

EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

ROYAL COMMISSION

ON THE SUBJECT OF

LABOR IN ITS RELATION TO CAPITAL IN CANADA.

St. JOHN, N. B., 19th March, 1888.

JAMES PENDER, Manufacturer of Horse-shoe Nails, St. John, called and sworn.

Q. How long have you been engaged in the manufacture of horse-shoe nails in this city? A. I have been engaged in the horse-shoe nail business since August, 1877.

Q. How many men do you employ in your factory at present? A. Fifteen men, including five or six boys.

Q. How many men did you employ when you first began business? A. At first I employed four men.

Q. What is the average rate of wages you pay to your journeymen? A. One man gets \$2.50 and another \$3.25 a day.

Q. These are your principal men, are they not? A. Yes.

Q. What are the lowest wages you pay to journeymen? A. We pay them by the piece; all the men who are journeymen work by the piece, so that their wages depend upon the number of days they work in the week. Last year we worked forty-nine weeks, and were idle three weeks. Without making any extra time, I find that the average rate of wages of men and boys, taken together, was \$8.02 a week, for these forty-nine weeks.

Q. Can you give us the wages you paid to the boys, independent of the men? A. The lowest that we pay to boys is 60 cents a day.

Q. What is the highest wages that you pay to boys? A. One dollar a day.

Q. Do your men, as a general rule, work as many weeks every year as they did last year? A. For the last two or three years they have.

Q. Where do you find a market for all the nails that you manufacture? A. Last year we exported four months' work out of Canada and the rest we marketed in Canada.

Q. What are the principal countries where you find a market for your goods that you send out of Canada? A. We send most of our goods to Australia; last year we sent a considerable amount to Ireland; we also send some to the West Indies, Newfoundland and South America.

Q. Where do you get your iron? A. From Sweden.

Q. Entirely? A. Altogether.

Q. Are the boys employed by the men as helpers, or by yourself directly? A. I hire the boy who feeds the finishing machine, but he hires his own help; we pay him so much a hundred for all he finishes, but the boys he hires he pays himself.