

MOTIVE POWER.

The absence of coal in Canada is sometimes regarded as an insuperable barrier to the success of her manufactures, but this want is largely compensated by the immense water-powers of the Province. Perhaps in no other country does the same amount of water-power exist. From Sherbrooke to Goderich, there is scarcely twenty miles of country, in which valuable water-powers are not to be found. On the rapids and canals of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa, on the St. Francis, the St. Maurice, the Chambly, the Nation, the Rideau, the Trent, the Otonabee, the Credit, the Speed, and a hundred other streams, the water-power is immense. The want of motive power cannot therefore be any barrier to the success of manufactures in Canada.

LABOUR.

The high price of labour is another objection raised to the success of our manufactures. This objection is to some extent well founded. During the progress of the Grand Trunk Railway, the demand for labour, and the general activity in every branch of business, raised the expense of living and the wages of labour far above the usual rate, without any real advantage either to the employer or the employed. This state of things, however, is at an end, and wages are again gradually receding to their proper level. Labour is now abundant in almost every part of the country. Female labour in particular, which can be extensively employed in many branches of manufacture, can be had in great abundance and at reasonable rates. At present, beyond the demand for domestic servants, there is little employment for females in Upper Canada. From hundreds of replies received to my enquiries, the almost unanimous response is, "No females employed." The same may be said with respect to youths from ten to sixteen years of age. Many such, whose parents are struggling with poverty, can find little or nothing to do, and are thus brought up in idleness and its attendant vices. In England and the Eastern States it is very different. There, the younger members of the family contribute largely by their labour to the common stock, and are trained to habits of industry and self-reliance. The whole burden of supporting a family is thus in Canada too often thrown upon the struggling parents, who must consequently be paid higher wages to induce them to remain in the country. From returns furnished by the principal manufacturers in Upper Canada, I have compiled the following table of the average wages paid in the various departments of mechanical industry:—

Sail Makers,	per day,	\$1 25 @ \$1 25	Cabinet makers,	per day,	\$1 00 @ \$1 50
Founders,	"	\$1 25 @ \$1 50	Cigar Makers,	"	\$1 50 @ \$1 60
Shoemakers,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 25	Woolen Mill hands	"	\$0 90 @ \$1 25
Carriage Makers,	"	\$1 25 @ \$1 50	Stave makers,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 12½
Saw Mill hands,	"	\$0 90 @ \$1 00	Sash & Door Factories	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 10
Tanners,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 00	Cotton Factory hands,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 00
Carriers,	"	\$1 20 @ \$1 25	Brewers and Distillers,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 00
Agricult' Impl't Makers	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 25	Match Makers,	"	\$0 90 @ \$1 00
Candle Makers,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 25	Carvers and Gilders,	"	\$1 25 @ \$1 50
Edge Tool Makers,	"	\$1 25 @ \$1 75	Tinsmiths,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 50
Tailors,	"	\$1 00 @ \$1 50			

FEMALE LABOUR in Factories from \$2 to \$3 per week, without board.
Domestic servants, from \$3 to \$6 per month, with board.

The highest wages are paid in the Western Peninsula, where there is least