

by Barber Bros. and in 1852 moved to Streetsville. About this time also a knitting mill was established at Paris by John Penman and others. The industry was also introduced in the Ottawa Valley, a mill being established by James Rosamond and James Bell in 1845 at Carleton Place, and twelve years afterwards moved to Almonte. A large mill was established at Cobourg about this time, and in 1866 the Paton Woollen Mills, which had been founded in Galt, Ontario twelve years before, were moved to Sherbrooke, Quebec. Small custom carding and weaving mills sprang up everywhere, and in 1871 270 establishments were engaged in woollen manufacturing in the four provinces included in the census area. The annual wage bill was \$917,827; the annual value of the products, \$5,507,549; and the hands employed 4,453. There were in addition 650 carding and fulling mills with a product valued at \$2,253,794, employing 1,224 hands and paying in annual wages \$146,370.

There now occurred a steady tendency in favour of factory-made goods. These mills made cloth and their salesmen went about the country, often from farm to farm, trading the cloth for wool, farm produce, grain or money; the latter quite rarely, as it was a scarce commodity in that period. This trade induced mill owners to install power looms, and many of the custom mills put in manufacturing cards, jacks and looms, and turned out coarse tweeds, étoffes, flannels, homespuns, etc., as well as doing the custom work. The industry had grown to considerable magnitude by 1885, when most of the woollen mills of the present time had been established. The custom mills were beginning to disappear, as the larger mills were producing goods of a better quality, with the result that the people began to get away from the hand-loom product. The data for 1885 of the 240 mills doing their own carding, spinning and weaving, with an equipment of 515 cards, 1,885 looms and 107,870 spindles, indicate the rapid growth of the industry.

In a slight sketch such as this little comment can be added on the happenings in the industry up to 1900, except that a very sound and satisfactory development took place. During this period many of the custom mills and small one-set mills, which had outlived their usefulness, gave way to the larger and more progressive mills which had kept their machinery up-to-date and were able to turn out a better class of product. Although the number of woollen mills had decreased to 236, the number of looms and cards had increased to 2,120 and 477 respectively. The looms were of the broad and narrow type, but in this computation two narrows are taken as one broad for purposes of comparison. The aggregate production of the mills in 1899 was 13,992,000 yards. There were 333 carding and fulling mills still in operation, but the custom business was fast disappearing and during the next few years the majority of these mills passed out of existence.

Decline of the Industry.—The woollen industry in Canada declined steadily after 1899, as during the next eight years 88 mills with an equipment of 129 cards and 559 looms were forced to close their doors. The industrial stocktaking in 1910 indicated that only 78 woollen and worsted mills were in operation in Canada, operating 224 cards and 1,154 looms, and producing approximately 7,616,000 yards of cloth. The value of the woven fabrics produced by the mills was \$7,339,541, or about one-third of the total of the actual consumption of woollen woven goods.

Expansion of Knitting Mills.—Any expansion taking place during the period from 1900 to the outbreak of the war in 1914, was chiefly in the manufacture of knitted goods. A number of knitting mills were already in operation at the commencement of this period, and many of the woollen mills had established knitting departments manufacturing hosiery and underwear. During these years knitted goods became increasingly popular, and a decided development took place in the