



SOME OF THE NEW BUILDINGS AT THE CANADIAN SAULT—PULP MILL NO. 2 ON THE LEFT—
MACHINE SHOP ON THE RIGHT.

and costly was the key to the whole. But the C.P.R. did nothing for "the Soo." It only sidetracked the ambitious little place for a time. Its day had not yet come, in spite of the repeated visions of its future which priests and traders in the seventeenth century had seen with the eye of faith. How was it possible to doubt that a city must arise beside the rushing waters which connected the great inland sea above with other seas almost as great below? There, Raymbault and Jogues, first of white men, saw the broad rapid and preached to two thousand Indians gathered to catch the delicious whitefish which for centuries had been its outstanding attraction. There, in 1668, Marquette began a permanent mission, which became the first white settlement in what is now the State of Michigan. Three years later, on a hill overlooking the rapids and lake, Daumont, representative of the great Intendant Talon, erected a cedar cross bearing the arms of France, and in the presence of thousands of assenting or quiescent red men, assumed for his king authority over unknown lands to

the north, south, east and west, no matter how far they might extend. But the men of the seventeenth century were far in advance of their time. The Sault Ste. Marie continued to be simply a choice fishing ground, a brief period in the middle of the eighteenth century excepted, when Count Repentigny built a fort to be a lure to Indians on their way to English posts which supplied them with fire-water without stint, and to be a retreat for French voyageurs. Repentigny and his partner, De Bonne, received in return for their services a grant "in perpetuity by title of feof and seigniority" of six leagues along the portage with a depth of six leagues. Small benefit they got from the splendid grant. Their successors asserted their claims before the Supreme Court of the States, under the original brevet of ratification, as recently as 1860, but in vain.* The day of the Northwest had not dawned, even in the eighteenth century. The Lake Superior region had to wait until the Mississippi valley and other interven-

* See "The Northwest Under Three Flags," pp. 61, 62.