

barn yard manures, besides enabling us to purchase an abundant annual supply of artificial manures, which would all be paid by the beet crop and leave a large profit.

In presence of these facts I may well say that the day when a factory of beet sugar will be established in the Province of Quebec will be a happy day for us all, and that it behooves all of us and every farmer in this Province, to study out this question carefully for himself. If what I have here stated is correct, and I can vouchsafe for the correctness of each and every one of the above statements,—I say, if what I have stated is correct it becomes the duty of every patriotic Canadian to work earnestly and well in fact to leave no stone unturned until this object, of such national magnitude from an agricultural point of view, be successfully attained.

I may here say that our Local Legislature so well understands the importance of this matter, that as far back as 1874 it passed a law offering \$25,000 as a premium to the first successful manufactory of beet sugar in this Province, and that in 1875 this premium was increased to \$7,000 annually for ten years, which is equal to the sum of \$70,000.

However, I must say that the manufacturing of beet-root sugar is of a very complex nature, that it requires the ablest chemists and practical men of highly scientific attainments before it can be carried out with success. And what is still more difficult to attain perhaps, it will require especially for the first start, a very large capital indeed, which, I am afraid will amount to \$350,000 in order to secure success. This estimate supposes that the company would undertake to produce itself two-thirds of all the beet-roots required by the factory. This is the system usually followed in Germany, Austria and Russia. If the farmers undertake to produce excellent beet-roots for the factory, in sufficient quantity for all its wants, the required capital in that case should not exceed \$200,000 for the first factory producing 110 tons per diem, and probably \$125,000 for all succeeding ones. On the other hand, from all the information I can gather, and I think I have gathered a good deal on the subject, no industry in Canada will ever have given such a large return, for the amount put into the enterprise, if only properly conducted.

The capital above mentioned would not only suffice to produce marketable white sugar, but also would cover all the necessary outlay for the production of the beets needed by the factory, leaving an ample margin to meet all unforeseen contingencies.

Before concluding, I deem it necessary to say one word on the subject of refineries. Many persons are of opinion that the difficult position in which our refineries have been placed by the strictures of the tariff and the drawback given to American refiners, would prove equally disastrous if not ruinous, to the Canadian beet-sugar manufacture if the industry were established in the country. This is a great mistake. The refiner has to import his sugar, on which he pays 25 per cent. duty, *ad valorem*, and 3 per cent per pound according to quality, before he can begin his operations.