

would not be at a standstill—it would forge head.

There are many industries that we could establish in this province with profit. We have the men, we have the natural resources to develop, we have many other things in our favor, but alas, we have not confidence in them and in ourselves. If we could only get over these silly notions we would have a chance to progress. Isn't it nonsense to act this way while Americans come in and make money right under our very noses. We never see the way until they come and show us, and then we wonder why we never saw it before. It was not because we didn't have the men, the money and the means, but because it never occurred to us that the province is so favored by Providence that she might be a leader in the world's industry and commerce. Isn't it time to change our ideas? It is.

STUMBLING BLOCKS.

THERE is a really worse thing in the character of our people than that lack of confidence in their fellows of which we speak, and people in Nova Scotia who succeed in their own country do so frequently despite the disheartening obstructions of their fellows. We refer to the spirit that makes a man say:—"I give him six months to stay it business." "Take my word for it he will never make it pay" is a sentence uttered without consideration of the damage it may do—without consideration even as to whether it is a true statement or not.

For example, a prominent Halifax man whose name, if we were at liberty to mention it, might fairly be taken as a synonym for prosperity, commenced business on Granville street a number of years ago, and at the time an inconsiderate citizen remarked in front of his store something similar to what we have stated above. The former is to-day numbered among our well-to-do merchants; the other is walking the streets and no doubt often passes the spot where he made his thoughtless and uncharitable remark. We wonder if he ever glances at this merchant's old business stand and realizes how far his speculation was wide of the mark. No doubt our readers could instance others. Perhaps they have in mind as they read this, the same kind of remark made only an hour, a day or a week ago, regarding a new arrival in the field of business or industry. Do they think it fair to the one about whom the remark was made? Do they think it will do him good? We hope that every BLUENOSE reader's sympathy is with the man who will not stay in business six months.

A PLEA FOR PROVINCIAL LABORATORIES.

IN the last number of the BLUENOSE we had the pleasure of presenting a careful sketch of Prof. McGregor. Our purpose, as we explained at that time,

was two-fold; to provide our readers with the inspiration that a successful life possesses, and to show what a great resource the Province has in such a man. To-day we wish to amplify the latter a little.

It may not be generally known that a few months ago there was some possibility that Prof. McGregor might leave us and go to the Old Country. People who take an interest in the educational affairs of the Province and in its best development, heard this with regret, and when they enquired of one another if it had been decided whether or not he should go, they did it very much as they might have asked, "Is he dead?" The number of people who *really* appreciate Prof. McGregor's abilities are perhaps few, and to them it is a matter of some surprise as well as congratulation that he has remained with us so long. His name is well-known in Europe, probably even better known than in Canada; another illustration, perhaps, of the fact that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country.

If Prof. McGregor had gone away, he would now be in a position where he would have greater scope for his talents. Although in Halifax he has had comparatively few laboratory facilities, still he has done excellent scientific work, and if he had had such facilities as exist in any of the larger Universities in Europe or America, he would have done vastly better work. As far as this article is concerned we do not intend to lay stress upon the fact that he has not done as much in Halifax to develop himself as he could have done in some large centre, but to emphasise the fact that he has not had the opportunity here to do as much for the Province as he would have done had he the laboratory at his command that a developing country needs.

It is difficult in a short space to explain why Science is so important in industry, but we think the fact is well enough known to require no further elucidation here. We only have to go to Germany to appreciate to the full what Science does to make a nation commercially prosperous, and if we were to go to Germany and see what science is doing for that Country, and come back to Nova Scotia, we would not wonder that we are so far behind. Throughout the former Country technical and scientific schools abound. In Nova Scotia the only schools of that kind are devoted to agricultural pursuits. This ought not to be; we should have at least one well equipped technical institution wherein would be gathered together a number of laboratories in which our young men might study the principles that underlie all successful industrial processes, and might make special investigations into the conditions that are undermining some of our sources of wealth. For instance there should be a biological laboratory in which to study the flora and fauna of our waters, and determine why it is that our lobster industry is waning, and why the fish have been driven off our shores to such an extent. Such study would result in the acquisition of knowledge that might preserve our fisheries, which may otherwise be ruined. The same applies to our

forests; the study of forestry would enable us to know how to preserve and make the best use of our forests and how to reforest where they are being destroyed. And so with regard to every detail of provincial industry. It may be argued that there are schools abroad where our young men can acquire such knowledge. But the existence of such a school in Nova Scotia would be an impetus to industry and an influence that would keep our young men at home who now go abroad in such numbers.

Now, for years we have had a man who is capable of teaching and inspiring students who take up scientific work, particularly in the line of Physics, which is a science that has to do largely with manufacturing; but would we have had him he has had no means of exerting his great influence to the full. The young men who have studied under him have been looking to other professions, and professions in which they would in most cases have to look abroad for a field. There has been no school in which he could direct the studies of students looking to industrial occupations, in which he could keep before them the best and most modern methods, and inspire them to excel. In other words, we have a man whose usefulness we have largely allowed to go to waste, simply because we have not had the sense to have the necessary school, and him in it. But while Prof. McGregor is still with us there is time to mend and enable that great teacher to do for his province what we have been preventing him from doing for so many years. We do not believe there is a better thing the government of Nova Scotia could do than to provide laboratories which would give him and others of our Nova Scotia scholars the opportunity to assist the development of the province. These laboratories are needed, and if we could have them they would form the nucleus of a great University which we could raise up in time to be a great influence for progress in the life and industry of the province.

THE PULP INDUSTRY.

THERE is undoubtedly a great future for the pulp industry in Canada and its development is now being pushed forward rapidly. Mills of large capacity are springing up in different parts of the country and yet the demand continues to be greater than the supply. In the Maritime Provinces we have vast stretches of spruce land and all the natural advantages for manufacturing. The prospect is that the industry will be a great source of wealth to us in the not very distant future.

The spruce lands of the United States are being rapidly denuded owing to the remarkable growth of the industry there, and American capitalists are turning their attention to Canada with a view to supplying the future demand for paper making material.

Referring to this subject the New York Commercial says: "Canada and the other British provinces must furnish this continent with most of its white paper stock in the not far distant future. For a quarter of a century past this denudation of spruce lands has been going on steadily, with little or no effort at replacement, and for some years past some American paper manufacturers, alarmed at the prospect of a spruce famine in this country, have been hauling spruce logs from Canada at great expense, in order to put off as long as possible the day when our own forests shall cease to yield material for pulp."