

excluded from any place where Berlin wool work is admitted; to say nothing of the wretched daubs which pass current as paintings. However we enter the fine arts court, passing on our way some capital specimens of native birds, and bring up opposite a head by Rubens. I cannot say whether this is an original, probably not, but any rate it is an excellent copy. There are also two Madonnas strikingly different in treatment and coloring; some good landscapes by Meadows and Stansfield, and a capital picture of sheep, by Van Everdenck, a Belgian painter; it is perhaps rather deficient in tone, but the drawing is good. There is a good copy of the celebrated picture, *Covenanters in the Highland*. Of the productions of native artists, the most prominent are the oil paintings of Mr. J. W. Gray, of which there are a large number. They are all landscapes, and have all the same characteristics. They are sadly deficient in tone, the greens are excessively green, and the drawing is not always correct, yet some of them possess considerable merit, and are creditable specimens of native talent.

I pass by the Berlin wool of which there are a good many specimens, to notice some exquisite wreaths of sea-weed, and another of autumn leaves. There is a picture constructed of birch bark, which conveys a capital idea of the interior of a ruined abbey. In the centre of the court is a model of a church constructed of sea shells; and some specimens of penmanship, from the commercial college of Eaton & Co, of Toronto, who have recently opened a branch establishment in St. John. In one of these specimens fame is apostrophised in the following elegant strain.

O! Fame to thee my prayer I bring
Craving a pinion from thy wing,
That I may teach admiring men,
The wondrous beauties of the Pen.

And in another place under an exceedingly uncomfortable looking portrait of a child, I find it declared that—

Your plastic pen by frequent use,
May fishes, birds, and beasts produce.

When one looks at the portrait we become profoundly impressed with the truth of the assertion.

I cannot conclude these necessarily imperfect notes without bearing testimony to the highly efficient labors of the committee of management. If all was not accomplished that could have been desired, much more was done than could reasonably have been expected, and I have no doubt that the next exhibition will see a great advance even over this one just closed. At all events the Province has gained a valuable stand point from which to estimate its future progress, and an amount of general interest has been evoked which can but be productive of much good.

St. John, N.B., Oct. 10th, 1867.

THE ST LAWRENCE GLASS COMPANY.

THE works of this company situated near the St. Joseph Street toll-gate, were formally opened on Monday last, but owing to unavoidable delays, they were not entirely finished, nor ready for the manufacture of glass, as was expected to have been the case. Quite a number of ladies and gentlemen assembled to witness the inauguration, and after examining the buildings and works as far as completed, partook of a Champagne lunch provided for the occasion. Toasts, usual at such a time, were given and responded to, after which the company separated.

For the information of our readers at a distance, we may state that the St. Lawrence Glass Company numbers among its stockholders, some of the wealthiest, most energetic, and enterprising capitalists of Montreal, such as Messrs. William Workman, Peter Redpath, A. M. DuLac, William Dow, and many others, and to see the success of the undertaking, the Secretary, Mr. A. Mich. Cochrane, (who was the originator of the whole affair) and the Superintendent, Mr. Edgington, are admirably adapted for the positions which they respectively occupy. In one respect the stockholders of this company are in a better position than those of any other Limited Liability Company of which we have any knowledge. This consists in the fact that Mr. Cochrane guarantees a dividend of twelve and a half per cent. per annum to them, an amount for which his interest in the company we believe renders him quite responsible. This guarantee secures to the stockholders a more than ordinary return for the money they have invested, and shows the confidence entertained by Mr. Cochrane in the success of the undertaking. We learn that already, large orders are being offered, and that, to fill these orders, the works will be fully occupied for some time to come. We wish all success to the St. Lawrence Company and its operations.

A NEW RECIPROCITY TREATY.

