

The Canadian Manufacturer.

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FREDERIC NICHOLLS, *Editor.*

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This Journal has won for itself an acknowledged position amongst Trade Journals and is recognized as the representative industrial paper of Canada. All the various industries of the country are represented in its columns, and it has been for years the fearless and consistent advocate of those reforms which were indispensable to the success of the Manufacturers. It now reaches nearly every mill and factory in the Dominion, and its influence is constantly increasing.

As a medium for advertisements of machinery, steam appliances, mill and factory supplies, etc., it is unequalled, and our rates will be furnished on application.

Communications from Manufacturers, Exporters, and others, are respectfully invited.

Any association of manufacturers who may desire to hold meetings for organization or other purposes, are invited to avail themselves of the meeting room adjoining the office of the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.

MR. FREDERIC NICHOLLS is Secretary of
The Canadian Manufacturers' Association,
The Woolen Manufacturers' Association, and
The Tanners' Association.

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GREETING.

To every Canadian we wish individual prosperity and that they may long live to watch the progress of our national greatness. How is it some are more apt to observe with admiration the advancement of other countries than our own, although, comparatively speaking, there is no country on the face of the earth that has surmounted so many difficulties with so much credit as this Canada of ours? We ask every reader of this paper if he does not experience a feeling of pardonable pride, a touch of honest egotism, when he thinks or reads of the achievements our hardy and fearless forefathers, the pioneers of history, supplemented by the perseverance and enthusiastic enterprise of our agricultural, industrial and commercial community of later days. It has been these, our countrymen, who have transformed a literal howling wilderness, "a few arpents of snow," into a country which is the pride of every dweller within its bounds, a nation of but five millions—but such a five millions!

Our national credit ranks with the highest in the money markets of the world; our artificial waterways and railways respectively are marvels of engineering skill and national pluck; our public school system is renowned as far as the outermost confines of civilization; our farmers are intelligent, frugal and prosperous; our commerce stands upon a sure foundation and is honorably conducted, and our manufacturers are "still achieving, still pursuing," until phenomenal as their success has been, it has been but the measure of the success of all classes.

It was John Quincy Adams who once said: "The great interests of our agricultural, commercial and manufacturing nation are so linked in union together that no permanent cause of prosperity to one of them can operate without extending its influence to the others." This sentiment is as applicable to the Canada of to-day as it was to the American Republic when voiced by the lips of the President of the United States. Let us, believing in the truth of this sentiment, endeavor to live up to it! Let us, whilst striving after individual success not forget our patriotism.

We have a country to be proud of; we have conquered the wilderness; we have met and vanquished with chivalric spirit enemies from without and within; we have gained dignity as a nation and we have earned respect as a people. That each and every Canadian may strive to add lustre to the shield of our united Provinces and work in harmony for Canadian preferment, is our best and truest wish for the new year.

CONVICT LABOR.

HIS HONOR JAMES SHAW SINCLAIR, Esquire, Judge of the county of Wentworth, at his court recently held in Hamilton, received a presentment from the grand jury in which they said:—

* * The inmates of the jail were surrounded by comforts which the honest poor of the county cannot always secure. If convict labor is objectionable, it appears to the grand jury that convict idleness is much more so, and it seems to the grand jury to be a singular substitute for penal servitude. The grand jurors believe that punishment for crime, if intended as a deterrent, must be effectual, and if convicts were compelled to labor, and labor hard, it might happen that, when restored to society, the habit would stick to them, and thus effect a permanent reformation.

In addressing the grand jury in reply to their presentment, the Judge spoke very strongly on that part referring to this subject. He said he had often thought it strange that some arrangement had not been made whereby prisoners might be kept at work, and hard work, as a punishment for the offences they had committed against the public. Sending a man to jail is no punishment. If the prisoners were made to work, and thus earn enough to pay for their keep, it would be a good thing. At present the respectable and law-abiding citizens are taxed to pay for the keeping of the prisoners in idleness. They should be made to work, by way of making restitution for the offences they had committed against society. In many States of the Union such had been tried, and with success, too, until the labor organizations brought influence to bear against the prison contract system. While the system was in vogue, Sing Sing was a self-supporting institution, but now there is a heavy deficiency. He thought the County Council should do something to provide some means for enabling and making prisoners to earn something.

In the issue of this journal of October 21st last we took occasion to comment upon the remarks of the Hon. Justice Armour, made at the Brantford Fall Assizes, regarding prison labor, His Lordship speaking in much the same strain as did Judge Sinclair.