

establishment. To attempt an adequate description of the same without diagrams would be useless, but some little idea of its efficacy may be gathered from the fact that the cutters which scoop out the receptacles for the reeds revolve eight thousand two hundred times per minute. This speed has not been obtained, that we are aware, elsewhere. In a small room upon the top floor of the "old factory" the carving of the legs for the melodeons and cases for the organs is done, mostly by hand. Upon this floor, also, the cases are fitted together, and from thence taken to the new factory, to the top or fourth floor of which they are hoisted, by means of a large elevator. Here they are varnished, polished, and made ready for the reception of the most important portions, the reeds, bellows, etc. Upon the second floor the "actions"—key-boards and their connections with the valves which, together with the reeds, produce the sweet melody for which the cottage organs are so justly celebrated—are made, as also are the bellows, pedals, stops, etc. These being finished, and the cases also having been made ready, both are taken to the third floor, where the actions are put in and the organs put in shape for the hands of the tuners. This portion of the work is performed by experienced musicians, each one having a room set apart for his own use, from off the warerooms, where, day after day, may be heard every note of the gamut from the lowest sub-bass to the highest treble, each note being tested and tried with a thoroughness and exactness which render discords absolutely out of the question. The instruments, thus completed, are placed in the warerooms to await the packing and shipping process, which is constantly going on, Messrs. Estey & Co. being unable to keep any number of their organs on hand, owing to the constantly increasing demand for them from all parts of the country.

Upon the first floor of this building are made the packing boxes; in the "L" part is another drying-house or room, in addition to the one already described as attached to "the old factory;" the low, round-roofed building on the left and rear, made entirely of brick and iron, contains another thirty-horse power engine which drives the machinery. The entire building, as well as the dry-house, is heated by steam-pipes and lighted with gas, and is furnished with fire extinguishers and other necessary appurtenances.

The terrible flood which swept over our land October 4, 1869, did not escape Brattleboro in its work of devastation, nor did the house of J. Estey & Co. go unharmed. The mountain streams came rushing down with much force, swelling as they went, carrying away dams, mills, shops, factories, and houses, till they reached to waves of tremendous height and swept around the shops of Estey & Co., through their lumber yard, and destroying about two thousand dollars' worth of lumber and other property. Since then they have diked and entrenched strongly for future protection. At the time of the flood they were about erecting another large shop to accommodate their rapidly increasing business; but the floods have changed all this, and they have bought a lot of sixty acres of land a few rods west of their present site, and on higher ground, and already are erecting the largest and most extensive organ works in the world.

The manufactories of Messrs. J. Estey & Co. form one of the principal elements of the prosperity of the village of Brattleboro, supporting a large