

DEATH OF ROBERT FORBES.

Manufacturers and dry goods merchants throughout the Dominion will have learned with regret of the death, at the age of 81, of Robert Forbes, senior member of the R Forbes Co., Ltd., the well-known worsted manufacturers of Hespeler, Ont. For the past two or three years Mr. Forbes had been able to pay comparatively little attention to business, owing to failing health, and for about three months previous to his death, which took place at Guelph on the 6th May, he had been largely confined to the house. In the forties Mr. Forbes, with his brothers David and James, carried on a general store in Galt, and he and David afterwards started a paper mill. The Barber Bros., afterwards large woolen mill owners themselves in Georgetown, were once in their employ. The Guelph Mercury gives an extended sketch of Mr. Forbes' career, from which the following is taken.

"A native of Berwick, Scotland, he learned the business of a draper in Paisley, and came out to Hamilton in 1839-40, where he was employed in the wholesale establishment of the late Hon. Isaac Buchanan, Harris & Co. Two years later he went to Galt, and started a general store, conducting it with success for eight years or so, when, owing to ill-health, he turned it over to his brother David. After two years he took possession again, but subsequently sold the business to Gavin Hume, and went into a tannery at Hespeler for five years. He then bought four hundred acres, the Linderman farm, in Puslinch, and there carried on a lumber business, making headings and shingles, until some eighteen years ago, when he and Mr. Schofield purchased the Randall-Farr mills in Hespeler and continued the woolen business. He had previously moved his family to Guelph. Mr. Schofield retired after five years, when Mr. Forbes took the management, assisted by his sons, the late James H. and George D., the firm becoming afterwards merged in a joint stock company, in which Mr. Forbes held the chief interest. The business at Hespeler is a very extensive one, employing over 300 hands, and perhaps no concern in the Dominion has a higher record for giving steady employment to its operatives.

"Mr. Forbes was a large stockholder and for many years a director of the Guelph and Ontario Investment and Savings Society, and had large interests in the Guelph Light and Power Company. He also owned the old Allan mill property at the bridge. He was very successful in his business transactions, his well known probity, foresight, industry and generous dealings having gained for him a well won competence.

"Very few knew the extent of his benefactions. He was naturally retiring, and his wide range of charity was generally hidden from the public. Towards the procuring of an ambulance for the city he was a main contributor; the General Hospital owed not a little to his gifts, and many in private life have reason to be grateful for timely assistance. In the work of the Presbyterian Church and of Chalmers Church, which he attended, he was very liberal. The best of good feeling was always maintained between him and his employees, and their annual excursion at the firm's expense was one mark of their mutual esteem and interest.

"He leaves behind him his wife, formerly Miss Duthie, whom he married in Galt, a sister, Miss Forbes, in Galt; his son, George D., Hespeler, his daughters, Mrs. Chas. Auld, Guelph; Mrs. Wm. Nicol, Kingston. Misses Maggie and Carrie at home, and it is safe to say that in the intimacy and ever present kindness of the home circle his loss will be most deeply felt."

The Waterloo Advertiser cavils at the generosity of A. F. Gault in presenting \$100,000 to the diocesan Theological College. While others applaud, the Advertiser sneers. It concedes that worse use might be made of the money, but then it complains that the money was made by extortionate profits exacted from consumers. There is no deed so noble and magnanimous, no act so praiseworthy and unselfish, that there will not be found some cynic to question its motive. Mr. Gault has not only proved the value of his citizenship by his unostentatious liberality, but by his enterprise and public spirit he has made for himself a name that is honored in every part of this Dominion.—St. John's News.

JOHN MULDREW and his nephew, W. H. Muldrew, have formed a partnership, and will open out next month as wholesale dry goods dealers at 24 Front street west, Toronto. Mr. Muldrew was for several years with H. W. Darling & Co., and afterwards with McMaster & Co.

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF FABRICS is issued monthly in Montreal and Toronto by Messrs. Biggar, Samuel & Co., and is one of the most useful and compact periodicals of the kind published in America. It is only \$1 per annum. It is almost invaluable to those interested in woolen, cotton, linen or silk fabrics.—St. John's Que., News.

MANY readers of this journal who knew John C. Watson, the Montreal wall paper manufacturer, will regret to hear of his somewhat sudden death on the 2nd ult. while on a visit to Bermuda, in company with his niece. Deceased was born in Glasgow in 1816, and was a man of kind heart yet sterling character. He started his wall paper factory in 1880 as J. C. Watson & Co., but in April last the style was changed to Watson, Foster & Co., on which occasion a handsome presentation was made to Mr. Watson by the employees of the company.

THE annual meeting of the Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Co. was held in Montreal on 16th inst. The annual report showed that the past year had been one of depressed trade. American manufacturers had been keenly competing with the company in this market. The total sales were below the previous year, but now that prices had risen in the States it was expected that American mills would leave this market to the home manufacturers. No dividend was declared. A considerable amount of money had been spent during the year in improved machinery, and this, with the fact that the mills had now raw cotton enough on hand to last till November, gave a better outlook for the coming year. The directors elected were as follows: A. F. Gault, president; C. D. Owen, vice-president; T. King, D. Morrice and R. L. Gault.

THERE were three tenderers for summer clothing for the Montreal police force, as follows: Kelly Bros., officers' blouses, all-wool, indigo blue, \$10.50; men's blouses, do., \$7. Arcand Freres, officers' blouses, do., \$11.75, men's do., \$7.50. R. Charlebois, officers' blouses, \$15, men's do., \$9. The last named got the contract. The following contracts were awarded for the fire brigade: Arthur L. Brault, contract for the officers' tunics at \$23.45 each, and officers' blouses at \$21.75 each. Boisseau Freres, contract for men's tunics at \$17.70 each, and men's blouses at \$9.15 each. O. J. Monday, contract for men's pants at \$5 a pair. The contract for officers' caps, for gold letters, and for waterproof covers, was awarded to J. Martin, Sons & Co., and for men's to Dupuis, Lanoix & Company.

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