

THE CANADIAN MILLER

OLD SERIES, VOL. X. NUMBER 4.
NEW SERIES, VOL. II.

TORONTO, ONT., APRIL, 1892

TERMS, \$1.00 PER YEAR
SINGLE COPIES, 10 CENTS

CHARACTER SKETCH.

MR. J. D. SAUNBY.

"Blest work" if ever thou wert curse of God,
What must His blessing be?

A MODEST man is Mr. J. D. Saunby, of London, Ont. One might be a delegate to millers' conventions for a decade of years, or, for that matter, of any organization with which he is identified, and so far as knowing Mr. Saunby for his much speaking, he would not be known at all. The Dominion Millers' Association has members who could hold the floor for an hour where Mr. Saunby would be satisfied with ten minutes. He is a silent member as far as words are concerned, but in the councils of the Millers' Association his opinion is one that makes opinion and ever wisely influences milling legislation. "There is little to see," some one has said, "and little to do, 'tis only to do it," and this, we would suppose, is a guiding principle with Mr. Saunby in all his conduct and acts, public and private. He believes in the qualities of doing.

Mr. J. D. Saunby is of English parentage, his father and mother hailing from the county of Lincolnshire. He himself was born at Lachine Rapids, Que., in 1837. His father ran a flour mill at Laprairie and Caughnawaga for a number of years, so that of the younger Saunby it can be said, as of the Goldies and others prominent today in milling ranks in Canada, he was to the manner born. When nine years of age Mr. Saunby's father removed to the upper province, settling in Omamee, in Victoria county, where he conducted a flour mill until 1854, when the family again changed their place of abode, coming further westward to the city of London, where Mr. Saunby has remained a resident from that day to the present. From 1854 to 1860 the senior Saunby ran a mill at St. John, seven miles from London.

In 1860 Mr. J. D. Saunby entered into business on his own account with his brother-in-law, Mr. Hilliard, the co-partnership existing until 1872, when Mr. Saunby bought out his partner's interest in the firm. At that time the North Branch Mills on the river Thames were being operated. Five years later Mr. Saunby purchased the Blackfriars Mills on the opposite side of the river. In 1881 the latter mill was changed to a roller process mill of the most modern class; the North Branch Mills continued to be operated as a stone mill. The capacity of the roller process mill is 300 barrels per day, which is sometimes extended to 325 barrels. Both mills are possessed of steam and water power.

It is not necessary to suggest that Mr. Saunby's extended experience in milling, reaching back practically from childhood, reflects itself in the high character of the various grades of flour manufactured at his two mills. Their reputation is in no sense local, a large business for years being carried on in the Maritime provinces, and especially in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. To Glasgow and Liverpool considerable quantities of the Saunby flours are shipped, not less than 20,000 sacks being exported this season.

An American Archbishop used to say: "The human heart is like a millstone; if you put wheat under it, it grinds the wheat into flour; if you put no wheat, it grinds on, but then 'tis itself it wears away." The healthy man must be active; he must labor; the remark is true in all human experience that more men rust out than wear out. Charles Lamb, after having spent a lifetime in the wearisome drudgery of the India Office, and had well earned his retirement, gave it as his experience that "no work is worse than overwork." Mr. Saunby is one of the men who finds his enjoyment in constant and thorough-going work. He has had the satisfaction during these years of pleasurable toil to enjoy a reasonable share of its successes; for it can be

said, with the history of the business standing as its own monument, that his is one of the successful milling properties of this country.

The labors of the day closed, Mr. Saunby finds complete enjoyment in the bosom of his family. We feel safe in saying that if Prof. Fowler were to have an opportunity of making a phrenological diagnosis of Mr. Saunby's head he would mark the domestic faculties large, with a cross opposite these to give extra emphasis to this phase of the delineation. His family had consisted of three children, one daughter and two sons, but of these only one son remains, 26 years of age, who is actively associated with his father in the milling business.

Mr. Saunby is one of London's most respected citizens; a prominent member of the Methodist Church, serving as regular steward for a number of years; an active member of the Board of Trade of the Forest City; in politics a Liberal; and always ready to assume his full share of the responsibilities of citizenship, and, having done so, to do the work undertaken.

