THE LITTLE LABORERS OF NEW YORK CITY.

It is estimated on trustworthy grounds that over 100,000 children are at work in factories of New York and the neighboring districts, while from 15,600 to 20,000 are "floaters," drifting from one factory to another. Of these the envelope factories employ about 8,000 children, one quarter of whom are under 15 years of age. The average earnings of the little workers are \$3 per week. The ventilation in these factories is generally good. The gold-leaf factories employ a large number of children, though the exact statistics of the number cannot be given. This operation requires much skill and delicacy of touch; it is not severe, but demands constant attention. The outside air is carefully excluded from these factories, owing to the fragile nature of the machinery used. The girls employed are mostly over 15 years of age. The burnishing of gold, silver and china ware is mostly done by girls, some of them are under 13 years of age. Singularly enough it is said. that men in this business require to wear breast-plates, in order to prevent injury from the steal instruments employed, while the girls who labor at it sit at long tables, their undefended breasts pressing against the handles of the frame.

Paper-collar factories are a very important branch of children's labor. Fully 8,000 girls from twelve to sixteen years of age are employed in it. A girl can count and box 18,000 collars in a day of ten hours.

Paper-box factories embracing all sorts and sizes, from a match to a work box, employ at least 10,000 children. These become very expert and often invent new patterns. The material being cheap the children are permitted to take home enough to do extra work, and are thus, in fact excluded from night school.

In regard to factories for making artificial flowers it is extremely difficult to obtain trustworthy information, as access to the shops is rigidly refused. After considerable investigation, it seems to us that from 10,000 to 12,000 children are engaged in them, of whom nearly 8,000 are under twelve years of age. Many are only five and seven years old. The latter are employed preparing and cutting feathers for coloring. Employes claim this to be a healthy business, but judging from the pale and sickly countenances of the girls, we doubt the assertion.

Another important industry employing children in the city is the manufacture of tobacco. The tobacco factories contain fully 10,000 children, of whom 5,000 at least are under fifteen years. The youngest child we saw employed in them was four years of age. He was engaged in stripping tobacco, and his average earnings were about one dollar per week. Many laborers work all their lives in these factories. We saw persons as old as eighty years in them. A man seventy years of age told us he had spent thirty years in one factory. His two boys had entered the factory with him at the age of ten and twelve years, and were now at work as foremen in the same shop. Another, the foreman, and general worknop manager, had e thirty-five years ago, when a boy ten years of age. In some of these factories boys under fifteen years are employed in dusky cellars and basements, preparing, brining, and "awcetening" The under-ground life in. these damp, cavernous places tend to keep the little workers stunted in body and mind. Other boys from ten to twelve years were squatting on the floors, whetting the knives of the cutting machines with a mixture of rum and water applied with a sponge. The rapidity with which the girls work is wonderful. A girl of sixteen years can put up thirteen gross of packages of chewing tobacco in tin foil, and twenty-two gross in paper in one day. Girls and boys from twelve to fourteen years carn in this business from four to five dollars per week. Some little girls only eight years of age earn 83 per week, the fact is that these children are often able to perform the same amount of this light labor as adults, while they only receive a portion of the pay given , the older laborers. Thus the children who ought to be in school are made to deprive older laborers of their employment and

Still another branch, absorbs a great number of children—the twine factories. No accurate estimate can be obtained of the number of little laborers in these, but it is known to be very large. In one up town factory alone, 200 children, mostly girls, are employed. This work is dangerous. The "hackling machines" are generally attended by boys from ten to fifteen years of age. Their attention must be riveted on the machinery, and can not relax for a moment, or the danger to life or limb is imminent. The "twisting machines," attended by girls, are equally dangerous. Many have lost their fingers, or joints of them, that were caught in the twine. Only great presence of mind has saved many of these girls from losing the whole hand.

We know in one instance, in a single night school in New York, five factory girls who had each lost a finger or thumb. It is evident that strict legislation is needed here, as it has been in England, to protect these young workers from dangerous machi-The air of these twine factories is filled with floating particles of cotton and flax and must be exceedingly unhealthful.

It will be seen from these condensed statistics what an immense population of children in this city are the slaves of capital. How intense and wearing is their daily toil, and how much of their health and education is sacrificed in these years and premature labor! The evil in New is evidently enormous, and most threatening to our future. These children, stunted in body and mind, are growing up to be voters and legislators. There are already 60,000 persons in New York who can not read nor write. These little operatives will swell this ignorant throng. Fortunately this great abuse has not escaped the attention of humane men.—C. BRACE, in Harper's Magazine.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA,

Monday, 7th day of July, 1876.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL in council.

On the recommendation of the Hon. the Minister of Constons, and under the provisions of the Sth and the Act of the Act of the Sthat of the Act of the Sthat of the Act of the Ac Customs," His Excellency has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that Port Williams, in the Occupity of Cornwallis, Nova Scotle, and the same is hereby constituted and erected into an Out Port of Customs with warehousing privileges, and placed under the Survey of the Collector of Customs of the Pert of Cernwallis.

July 26, 1878.

W. A. HIMSWORTH Clerk Privy Council

City Directory.

Our readers will find it to their advantage to putron ize the following firms.

Auctioneer.

TAMES BANKS, AUCTIONEER, AND APPRAISER. Salerooms, 45 Jarvis Street, corner of King Street East, Second hand Furniture bought and sold.

Barristers, &c.

DEEVE & PLATT, BARRISTERS, AT-TORNEYS, Solicitors, &c. Office—18 King St. East, Toronto. J. McPhermon Renye, Samual Platt. 42-br

AUDER & PROCTOR, BARRISTERS,
Attorneys, Solicitors in Chancery, &c. OFFICEMusonic Hall, 20 Toronto Street.

TARRY E. CASTON, ATORNEY-AT-LAW, Solletor in Chancery, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c. Oprice—48 Adelaide Street, opposite the Court House, Teronto. 34-oh

ENRY O'BRIEN, BARRISTER,
Attorney and Solicitor, &c., Notary Public, &c.
OFFICE -68 Church Street.

Dentists.

EDWARD SNIDER, SURGEON IVE DENTIST, OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—84 Bay Street, a few doors below King Street, Toronto.

DR. J. BRANSTON WILMOTT, DEN-TIST, Graduate of the Philadelphia Dental College. Orrica-Corner of King and Church streets

F. G. CALLENDER, DENTIST, OFFICE Cerner of King and Jordan streets,

W. HALE, DENTIST, No. 6
Street, north side.
34-hr

C. ADAMS, DENTIST, 95 KING Street East, Toronte, has given attention to his profession in all its parts.

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OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—127 Church Street, Toronto, opposite Metropolitan Church. Makes the preservation of the natural teeth a speciality.

R. G. TROTTER, DESTANDANT Street. RESIDENCE—172 Jarvis Street. TROTTER, DENTIST Street. R 28-oh

Groceries.

CHARLES HUNTER, DEALER IN GRO-CERIES AND PROVISIONS, WINES AND LIQUORS, 63 Queen Street West, corner Torouley Street, Toronto, Ont. 59-bo

Physicians.

AGNEW, M. D., (SUCCESSOR bay and Richmond Streets, Terento.

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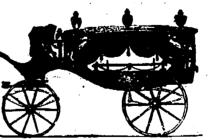
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