

army of men, whose earnings have done much towards building up the western section of the city. One of the most extensive in the neighborhood is W. Hilton & Co.'s furniture factory, which employs the year round from 150 to 200 men. The workshops consist of two brick buildings, four stories in height, 200 feet by 40. The whole machinery of which is driven by water, equal to fifty horse power. Having a little time at our disposal, we took a ramble through the interior, and were much gratified with the result. Many things formerly dreamt not of in our philosophy, were, on this occasion, made manifest. Our curiosity respecting many, hitherto to us, incomprehensible doings, appeared now of the most simple nature. One of the most interesting attractions to us was the process of making mirror plates, which are here turned out in immense quantities, from the humble cottager's six inch by four looking-glass, to the mammoth mirror of the fashionable drawing-room—nine feet by six. The work done in our presence for inspection of the same, was the smaller size before named, and certainly the process surprised us by its extreme simplicity. As clearly as possible, we will furnish the unposted with a rough outline: A square, wooden frame is before the workman, upon which he lays a sheet of tin foil of the desired size; this foil is then covered with quicksilver; a sheet of ordinary paper is laid over the same, and again the plate of glass, first well cleaned, surmounts the whole; the sheet of paper is then gently withdrawn, and the job is complete. In answer to our inquiries respecting the use of the paper, we were informed that by this means the scum of the silver, and all air bubbles were ejected. The large sized mirror plates, before alluded to, are made on huge stone beds, and of course require much more care and skillful treatment in the manufacture. After being finished, they are left in the frame for several days, pressed down with a large number of heavy iron weights. We were told that the workmen were not allowed to continue at the silvering process more than two or three days in succession, owing to the injurious influence it has upon the health. We have been somewhat lengthy in our remarks on this particular department, as it is the only place, if we mistake not, in the Dominion, where such work is done. A further inspection of the