He was for three years reeve of London West, and



MR. J. D. SAUNBY.

much of the prosperity of this section of the municipality is due to the capable business management of Mr. Saunby while holding that important position.

ROLLER MILL DRIVES.

IT is curious how certain types of milling machinery seem to keep their distinctive character in different countries. To the expert miller or milling engineer these differences are very apparent, and in no case is this more apparent than in roller mill drives.

It would seem as though by tacit consent that roller mills in America are for the most part belt driven, while in the United Kingdom gear driving is the rule. The battle that once raged over the rival systems has now in a great measure died away, with the result indicated above. Both systems have their merits, both their defects. In the case of belt drive its merits are the obvious ones of silence in working, and more ready adjustment without disturbing the force of the drive. Its defects, on the other hand, are liability to slip (and, therefore, irregularity of differential speed), and greater frictional power consumed for a given work. Gear drives, on the other hand, are positive in their action, and consume

less frictional power to work them. They are, however, liable to noise unless well pitched, and even then are affected by the relative adjustment between the rolls. In this country, however, the advantages of gear-driven rolls seem to have been demonstrated to the satisfaction of millers and milling engineers, who therefore adopt them for the most part in their usual practice.

Amid the variety of methods for driving roller mills there are three that we cannot call to mind as ever having been heard of, viz., (1) friction drive, (2) rope drive. The first is obviously unsuitable, but as regards the second there is no reason why, under certain conditions, a rope drive might not be useful. The "grip" of a rope on a grooved pulley, where the groove is not rounded, makes it more certain than any belt drive, while partaking of its advantages as well as that of the gear drive. With a swinging level pulley above or below to tighten or slacken the rope the pressure could always be regulated to a nicety without the tension so often needed with the belt, the V-groove rendering this unnecessary.

Rope driving direct from the engine to the various shafts of a mill is now a common feature in many new mills, so that its extension to the detail (if it may be so called) of inside drives does not seem an impossible development in future.

With regard to gear driving, it might be possible to insure an always positive relation between geared wheels (whatever the distance between the rolls), by the use of the now obsolete and well-nigh forgotten "sun and planet motion," which was so favorite a device in the early days of engineering.

This would, however, be too cumbersome, and involve too much power ever to be adopted in roller milling.

WORKING WITH BUHRS.

THOSE who are yet trying to make a marketable flour with buhrs, says a writer in the Mechanical News, and there are still many of them, do it with buhrs that would formerly have been considered scarcely in good enough condition to make feed. If it was then of such great importance to have the buhrs in the best condition, it is certainly more so now; because it was then a race with buhrs, while now it is buhrs against a superior method of milling. The faces of buhrs for making flour should be close and dressed as true as is possible. They should also be smooth, or very lightly touched and finely cut. The furrows should be wide, comparatively shallow, and dressed as smoothly and as straight as the face, and drawn out to a fine feather edge. For the best milling there should be no more face than furrow; in fact, for grinding hard wheat there should be rather more furrow than face. The motion should be slow and the grinding not forced, then with the runners in good balance, and with other necessary machinery for clearing and separating, both before and after grinding, the buhr mill can hope to still make a fairly respectable flour.

FAREWELL TO THE MILLSTONE.

FAREWELL to the millstone, its course it has run,
Like a time-worn old servant, its work is nigh done;
No longer the stowman with sharp bill shall trace
Those parallel lines on its ruddy old face,
No longer the furrows with care shall mark out,
Nor handle the meal rushing down thro' its spout.
From the earliest ages that record can trace,
For grinding the grain the millstone held first place;
From the time of the Briton, whose slaves worked the quern,
To the modern mill company's mammoth concern,
Tho' now it is banished for rollers of steel,
Fond regard for the millstone we ever shall feel.
Our old friend's supplanted by rollers, but yet
For things that must be it is vain regret;
Of this new milling system let's study the plan,
And its ways and its secrets find out if we can;
Till our flour, as of yore, ever be in demand,
And the bakers still cry for the strong and white bread.