

we had a large business, on account of it being local. It was then increased by the condition of times in the city, ship-building and other industries flourishing then.

Q. Have you a work-shop in connection with your premises? A. No; our factory is on the east end of Union street, and our warerooms and paint-shop are in the market building, on Germain street.

Q. How many boys have you employed? A. About twenty-five.

Q. Do you mean you have twenty-five boys employed in your factory? A. I mean men and boys, altogether.

Q. How many of these men are tradesmen? A. We have, I think, about five apprentices, and three more that would probably come in to work with us when they end their time.

Q. Could unskilled hands do good work for you at lower prices? A. Not satisfactorily.

Q. What wages do you pay to these men that you consider skilled workmen? A. Nine dollars to ten dollars a week.

Q. What do you pay to ordinary hands? A. We have ordinary hands running from \$6 to \$7, but very few of them; most of our men get \$9 a week.

Q. Have you a foreman in your shop? A. Not at present; I act as foreman myself.

Q. What wages do you pay the boys? A. We commence them at \$1.50 a week, and we take them on for a service of five years; then we increase their wages 50 cents a week each year.

Q. Do you find the boys, as a general rule, stay with you after they put in their time? A. As a general rule, they stay with us; it is an exception when they do not. We do not bind them as apprentices; they are at perfect liberty to leave us if the conditions do not suit them, and we have perfect liberty to discharge them if we see fit.

Q. Do the boys generally discharge themselves? A. No; they generally remain with us after their time is out.

Q. What hours do you work? A. Ten hours a day.

Q. All the year around? A. Yes.

Q. Do you work ten hours a day in the winter time? A. Yes; we have not, for several years, worked shorter time than ten hours.

Q. Do you do any upholstering in your place of business—all your work is wooden? A. Yes.

Q. Have you any machines to work in your establishment? A. Yes.

Q. Have you had any accidents happen from your machinery? A. For twenty years we have not had a single accident happen from the working of our machinery, except that once a boy lost the end of his thumb.

Q. Do you think it necessary to have guards placed on these machines? A. We find that, although we have used every precaution to prevent accident, we cannot get the men to keep any guards or contrivances on the machines, as they say they will interfere with their work and be in their way.

Q. Do you find any difficulty with your men, or are your men fairly intelligent and sober all the time? A. We have had, I can safely say, during our whole record of twenty years, not more than three intemperate man.

Q. Do you know if any of your men in any way own property or houses of any kind? A. Yes; some of them do. One or two of my men are interested in property. Some others do not own property, but still I know that they are saving money.

Q. Have you ever had any labor troubles or strikes with your men? A. We have never had a strike or a labor trouble with our men.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q. Do your men work by the piece or by the day? A. Very few of them work piece-work, our work being of a mixed nature. We have only one piece-worker in our establishment, and he generally employs one or two assistants.