

1867, died in '79, and Manson succeeded in '80, in which he sold 600 mills. The number sold from '84 to '94, inclusive, are successively: 1000, 1300, 2000, 2500, 2800, 4000, 4500, 5000, to Nov. 20, 1895. The output in this last year was seriously reduced by the crippling effect of a fire June 24th, which gutted the entire premises, office excepted. Which characteristic energy, he commenced at once rebuilding in brick, and by Aug. 15, had started up again in a three-story building, 50x176, with two power elevators and all the latest appliances. Up to No. 20th, he had sold 2000 since the fire. Forty thousand Chatham Mills are now in use. He employs forty hands, and uses a million feet of Kent wood; pays out \$12,000 for material and \$9000 for wages.

W. H. Tighe is in business in Chatham, either sole or in partnership with N. Stringer, since 1870, deals in grains, seeds, hogs, furs, hides, wool, hay and general produce. He has two hay presses, and has made that branch an extensive specialty. He has bean picking and receiving warehouses at the Grand Trunk and office in west King street, nearly opposite Post Office. He handles annually 70,000 bushels of beans; 30,000 of wheat; 40,000 of oats; 20,000 of corn; 40 to 50,000 lbs. wool; 3,000 hides; 2,000 to 3,000 tons pressed hay, having made large shipments to England two years ago; 10 to 20,000 barrels apples; in furs, 60,000 Muskrat, 1,000 Coon, 50 Fox, 300 Skunk, 5,000 hogs.

Alderman Taylor runs a large business, \$50,000 to \$60,000 annually, in Pelts, horse hides, lamb skins, etc. He made a heavy shipment to Michigan for a Chicago house. This year, '95, from April to August, the shipments were light but prices good. Kent hides are good for uppers or grain leather, not so good for sole or harness leather—superior to most in U. S., especially in Western States, where the wounds caused by barbed wire fences, though covered with a growth of hair, show when the hide is haired.

McKeough & Trotter's foundry is known as the "Erie & Huron Iron Works." It has been established 13 years in Chatham, under the title of "J. F. McKeough & Co." for the first year. Both partners are good practical men, and Mr. McKeough comes of a family which has made its mark in Chatham, not only in business circles but in the medical and legal profession. The firm manufactures marine and stationary engines and boilers, builds saw mills, hoop and stave machinery, dredges for the Chatham Dredging Co.; electric light engines, hand barrel tresses. They are interested in several important machinery patents. They employ 25 hands and pay out \$10,000 annually. Main trade in Kent, but extends beyond.

This pamphlet, treating as it does, of the interests of the City of Chatham, would not be complete without reference to a firm that is perhaps better known than any other firm doing business in the City of Chatham or the County of Kent. The firm I refer to is known throughout the district as Atkinson & Rispin and the members of the firm are George K. Atkinson, who has resided in Chatham for over 35 years carrying on a large insurance and real estate business, and W. E. Rispin, who holds the City Agency for the Grand Trunk Ry. and who has resided in the Town of Chatham for over 19 years, being continuously in the employ of the Railway Company. The firm carries on a large business of a general character. They buy and sell property on commission, loan money on real estate at most favorable