

Madame de la Peltrie threw herself into the work of caring for these little savages with all the enthusiasm of her ardent French nature. She assumed the duty of teaching them the more polite accomplishments, while Mother Marie and the other two women instructed them in the principles of the Catechism and the French language. It became her favorite diversion, after spending an hour or two in teaching them to sew, to dress them up like little French children, and take them to visit their parents or to the chapel not far distant; and grotesque looking little objects they were, with tight Norman caps covering their black and glistening locks, and snowy kerchiefs pinned round their tawny throats. They regulated all their actions by hers, and frequently astonished those about them by making an elaborate curtesy like a grand dame of France.—From "Maids and Matrons of New France," by Mary Sifton Pepper, in *The Chautauquan*, Cleveland, O.

### FULLER'S EARTH.

We have not heard that Fuller's earth has been mined in Canada, but an interesting report just issued by the United States Geological Survey on the production of Fuller's earth in the United States suggests the question whether valuable deposits may not exist in this country. From the report referred to, it appears that small amounts of Fuller's earth were mined in New York, Colorado, and Utah in 1899, but the bulk of the product, as in earlier years, was from the vicinity of Quincy, Fla. The total production in 1899 was 12,381 short tons, valued at \$79,644, a decline from 14,860 short tons, valued at \$106,500, in 1898. The decrease in domestic production is probably due to larger importations of English earth, these having increased from 8,353 long tons, equivalent to 9,355 short tons in 1898, to 10,320 long tons, or 11,558 short tons in 1899. The decrease in domestic production was 2,749 short tons; the increase in imports was 3,203 short tons; the difference (724 short tons), would represent a normal increase in consumption. The production of Fuller's earth in the United States for the last five years is shown in the following figures:

In 1895, 6,700 short tons, valued at \$41,400; 1896, 9,872 tons, valued at \$59,360; 1897, 17,113 tons valued at \$112,272; 1898, 14,860 tons, valued at \$106,500; 1899, 12,381 tons valued at \$79,644. Considerable interest attaches to the development of this industry in connection with the deposits that have been found in New York State, Colorado, and Utah, although there is no immediate prospect that they will supersede the deposits at Quincy, Fla., as the principal source of supply. A very promising deposit was discovered some time ago in South Dakota, an interesting feature of which was the fact that it is almost a duplicate of the English earth, which is now preferred for the filtering of cottonseed and lard oils, while the American earth is principally used as a substitute for boneblack in the filtering of mineral oils. The rapid growth of the cottonseed oil business is likely to create a heavy demand for the English earth, and therefore for any domestic substitute that shows the necessary qualities.

The process of filtering vegetable oils is thus described: The oil is heated to beyond the boiling point of water, in large tanks, and from 5 to 10 per cent. of its weight of Fuller's earth is then added, and the mixture vigorously stirred for twenty minutes, and then filtered off through bag filters.

The coloring matter remains with the earth, leaving oil of a very pale straw color, provided the original cottonseed oil had been sufficiently well refined by the ordinary process to admit of this; and provided the operation had been conducted with sufficient care. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of this filtration by Fuller's earth is the different rate of speed at which oils of different density (in such a mixture of oils as

is found in ordinary crude petroleum), will percolate through with the result that the first oil which makes its appearance is not only very much lighter in color, but markedly lower in specific gravity. In fact, by this process separations can be made which are quite comparable with the results of fractional distillation.

## Among the Mills

Co-operation is one of the guiding principles of industry to-day. It applies to newspapers as to everything else. Take a share in "The Canadian Journal of Fabrics" by contributing occasionally such items as may come to your knowledge, and receive as dividend an improved paper.

Robert Gifton has left Hespeler for Markham to take a new position in the Canada Woolen Mills factory there.

Three carloads of machinery arrived in Brantford, March 8, for the Farmers' Binder Twine factory in West Brantford.

Mr. McDonald has sold the woolen mills at Trenholmeville, Que., to the Coaticook Mills Company.—*Sherbrooke Examiner*.

At the annual meeting of the Paton Manufacturing Co. in Sherbrooke last month, the old board of directors were re-elected.

The proprietors of the woolen mill at Morden, Man., are asking for 20 years' exemption from taxes, on the strength of increasing the number of employees to 15.

It is denied that New York capitalists control the stock of the new Imperial Cotton Co. at Hamilton. It is stated that only \$20,000 worth of stock is held in New York.

O'Hare & Sons, Midland, Ont., have placed an order for card clothing with D. K. McLaren, Montreal. They want English clothing only. Sheets, cylinders, rings and second breaker are included in this order.

In the Supreme Court at Ottawa on March 7, the hearing in the case of Consumers' Cordage Company v. Connolly, relating to Central Prison binder twine contracts, was postponed to the end of the hearing of the Ontario appeals, when the Chief Justice will be able to sit.

Jacob Kessler, who has been superintendent at A. Lomas & Sons' woolen mill, Sherbrooke, for the past three years, has gone to Glastonburg, Conn., to take a place in a woolen mill there. His place at Sherbrooke has been taken by Mr. Knoepfle, of Hespeler, Ont.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Cornwall Manufacturing Company, held in Montreal, the following officers were elected: President, Andrew Allan; vice-president, W. M. Ramsay; managing director, Robert Meighen; directors, Lord Strathecona, A. T. Paterson, H. Montagu Allan, W. A. Hastings.

The official returns of the Ontario crops of 1899 thus refers to the growth of flax. This crop is not now largely grown, as a number of the mills in Western Ontario have been closed for some time. Where raised it has been a fair crop. The area was 7,103 acres in 1899, as against 10,720 in 1898, and 16,100 in 1897.

The firm of McLean & Scott, woolen manufacturers, Pembroke, have dissolved partnership. D. E. Scott retires and James McLean is continuing the business. Mr. McLean has been the practical man of the firm, and now that the business is entirely in his own hands his many friends will wish him all prosperity.

Thompson & Co., Sherbrooke, Que., have been awarded the contract for supplying all of the bobbins and spools for the Montreal Cotton Co.'s new mill at Valleyfield. This firm has orders on its books from nearly every cotton mill in Canada, and they report the past year has been one of the most successful they have ever had.