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FREDERIC NICHOLLS,

Managing Editor

All communications to be addressed CANADIAN MANUFACTURER,
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Editorial Notes.

The Woodstock rattan case, in which an American patentee tried to stop Messrs. Hay & Co., furniture manufacturers, from using a certain machine for preparing cane for chair-seats, &c., has been decided in favour of the latter and against the patentee. In the Queen's Bench, sitting in Osgoode Hall, Toronto, plaintiff's motion to prevent defendants from using the machine has been dismissed with costs.

The Thorold *Post* makes the remarkable statement that on the new canal, within the town or in its immediate vicinity, there are fourteen locks, with an estimated water surplus of one thousand horse power each. If this estimate be correct, then, as the *Post* says, the Thorold people have fourteen thousand horse power going to waste every day at their very doors. Our contemporary believes that all this wasted power would soon be utilized if the Dominion Government would only grant the privileges, and calls upon the town council to take action.

We have received a pamphlet entitled, "Waste of Fuel in Manufacturing Establishments, as illustrated by the Results of Engineering Tests. By George H. Barrus. Boston. Rand, Avery & Co." This appears to be a really valuable little pamphlet, giving in compact and condensed form the results of many costly and scientifically conducted experiments. It is well got up, and beautifully printed on fine paper, giving it the appearance of something to be kept for reference, and not merely to be glanced over and thrown aside. We should think all manufacturers using steam ought to have it.

In connection with recent shipments of machinery from the Waterous Engine Works, Brantford, to the North-west, elsewhere referred to, the remarkable fact is mentioned that the freight on a 25 h.p. sawmill to Sydney, Australia, going *via* New York, including insurance and all charges, is one-third less than to Brandon, in the Canadian North-west Territory. Of course it must be remembered that part of the distance between Winnipeg and Brandon is without railway facilities as yet, but still it looks strange that shipping to the other side of the globe should be so cheap in comparison.

It may be observed that in our American letters prominent mention is made of an important fact—the rapid extension of manufacturing capacity in the United States, both in the iron trades and in textile fabrics. The time is evidently drawing near when importations from Europe, in both these branches of trade, will have to take their chances in a highly-protected market, already almost sufficiently supplied with goods of home production. We are almost certainly on the eve of important new developments in this respect, which may greatly modify or even reverse opinions based upon a state of things which is now in course of passing away.

We print in another column a most valuable compilation—the annual statement of the production of pig iron in the United States for the year 1881, taken from the Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association. The figures showing comparative production for three years back, the number of furnaces in and out of blast, and their location in various States, are of great value for future reference. In view of the efforts now being made to establish in Canada the production of iron and steel on the large scale, also of the certainty that the iron question will be prominently "up" before the Dominion Parliament for settlement next year—these details of American experience are of great and permanent interest on this as well as on the other side of the border.

In another column we print an article from the St. John, N. B., *Daily News*, on the subject of the rapid destruction of Canadian hemlock forests, caused by the demand for bark and bark extract to supply American tanneries. Both in New Brunswick and in the Province of Quebec, along the Maine and Vermont border, men of influence have been trying for fifteen years and more to stop this destruction, but still the thing goes on: and a really valuable raw material, belonging to Canada, is sold for a song and exported to build up American manufactures. We hesitate not to say that, in accordance with the true principles of Protection, now adopted as the policy of the Dominion, the Government should put a good round export duty upon bark and bark extract: also upon iron ore, as we have before suggested.

On Thursday of last week an important announcement was made in the House by Sir John Macdonald. Replying to a motion for correspondence between the Government of France and that of Canada respecting the entry of Canadian vessels in France, he said that there was no such correspondence, all negotiations being conducted through the Imperial Government. But he added that Sir Alexander Galt had gone to Paris accompanied by an officer of the British Foreign office, to make arrangements specially applicable to the trade of Canada with France, inasmuch as all hopes of a treaty between France and England had vanished, he believed. Our most direct interest is, of course, in the result of Sir Alexander's special negotiations on the part of Canada; but we cannot avoid seeing that the definite failure of the attempt to make a new Anglo-French treaty must prove a commercial event of the first magnitude.