R. A. LISTER & CO., LTD.,
DURSLEY.


DESCRIPTION of the business of Messrs. R. A. Lister and Co., Ltd., of Dursley, forms one of the most interesting chapters in the industrial history of Gloucestershire. The business was established in 1867 by the present Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. R. A. Lister. Until he reached manhood Mr. Lister was engaged in the business of his father, Mr. George Lister, who left Yorkshire in the year 1827 built the Rivers Mills at Dursley, and created and carried on a large business as manufacturer of woollen machinery, and as a tanner.

At the age of 21, however, Mr. Lister was thrown on his own resources, and without capital commenced business on his own account. Since that time he has never looked back, and, ably supported by his sons, he has succeeded in building up the present large and prosperous business, which has had an important influence upon the life and progress of the town of Dursley and surrounding villages.

THE VICTORIA WORKS.

In the early part of the nineteenth century Dursley was a very important cloth manufacturing centre, as the numerous old cloth mills in the neighbourhood testify. Messrs. R. A. Lister and Co. have, however, metamorphosed no less than five of these existing works, in which they now manufacture their specialties, to which reference is made below.

THE CHURN WORKS.

These works consist of cooperage shop, turning, planing and mortising shops, carpenters’ shop, general and barrel stores.

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THE ELECTRICAL WORKS.

The business of the Lister Electrical Manufacturing Company was, on the death of Mr. R. A. Lister’s only brother, acquired by the Company. This electrical business is carried on at the Rivers Mill, and is devoted entirely to the manufacture of the Lister Dynamos and Motors, open, semi-enclosed and protected enclosed multipolar type, from 1/2 to 100 B.H.P. These motors have already met with much success, as indicated by the fact of their being on the War and India Office Lists. They have also supplied to the Great Western Railway Company for their Window Works, Messrs. Price, Walker and Co., Gloucester, Messrs. Fielding and Platt, Gloucester, and some of the largest institutions in the United Kingdom. These works are exceptionally complete and well built. The arrester winding shop alone covers no less than 4,178 square feet, whilst the erecting and testing shop is 120 ft. long x 60 ft. wide, fitted with travelling crane from end to end.

In the Victoria Works the Company manufacture the celebrated “Lister” Cream Separators, Dairy Machinery, Grinding Mills, Agricultural Implement Machinery, etc.

THE PEDERSEN WORKS.

The celebrated Dursley-Pedersen Cycles and Pedersen 8-speed hubs are made here. These

specialities have achieved world-wide fame amongst cyclists. The 3-speed gear, an invention of Mr. Pedersen, can be fitted to any cycle, and is destined, we think, to have enormous sale, as it is the only 8-speed gear on the market fitted with ball bearings throughout, as the illustration shows.

In the Victoria Works the Company manufacture the celebrated “Lister” Cream Separators, Dairy Machinery, Grinding Mills, Agricultural Implement Machinery, etc.

THE VICTORIA WORKS.

These works have in recent years been materially extended, the present fine offices and showrooms being among the most important additions. The offices afford accommodation to a staff of 20 clerks. No less than 10 typewriters are required to attend to the correspondence carried on with almost every part of the world.

The works proper are very complete, and include iron, brass and aluminium foundries, castings and general stores, turning and erecting shops, tin and coppersmiths' shops, blacksmiths' and wrought iron working shops, experimental dairy, paint and enamelling shops, packing shop, etc., etc.

In the Victoria Works the Company manufacture a large number of agricultural implements, including the celebrated "Lister" Cream Separators, Dairy Machinery, Grinding Mills, Agricultural Implement Machinery, etc.

THE CHURN WORKS.

These are some 100 yards distant from the Victoria Works, and adjoining the Midland Railway Station. They are driven by water power and gas engines, and are replete with the latest wood-working machinery. Many thousands of pounds' worth of the finest oak, teak, mahogany, and pitch pine are stacked in the Company's well arranged yards and buildings.

PAPERS 8-SPEED GEAR. SECTIONAL VIEW.

Dursley-Pedersen Cycle Co., Ltd., Dursley.

Mr. R. A. Lister, Mr. C. A. Lister, and Mr. M. Pedersen are the directors and hold nearly all the shares.

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