

WOODS AND FORESTS.

The Report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands reveals a most satisfactory state of things. The moneys collected from the sale of timber berths, and as Crown dues amount:

From 1st July, 1867, to 30th June, 1868.....	\$195,117 56
" " " 1868 " " 1869.....	321,751 12
" " " 1869 " " 1870.....	362,968 02

A reference to the statistic, following, will show that through the management of this department there was last year collected in Crown dues and the sale of limits, a larger sum than ever under the old Union. The year 1866 and 1867 would appear to disprove this, as the figures shew, and amount to \$369,800 50. These figures are not correct—sums were crowded into the receipts of the woods and forests that year to swell the account, which ought not to have found a place there.

Table of moneys collected from sales of limits, and as crown dues, from:

	\$	c.
1867 to 1868.....	297,203	69
68 to 69.....	276,741	16
69 to 70.....	316,982	27
70 to 71.....	299,933	04
71 to 72.....	284,237	21
72 to 73.....	309,262	15
73 to 74.....	345,294	51
74 to 75.....	321,575	61
75 to 76.....	290,156	18
76 to 77.....	369,700	50

\$5,001,673 40

These figures show the value of our timber lands as a source of revenue, and the lesson that we draw from it is that the Government should, in the first place, reserve large sections of country as timber lands, and enact stringent forest laws to protect the growth of timber. Apart from their commercial value, forests area great protection to the land under cultivation, and shield it in a manner little dreamt of by those who are unacquainted with such subjects.

LOCAL INDUSTRY.

The Society for the Promotion of Local Industry, the President of which is Mr. Joly, has done good service through its inquiries into our manufacturing industry. It has managed to have arranged for the carrying of freight in winter to the Quebec side. The rooms of the Society are in Gowan's Buildings, and, as may be seen by an advertisement in another column, the Society will meet on Monday next to discuss the practicability of establishing an evening school wherein practical instruction to mechanics and those engaged in other branches of industry will be given. The Government grant in this case will be given to the Society who deserve it well.

ENCOURAGEMENT.—On all sides we are being urged upon to appear daily. It is just possible that we may accede to what appears the general desire of our citizens. We thank them for their appreciation of our efforts; we shall always try to deserve well of our patrons.

Studies on the Industries of Quebec.

BY HUBERT LARUE, M.A., M.D.

(Translated for the Budget from Le Courrier de Canada.)

THE BAKERIES.

The Society for the Promotion of Local Industry did not think proper to include in its report the bakeries of this city. In none of them have been introduced those modern improvements, either for the kneading or for the baking of bread, which are to be seen in foreign countries, all are in their infancy, and not a single one deserves to be classed among industries properly called.

The number of bakeries of Quebec, comprising those of Saint-Sauveur, is 31.

With the exception of two, they are all small establishments, which employ two men— seldom three or four.

The two large establishments are those of Hethington, St. John's suburb, and of McCorkell, St. Roch's suburb. Each of those large bakeries employs 20 men. The number of men employed in the smaller bakeries is 62; so that the total number of men employed in the making of bread in this city is 122.

Kneading is done with the hand; baking is done in those anti-rotated ovens, which everybody knows, and into which the loaves are introduced after the removal of the fire; our biscuit manufacturing factories alone make use of hot air ovens.

Among the vicious and condemnable habits practised in our bakeries, I shall only mention the introduction in the dough of a certain quantity of potatoes. Such an addition is made in accordance with the comparative value and price of potatoes and flour.

One baker has told me that, in his establishment, as well as in all the others he is acquainted with, a good quality of bread cannot be made without the mixture in the dough of a certain quantity of potatoes. "In certain bakeries of Montreal," said that baker, "a very good bread is made without potatoes. I do not know how they do."

It is as well that everybody should know—bakers as well as consumers—that in every country in the world such a practice is designated by one term; such term being *bread*.

When a consumer asks for *bread*, the baker is held to sell him *bread*, and nothing else. Potatoes introduced into bread are nothing else, but potatoes, as bread ought not to be manufactured with anything else but flour derived from cereal plants; such a flour being the only one which can be converted into bread.

The reason of that is evident. The substances which contain the two elements, *starch* and *gluten*, in due proportions, are the only ones which can be made into bread. Gluten is a kind of gummy, elastic and very nutritious substance, to which is due the raising of the dough. Potatoes, rice, peas, beans, &c., do not contain such a substance, and for that reason cannot be made into bread.

Not only is it necessary that the flour used in panification should contain *gluten*, but it should contain it in due proportion. Let us suppose that to a flour of superior quality a certain quantity of potatoes be added; the quantity of gluten would decrease proportionally; hence a

loaf of bread which would be more nutritious and better and consequently, more palatable.

Mixed with potatoes, containing no *gluten*, the bread becomes less nutritious as the flour of cereals is. Bread being sold according to its weight, it is evident that in a loaf containing a certain proportion of potatoes, less nutritious material is to be found, to the loss of the consumer. The consumer, in exchange for his money, is entitled to receive a given weight of a substance containing a given quantity of nutritious matter, and when he does not receive it he is the loser, and his cheat.

The farmers of our province are also in the habit—especially when the price of flour is high—of incorporating in their flour a lesser proportion of potatoes in the dough. Potatoes is a bread ready made, and ought never to be mixed in such a way, and still less when such a mixture is made with the flour of rye, of barley, and even of buckwheat.

These remarks apply as well to the use of damaged flour, or to the mixture of such flour with flour of first quality.

The *gluten* is apt to ferment rapidly, and by so fermenting becomes deteriorated. Such is the case when flour which is wet is kept in a warm atmosphere.

A similar attention takes place in flour of cereals when the crops have been gathered in an unfavourable weather, when those cereals having remained in a wet condition have shelled; bread manufactured with such flour is always of an inferior quality, badly risen and baked, very little nutritious; and the mixture of inferior flour with flour of the best quality always gives a product of inferior quality.

In our yeast plants of this country, especially where the soil is sandy, rye bread is used instead of corn. In the panification of rye flour certain precautions are necessary.

In the first place, rye bread is less nutritious than corn bread, owing to the lesser amount of gluten contained in rye flour. For its panification this latter kind of flour requires a larger quantity of yeast or of leaven; the water added for kneading must be hotter, and a lesser quantity of salt must be added to the dough. The baking must be longer.

I shall not mention a number of adulterations which formerly were practised on an extensive scale in England, France and Germany, which adulterations have ceased through the vigilance of the governments of those different countries. I hope that such dangerous practices are unknown to our bakers.

(To be Continued.)

GOSFORD ROAD.

Mr. Hulbert, the energetic builder of the Gosford Wooden Railway, has leased this road for a term of five years, paying to the Directors six per cent, in the capital stock of the Company, over and above fulfilling the obligation of giving, at cost price, a cord of firewood to each of the shareholders of the road. A road starting with a dividend of six per cent is not bad, and those who, in the beginning, thought this enterprise was not going to be successful, must, we should judge, be agreeably disappointed.

The Gosford Road.—This road has carried about 2,000 cords of firewood over the road already. The members of the Legislature will have their picnic over the road to-morrow.