

## OUR CANADIAN INDUSTRIES.

wife's father, Mr. John Carruthers, and wherever he was known.

The Canadian cattle season in England is said to have made a fair beginning, and by exporters the hope is entertained that prices will be more favourable than last year. The *Canadian Gazette* has, however, uttered a note of warning, reminding shippers that they have to compete with the frozen mutton and beef trade which has attained large proportions. The demand so far has been good, early cargoes meeting with a ready sale.

Our neighbours seem to be very touchy, if the excitement which rumour ascribes to San Francisco on the ground of the fortification of Esquimault may be taken as a sample of their temper. A Cabinet minister at Ottawa, when questioned on the subject, acknowledged that undoubtedly Esquimault was being strengthened and improved—the chief feature in the operations being the graving dock, which would enable British men-of-war to lie up for repairing and refitting. As to the works being a menace to the peace of the two countries, the statement was absurd. Besides, if the Americans were alarmed, they could retaliate in kind by building a fort opposite. The garrison of Royal Marine Artillery is now on its way to Esquimault.

For some time past there has been a movement in Ontario and the Maritime Provinces having for its aim the federation of the colleges so as to constitute one strong University. In both sections the controversy between the federationists and those who would maintain the *status quo* has been carried on with considerable asperity. Last week a fresh stage in the agitation was reached when the Alumni of Victoria University met to elect a vice-chancellor and to fill two vacancies in the Senate. In every case anti-federationists were elected by strong majorities. Mr. Kerr, Q.C., LL.D., the retiring vice-chancellor, was again chosen to fill that position. Mr. Hough, M.A., of Toronto, was re-elected to the University Senate, but Mr. Dyer, M.A., principal of Albert College, Belleville, who had voted for federation, was rejected in favour of Mr. G. A. Masten, M.A., barrister, of Toronto, who had taken as decided a stand against the movement. The graduates thus expressed in the most unmistakable manner their antagonism to the proposed change. Sir Thomas Galt has also sustained the injunction of the corporation of Cobourg against the removal of the college to Toronto.

The talk about annexation seems to have aroused some alarm among Mexican statesmen. Senor Romero, the able representative of Mexico at Washington, has deemed it his duty to utter a protest against any possible intention of his country's powerful neighbor to extend its frontier towards the South. After pointing out that such a policy of self-aggrandizement by the absorption of adjacent states is alien to the spirit of the American constitution and the best traditions of the republic, he indicates some of the grievous results that would follow any aggression of that kind, and closes by saying with a plainness not to be misconstrued that the Mexicans would never be either forced or beguiled into surrendering their independence.

The workmen engaged in replacing the pavement of the retro-choir of Lincoln Cathedral had occasion recently to remove the decayed slab which covered the grave of Bishop Oliver Sutton, who died November 13, 1299. In the grave they found a silver-gilt chalice and paten in a state of perfect preservation; also a large gold ring set with a piece of rock crystal. The ring is pronounced to be of the purest gold, and still bears the marks of burnishing. By the side of the skeleton was a much-decayed crozier, with the crook beautifully carved with maple leaves.

There is one phase of our progress in recent years to which the attention of our own people, as well as of foreigners cannot be too frequently directed. We mean that phase which consists in the opening up of new fields of productive industry and the enlargement, by subdivision and extension, of old ones. Few persons, indeed, who have not made a special study of the subject, have a just idea of the range, diversity and importance of our manufactures. It is probably because the opening up of our Northwest, with its vast wheat-yielding areas, by the construction of our grand trans-continental railway, was taking place at the same time, that our contemporaneous and corresponding industrial development has been, in comparison, underestimated. Progress is, indeed, manifold. Without adequate means of communication and transport, we might wait in vain for due fruition of the products of our skill and labour. Without the peopling of our waste places, the greatest incentive to exertion and enterprise would be wanting. All these modes of national growth should be simultaneous and in harmony—in fact, different but equally necessary movements in the healthy working of the mighty social fabric. The common mind is, however, most attracted by that which puts and keeps itself *en evidence*. The Northwest had the elements of vastness, of untold wealth. Those endless plains—only lately the sole heritage of the Indian and the bison—contained a secret which statesmen had been earnestly seeking for generations. The surplus millions of Great Britain, of all Europe, nay, of Asia—if her children were not anticipated and kept aloof—might there have elbow room and inheritance. And when, with almost incredible despatch, a line of railway was built which brought those long isolated prairie stretches virtually to the door of Europe, fulfilling, at the same time, the old dream of a Northwest passage, it is not surprising that for some years strangers who thought of Canada, thought chiefly of that world's granary between the great lakes and the Rocky Mountains.

