

THE LOUIS SNYDER SONS COMPANY,

Paper Manufacturers.

LOUIS SNYDER was a Bavarian paper-maker. He came to the United States without money and began the manufacture of paper in hand molds in Brookville, Indiana. He finally got into the general merchandizing business in Milford, Indiana.

In 1854 he built the Franklin Paper Mill at Hamilton, putting in a seventy-two inch machine and making book and newspaper.

In 1868 he built an additional mill, the Fairgrove Mill on the Canal at the city limits. This mill made newspaper, having a seventy-two inch machine. In this year he took in his sons, Henry and Louis P. and Edward J. and also Mr. William Pfau, and the firm name became Louis Snyders Sons. In 1875 Louis Snyder died and the other partners bought his interest of the estate and the firm name remained unchanged. In 1880 the firm built the third mill, the Fordham Mill at Second and Mill Streets. This mill was for making book and newspaper, and its ninety inch machine was then the widest machine in this valley.

In 1886 the Franklin Mill was entirely remodeled and a new machine ninety-two inches wide was put in. The mill when remodeled produced four times as much paper on the ninety-two inch machine as had been made before on the seventy-two inch machine.

In 1887 the business was incorporated as "The Louis Snyders Sons Co." with a capital of four hundred thousand dollars, with Henry Snyder as President and Treasurer and Edward J. Snyder Secretary.

In 1891 the construction of the "fourth" mill was begun at Second and Mill Streets. This mill has not yet been christened but "Fourth" will probably be its name. The new mill is for the production of sulphite of wood fiber. The daily capacity of the three mills is fifteen tons of paper and the capacity of the fourth mill seven tons of pulp. The product of these mills is marketed throughout the sections buying Western paper.

This concern has been the pioneer to the point of revolution in certain grades of paper manufacture. To make paper of old paper which had been printed upon was long a problem in the trade and the problem seemed impossible of solution, old printed paper being looked upon as one of the waste products of the world. But the problem was solved by the chemical research and earnest experiments conducted in these mills. A small percentage of printed paper was successfully dealt with and finally the end was reached and one hundred per cent of this stock was successfully employed in making white paper.