

BEET SUGAR IN CANADA.

Many years ago a quantity of sugar beet seed was procured by the the Department of Agriculture of Canada for distribution among the farmers, but only a small portion was taken.

In 1867 Mr. Cuisset of Quebec wrote a treatise on beet root cultivation of sugar fabrication. In 1872 the Department sent Mr. Edward Barnard to Europe to prosecute inquiries about sugar beets and beet sugar.

Mr. Wm. Skaiffe, Mr. Robert Lauder, the Count des Etang, Dr. Wm. Saunders, C. C. James and others have written on the subject in connection with efforts to develop the industry in Canada.

The Legislature of the province of Quebec passed an Act in 1875 authorizing the Lieut. Governor-in-Council to grant annually the sum of \$5,000 for five years for the purpose of securing the establishment of a beet sugar factory.

In 1876 the Quebec Legislature passed an Act increasing the offer to \$7,000 a year for 10 years.

In 1878 a company named La Compagnie de Sucre de Betterave de la province de Quebec obtained an Act of Incorporation with a subscribed capital of \$500,000. Nothing more was done and in 1880 a new Act was passed incorporating a company and making Farnham the head-quarters. This company bound itself to manufacture 100 tons of beets a day provided the Government of the Province would assign to it the subsidy provided by the Act of 1876.

In 1881 another company was incorporated under the name of L'union Franco-Canadienné with a capital of ten million francs ; general office in Paris and local office in Montreal with factory in county of Berthier.

By an Act of 1882 (45 Victoria, Chap. 23) the Legislature of Quebec agreed to grant to the Farnham Company \$7,000 a year for 10 years, and to the farmers a sum of \$2,000 to be distributed at the rate of 75 cents per ton of beets delivered at the factory.

A third company 'La Compagnie de Sucre de Betterave Pionier' was subsequently incorporated with its centre of operations in Coaticook. This company obtained a subvention of \$3,500 in 1882, but does not appear to have done anything practical.

The subsidy of \$70,000 granted to the Farnham factory was paid by annual sums of \$7,000. The Government also paid \$860 for insurance premiums of the Farnham factory.

The Federal Government came to the assistance of the beet sugar industry and by chap. 31 Acts of 1891 the Parliament of Canada offered a bonus of \$1.00 per hundred pounds and in addition thereto 3½ cents per 100 lbs. for each degree or fraction over 70 degrees shown by the polariscope, to producers in Canada of raw beet sugar, for a term of years ending on June 30, 1893. By a subsequent Act the time was extended to June 30,