

The Canadian Patent Office
RECORD
MECHANICS MAGAZINE

Vol. 3.

OCTOBER, 1873.

No. 10.

AN ADDRESS TO
OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS.

In tendering our best thanks to the public for the kind support hitherto received, we have much pleasure in stating that in order to carry out more effectually our original intentions of making its pages the record of all that would prove useful to Canadians in the various branches of Science, Engineering, Architecture, Mechanics, Manufactories, Cabinet-making, &c., &c., including Lumbering, Mining, Public Works, Natural Resources of the country, and all departments of Home Industry, we are about to add useful information and practical instruction to the Home Circle, and a few pages of elementary education for the young Mechanic. The youth who commences with the present number, and continues hereafter to be a subscriber, will obtain, at a trifling cost, a thorough mechanical education through the subjects for study now and hereafter to be afforded.

Our subject matter will to some extent be re-arranged and of a more varied description, as it is our most earnest desire to devote its columns to the advancement of mechanical knowledge in the Dominion, and by initiating improvement and chronicling progress, to emulate, in this respect, the most prosperous of our contemporaries. The field for our Magazine is rapidly increasing, and its future destiny is likely to be one of great service to all classes of mechanics, and as a valuable record of discoveries and improvements in the Dominion, and abroad. When indexed and bound, it will be a useful book of reference, particularly to mechanics residing in the country, who, isolated from public libraries, have not access to scientific works.

As yet the field of scientific improvement in this country is too small to form sufficient interesting and instructive matter to fill our pages, we must therefore, for some time to come, draw from the prolific sources of talented articles to be found in the pages of our contemporaries, such information and illustrations of machinery, &c., as will prove of practical utility in promoting the extension of knowledge to the Canadian mechanic.

In the department of the "Patent Office Record," the claims of Inventors, and the official diagrams, will continue to be presented; we particularly commend to our readers an examination of these patents, as much will be found in them of great utility for mechanical and other purposes.

A large portion of our space will be devoted to original articles written by practical authorities on subjects of permanent interest; and we particularly court communications from all sections of the Arts and Trades on any subject within the widely comprehensive scope of our field. Facts of what is doing, what has been done, or what ought to be done, or is intended to be done, will be of great use to us; whether they emanate from the study, the warehouse, the factory, or the shop; and these, in however rough-and-ready a form, we earnestly solicit from all classes of our readers and subscribers. A paper that seeks worthily to represent any class should be furnished with full and abundant information, it should be fresh, and up to the period, and not only represent the latest theories but give information concerning the latest facts. The editor is too often left to chance for obtaining information respecting the great improvement of the age, for the public very feebly second his efforts; however, no exertions shall be wanting on our part to obtain this information, and we shall endeavour always to keep our readers well posted up in the progress of all trades abroad; in whatever phase scientific inquiry or research has a bearing upon the materials or machinery they employ, their preparations and uses, we shall strive to duly chronicle.

We have for some time past felt that the education of the great bulk of the artizans of the Dominion has been sadly deficient from causes beyond their control to obviate, and as a consequence much natural ability has lain dormant; we purpose therefore commencing a series of elementary instruction to young mechanics who have not enjoyed the advantage of a mathematical and mechanical education; and we feel assured that none of our readers will object to a few columns of this Magazine being devoted to so laudable a purpose. Any youth possessing average ability, intelligence, and perseverance, can, if the means are afforded to him, become self-educated. We have recorded facts of men, who gifted from birth with genius and talent, have often, by self-denial and self-education, pushed their way through the crowd, and gained the foremost place; yea, have risen to the pinnacle of fame; and although these cases are few, still the instances of those who have gained eminence, and whose usefulness as a body has been of incalculable service to the world, are indeed numerous.

With respect to our intention of affording in our pages some pleasing instructive reading to the Home Circle, it is like sowing seed in fertile ground and keeping down the weeds that often