GREENVILLE MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS.

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I hope our readers won't tire of reading about Greenville, for they can feel pretty well acquainted with it and its business men when this series is concluded. For the present I am through with all but the manufacturers, and now will conclude with them. The manufacturing interest of Greenville is already quite extensive, and is increasing constantly. I mentioned the excellent water power afforded by Flat River in a previous article, and now we will inspect the mills.

First in order comes Oliver, Belknap & Green's planing and re-sawing mill, located on the lower dam, the members of the firm being J. E. Oliver, J. W. Belknap and John Green. This mill is unquestionably one of the finest planing, scroll-sawing and lumber-dressing mills in Michigan, having two planers, one scroll machine, one shaper and altogether twenty-five machines. They employ forty-three hands here, and at their saw-mill, which is located seven miles north. The saw-mill has a capacity of 30,000 feet daily. The capital invested in the two mills is $50,000. The Greenville mill has been run by Oliver & Belknap four years, Mr. Green having joined them but a few weeks since. Their annual shipments to southern markets will reach a large figure. Their power is furnished by a Lane & Bodley steam engine, of 40 horse power, with a 12x20 inch cylinder. This engine has been running under the efficient charge of W. L. Osborn for two years without five dollars worth of repairs. It runs the entire mill, and is one of the most unerring workers I have seen in some time. Alfred Mills, who runs one of the planers, deserves a special notice for the skill and industry with which he attends to his department.

Messrs. Fuller & Bracey's saw-mill is located near by, and has one circular saw and a double shingle mill machine, the saw cutting 3,000-000 feet annually, and the shingle machine fifty thousand shingles daily. This mill was built six years ago, and the present proprietors have owned it four years. Before this article appears, however, the property will have passed into the hands of Mr. Joseph M. Fuller, Mr. Bracey going to Maryland. The capital invested in the business is $15,000 and fifteen men are employed in and around the mill.

N. M. Cole is the proprietor of the Greenville woollen mills, which is an institution that city has that Grand Rapids cannot boast of, and Mr. Cole has done a good thing for the Greenville manufacturing interests by building it. It was built seven years since. He has a full set of manufacturing machines, and also one of custom cards. Here is made a fine quality of plain woolen goods, and they are supplying the yarn for the Grand Rapids sock factory. The capital invested is $20,000, and twelve hands are employed. The wool is obtained from the surrounding country, where the sheep and wool interest is largely and constantly increasing.

A few steps from the woolen mills is George Partlow's flouring mills, having four run of stone, three running flour, and one feed. The capacity is from 150 to 200 barrels in twenty-four hours, a large portion of which is shipped to New York and Boston. The mill was built ten years ago, and the capital invested is $35,000.

When I visited the mill Mr. Partlow was away, but it was doing its work faithfully under the competent supervision of H. C. Dutton, the worthy miller.

F. N. Wright & Co.'s saw mill is located just across the mill-race from Partlow's mill, and is one of the heavy mill firms. Mr. Wright did not seem particularly anxious to have me make any detailed statement of
his business, the reason I know not, and consequently I have to let this pass.

Maxted & Moors have the oldest foundry and machine shop north of Grand Rapids, it being twenty-two years old, when it was established by Coffren & Masted, who were together three years, when the Moor brothers bought Mr. Coffren's interest, and the firm has since been continued under the present style. There were then a few little saw mills on the river, and besides the work done for them, they made plows for the farmers, who were beginning to settle quite thickly around them. Their shops are located on the upper dam, and they use water power principally, but in case of lack of water are provided with steam, to enable them to run constantly. They have in all five lathes, a wood and an iron planer, a drill, and all other machines for a first-class machine shop. They still make plows and cultivators in addition to their mill work. They have $20,000 capital.

When Mr. Maxted came here the mail was carried weekly by pony from Ionia, and the country was then thickly settled by the red-skins.

E. Middleton & Son's flouring mills is just across the river from the above-named establishments. They are called the Greenville City Mills, of which mention was made a recent article. They have now six run of stone, two additional ones having been put in. The capacity is from 250 to 300 barrels daily. One stone is run on feed. The original Greenville mills were built thirty years ago by Slaght & French, and sixteen years since was purchased by E. Middleton. Three years since, the present firm built the large mill they now occupy, than which the state of Michigan probably does not contain one of greater capacity, or arranged with such compactness or convenience, and the old mill stands a little to the right, vacant. The new mill is 40x 68 feet, with office extra, and store-houses and cooper shop in adjacent buildings. The capital invested is $80,000, and the business will amount to upward of $500,000 per annum. They own the power furnished by the upper dam. They are now making additional repairs and enlargements, which work is under the charge of Fred Ladd, one of the best millwrights in the entire west, recently from Minneapolis.