EVERY commercial man who understands the laws of trade, either in Canada or the United States, favours the abolition of the barriers which have lately been erected to the detriment of the commerce of the two countries. Why then, should we not have a new Reciprocity treaty? We are certain that no good and sufficient reason can be urged to the contrary. But it is not to be inferred from this, that there are no lions in the path. There are difficulties, and those are not to be very readily overcome.

In the first place, we of Canada do not feel much, if any injury, from the late Treaty's abrogation. Dreadful things were predicted by some, but all such ideas have been falsified, our people have prospered without the Treaty, whilst we have been taught an invaluable lesson of self reliance. Our Government has, besides, made one effort to negotiate a new Treaty, and some delicacy would doubtless be felt about taking steps to re-open negotiations. Indeed, this could hardly be done without loss of dignity on the part of the Canadian Government, and would certainly not meet the public approval, for the feeling is all but universal, that the American Government should now take the initiative, and that we can afford to wait until they do so. In other words, the feeling in Canada about a new Reciprocity Treaty is, that we are prospering very well without one—that the duties imposed by the American Government, fall mainly upon its own people—but that as freer commerce would conduce to the interests of both countries, and promote the good feeling between our respective people, any fair offer made by our neighbours for a new Treaty, should be frankly and promptly agreed to.

In the United States, there are another class of difficulties in the way of steps being speedily taken to open negotiations. These do not arise now, we think, from any doubt as to the advantages which the United States would reap from freer commercial intercourse with this country. That point seems to be pretty well settled, and there are few Americans conversant with commercial affairs, who do not admit that the abrogation of the Treaty of 1864 has hurt them more than it has us. In fact, there is reason to believe that there is a strong desire even at Washington for a new Treaty, or at least some arrangement by which International trade may be fostered instead of decreased. But *per contra*, there are a few who still think that our political future may be influenced by barricading their markets, more whom absurd protection notions sway adversely, and not a few who labour under the delusion that Canadian sympathy with the South during the rebellion is thus meeting retribution. A very large number hold that, whilst their farmers and other classes are so heavily taxed, it would be unfair to allow our productions to enter into competition with their own in their home markets, entirely free. There is a certain amount of plausibility in this objection, but it is not sound at the core. Nevertheless, it stands in the way of the Federal Government taking early action towards the proposal of freer commercial regulations. Notwithstanding the difficulties in the way, however, we believe the chances of a new Reciprocity Treaty are brightening. Such well informed gentlemen as Mr. E. H. Derby favour it, and we have it from pretty good authority that if Canada were to make proposals again, they would be received at Washington very differently from those made when Messrs. Galt and Howland were last there. We can not counsel this course, believing that it is Mr. Soward who should now make advances,—but the Canadian Government would do well to keep this important matter in view, so that no opportunity to secure a measure which would so much benefit both countries, may pass unimproved. To this end, when the successor of the late Sir Frederick Bruce arrives at Washington, he should be fully informed of the present position of the Reciprocity question, and requested to meet any proposals made by the American Government in the most cordial and friendly spirit.

In the interests, both of the United States and Canada, a new Treaty should be adopted. We do not doubt that both countries can prosper without one; but we are equally certain that both of them can progress faster with one. The objections on both sides are comparatively frivolous. Why then, should delay take place in commencing negotiations for a new Treaty? The time is opportune. The petty jealousies arising from the rebellion are rapidly dying out, both countries have just reaped excellent harvests, and the advantages which would arise from freer commerce are acknowledged by sensible men on both sides of the lines. We repeat—why then, should delay take place in commencing negotiations for a new Treaty?

A WORD ON FLAX CULTURE.

