances trips twice and thrice daily.

This mammoth firm also own the Bay of Quinte railway (four miles), Napanee, Tamworth and Quebec railway (sixty miles), and the Thousand Islands railway (four miles). They are also bankers and general merchants.

Besides their great central establishments at Deseronto (where they have a perfect system of fire-saving and appliances for same, and which are hired by the Deseronto corporation in time of need), they have some nineteen branch houses in the Dominion of Canada and agencies in England, Scotland, United States, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

The staff employed necessary to efficiently conduct this gigantic concern, including agencies and the wood operations, is roughly estimated to consist of some 3,500 men, boys and girls.

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