Wm. Winters has a carriage and wagon shop near the mill, and is prepared to make or repair carriages or wagons on short notice. He has been running three years, and is literally overrun with business, which is the species of complaint I like to hear made.

C. J. Cawley, carriage trimmer and painter, may be found over Winters' wagon shop. He has also been three years in business, and I can recommend him as a master of his work, if I may judge by what I saw of it. He is a young man, full of pluck and ambition, and if anything will carry him through, that will.

The new shingle mill of Messrs. Bartlett & Hewitt is now running in full blast, cutting 30,000 per day. They have the Challoner mill, made by George Challoner, Omro, Wis. It is a horizontal saw and can cut on full run 35,000 feet per day. The shingles are unusually even and perfect. A side-track is being laid from the main track of the railroad to accommodate this and Middleton's mills, also others in the immediate vicinity. This firm will ship principally to Cincinnati, Ohio. Beside the shingle saw they have a cutting off saw, a drag saw and a boltier.

W. P. Hall's planing mill forms one of the cluster of mills about the upper dam. It has a planer, a re-saw, a scroll saw, two ripping and one cutting off saw, and all other machines pertaining to the business—also manufactures doors, sash and blinds. Mr. Hall is successor to J. P. Dodge and has been running the mill a year.
And now Henry Hart, with his saw mill and patent cars, has the honor of winding up this series for the present. Mr. Hart's is the largest water-power saw mill here, running a double circular saw and a gang edger. The mill has been built two years the coming fall. He has an extensive lumber yard nearly on the side-track before mentioned. The usual cutting of this mill is 25,000 feet in 11 hours Henry is a genius. His carts and trucks are not like any one else's, they're Henry Hart's own contrivances and are the most handy of any I have ever seen. One truck that first attracted my attention I will describe. It is for running lumber out of the mill into the yards, and can be turned at right angles or any other angle almost, and runs on three wheels, the rear one being in the form of an immense castor, which answers for a rudder. This saves the building of tramways, tracks, etc., for it is just as easy, and much more convenient to handle. Henry also is a lover of fine horses, and has some of the finest stock in Greenville. The rivals in this are probably he and J. W. Belknap.

A CONVENTION OF YELLOW PINE MANUFACTURERS.

The yellow pine manufacturers and dealers have recently held a convention at Norfolk, Va., and are endeavoring to come to some agreement about curtailing the amount of yellow-pine lumber manufactured. The convention is reported as harmonious and united in expression. The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That, in view of the fact that yellow pine lumber cannot be sold at present, except at ruinous prices, owing to the fact that a supply, greatly in excess of the demand, has been and still is being shipped to market with instructions to sell and the price left to the discretion of the commission merchant, it is therefore the sense of this convention that shipments should hereafter be made sparingly, until such a time as there shall be increased demand, and manufacturers now having lumber in market awaiting sale or shipping hereafter, instruct their commission merchants to make no sale of yellow pine lumber until it can be sold at a price, affording a living profit.

Resolved, That the chairman of this convention appoint a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to carefully prepare a plan, with suitable constitution and by-laws, for the organization of the yellow-pine manufacturers into a permanent association for the protection of that interest, to report at an adjourned meeting of this convention, to be held in Norfolk on the 3d of September, 1874.

Resolved, That the chairman appoint a committee of three to prepare a suitable circular, embracing the objects of the adjourned meeting of this convention, with statistics showing the present condition of the lumber market, and direct one to every manufacturer of yellow-pine lumber in Virginia, North Carolina and Maryland, asking their attendance and cooperation at the adjourned meeting.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to manufacturers to reduce their production of lumber as rapidly as practicable, in view of the great excess of the supply over the demand now in the market.

The mill of Long, Barnhill & Co., at Portland, N. B., was wholly destroyed by fire July 30. Loss $43,000; insurance $6,000. About one hundred workmen are thrown out of employment. The mill which was cutting deals for the English market, produced on an average, from 70,000 to 80,000 feet per day.