[To the Editor of the Trade Review]

SIR.—Permit me through the columns of your valuable paper, to mention a few hints which I trust may not be uninteresting to our agriculturists generally. We are all well that are since the culture of the flax plant has been introduced into Canada, and where it has been cultivated to any extent, the great difficulty of procuring sufficient hands in harvest time to pull the crop has been found the greatest drawback, and has retarded its growth very considerably. Now Sir, I am only too glad to be able to inform the farmers of the New Dominion generally, that this drawback has entirely been overcome in the invention of a *Flax Puller*. I have seen the machine at work, on the farm of the Rev. Dr. Farland, township of Moore, in the county of Simcoe, he was pulling at the time about three acres per diem. He with others who have used them this season, considers them a perfect success. Dr. Farland states he saved the price of the one he purchased, in the pulling of his crop of some fifty acres. The machines are built at Woodstock, by the Messrs. Oswald & Paterson, at a cost of only \$30, they are worked by two horses, similar to a reaper or mower, a boy will answer to them and the horses, and another to take the flax and place it on the ground ready for binding. The cost of pulling by the machine is estimated at \$1.65 per acre, while the cost by hand is from \$4 to \$5. The greatest advantage of all is being independent of hands at that hurried season of the year, when labourers are hard to be got, and at high wages. We now look forward to a large increase in the number of acres produced in future.

Toronto,
21st. October, 1867.

I am, Sir, &c.
J. A. DONALDSON.

The traffic returns of the Grand Trunk Railway for the week ending Oct. 6, 1867, were \$160,333, an increase of \$16,113, as compared with the corresponding period of 1863.

PETROLEUM AS A FUEL.

SOME experiments were made yesterday at the Hudson River Railroad depot in Thirtieth-street, with petroleum as fuel, in place of coal or wood. A fire of crude petroleum and gasoline 10 quarts of the former to about 6 of the latter—was lighted in the furnace of a dummy engine, no blower being used, and in about 30 minutes vapor was given off through the lower gauge cock. In 45 minutes the gauge indicated 40 lbs. of steam; in 50 minutes 60 lbs. and in 55 minutes, 80 lbs. From this point it rapidly rose to 120 lbs. The engine was then driven about the yard for some time.

The method of burning crude Petroleum shown yesterday is the invention of Mr. Calvin Lepper. It has the merit of simplicity. The grate of the ordinary furnace is removed and in its place is substituted a pan filled with sand. The oil is conducted into this sand from a tank. Water is then let in, and the oil floats and is burned on the surface of the water, the water being at the same time decomposed and adding to the flame. A draft is created by a blower, and also by a steam jet from the boiler. Yesterday no blower was used, the inventor wishing to show that it could be done without. The fire burned brightly, and was easily controlled. Unfortunately just as the experiments were about concluding, the fireman, supposing the oil to be exhausted let on a fresh supply of water, when the oil flowed over, and burned fiercely for some time, enveloping the engine in clouds of smoke. The accident demonstrated that care is required in the management of petroleum as fuel, but it also showed that there need be no fear from an explosion.

The experiments were witnessed by several scientific gentlemen, who appeared to consider them satisfactory as far as they went. Whether petroleum can be used economically in locomotive engines is a question which yet remains to be solved, and it will require a number of very careful experiments to be made before any definite opinion can be expressed on that point.—N. Y. Times, (Oct. 5.)

NEW YORK STATE FAIR.—The State Fair just closed at Buffalo, was an unexampled success in nearly every department. The interest which usually centres upon sewing machines was not wanting. It was intensified, doubtless, by the angry (and not altogether reputable) dispute, which had arisen over the "medals" said to have been awarded to sewing machines at the Paris Exposition. But these medals counted for nothing here, for the judges insisted upon a thorough examination for themselves, of the several machines in competition, and the result was a unanimous report awarding the highest prize to the exhibitors of the "Singer" for the best family sewing machine, and also for the best manufacturing machine, and also for the best button hole machine. A clean sweep and a righteous judgment say those who are best informed. The Singer Manufacturing Company, whose sales of machines for the past year have exceeded forty-three thousand—some thousands more than any other company in the world—care more for the "people's verdict," we apprehend, than for all the gold medals which were or could have been awarded at Paris.—*Utica Daily Herald*, Oct. 9.