But it so happens that the very years that wrought that marvel for civilization were also the years during which Canada was solving the long vexed problem of industrial independence. It is not necessary for us to discuss theories of free trade or protection. Realities, results are what we undertake to deal with; and it suffices to establish the truth which we would emphasize—that within a time over which our younger men can easily look back, the position of Canada as to all departments of manufacturing activity has undergone a change which it is impossible to ignore. Just now we have no intention of going into statistics. That task we shall discharge in due time and, we trust, fully to the satisfaction of our readers. Meanwhile, we might say, "Circumspice" to those who ask evidence of the great things that we have accomplished. Look around, indeed! Montrealers need not for that end cross the boundaries of their own great city, destined, at no distant day, to be one of the grandest centres of production and entrepots or trade in either hemisphere. But who will tell the multiplicity of industries that are pursued under that dark vaporous mass, the offspring of many cloud-compelling smokestacks? What do the uninitiated, or even some of those who do not class themselves in that category, really know of what goes on in those hives of skilful labour? They know, doubtless, that two immense refineries, in the

very midst of us, produce the sugar, yellow and white, granulated and loaf, that we consume; that, in several great mills, human hands and iron fingers divide among them the functions of making cotton, while, in another establishment, the bounty of nature and men's ingenuity are utilized to endow the public with all varieties of "rubber goods." What lessons in these three industries alone! What a fund of information and novel entertainment might be drawn from all the processes that slowly and surely convert three vegetable substances into such an infinity of commodities for the use of mankind!

Our mineral wealth is really only beginning to be properly appreciated. Yet how many are aware of the extent and variety of the industries based on the working of our metals—all precious in a truly economic sense? It would take several articles like this merely to enumerate intelligently and intelligibly all the branches of productive industry that owe their existence to our need of metal implements, utensils, engines and machinery. The metal workers—craftsmen in steel, in iron, in brass and copper and lead—comprise the bridge-builders, the engine and boiler-makers, the founders, the machinists, the saw and edge-tool manufacturers, and many other of the most important agents in the supply of what is useful and beautiful in our complex civilization. And then, again, there is the class of workers in wood, whose fabrics are indispensable to the every day life of rich and poor alike. What woods of native growth are of service to the manufacturer and how many of them are turned to the best possible account in the fabrication of articles of use and ornament, as well as in construction? What woods have we to import and what are the industries founded on those exotics?

Now, on all these points, and many others, we intend to lay a great deal of really interesting and valuable information before our readers. We wish to show them by contrast what has been effected in the utilization, for manufacturing purposes, of our native resources. We mean to present them with views of the exteriors and interiors of some of our grand manufacturing establishments, several of which are noteworthy for the beauty of their environment as well; and we also purpose showing them specimens of the outputs of those mighty transforming agencies. Rightly regarded, indeed, there is nothing in the romancer's inventions, nay, nothing in those stories of metamorphoses that delighted the ears of dead generations of Egyptians, Assyrians, Indians, Greeks, Romans and Arabs, which, for real interest, exceeds the marvels of modern industry. Out of the heart of rock or tree, out of the trampled weed or the very refuse that we spurn, are fashioned substances that nourish or adorn the body, shapes of use and beauty that delight the eyes, engines of power and help that are boons to our race.

But to acquit ourselves satisfactorily of such a task, to lay before our readers the multifiform products of Canadian industry, to present, in consecutive numbers of the *DOMINION ILLUSTRATED*, a worthy panorama of the most important features of our industrial development, we must have the sympathy and concurrence of our manufacturers and business men themselves. We are most anxious that no phase of our progress should be omitted from the survey which we would present to our readers. But on the ready help that we receive from those who, by building up the country's industries, have contributed to that progress, will depend the accuracy and completeness of our facts and