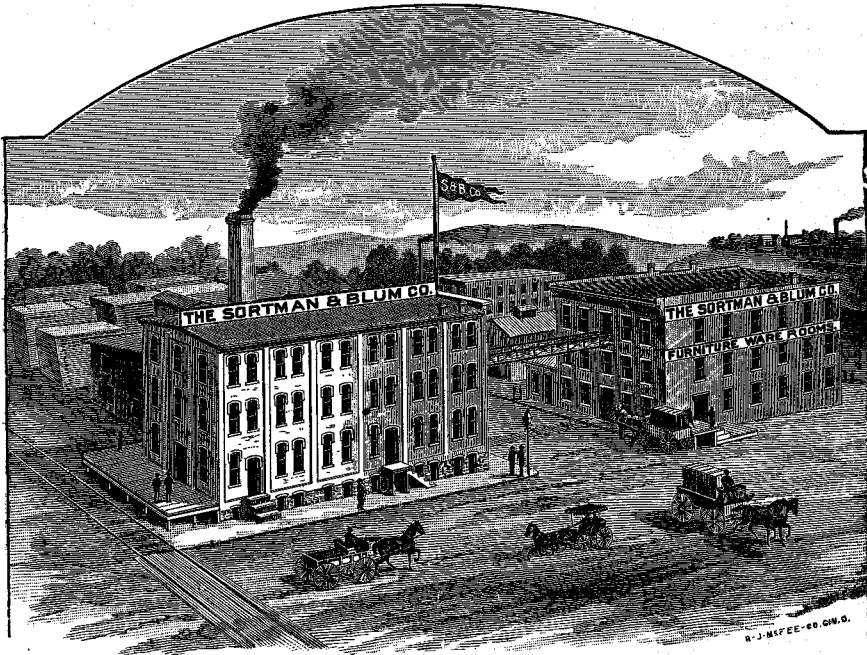


The Sortman Blum Co.

Wardrobes and Extension Tables.

D W SORTMAN and E. F. Blum were both cabinet-makers and had a retail furniture store in Hamilton, and, in 1870, they started the manufacture of extension-tables in a rented factory at Water and Market Streets, manufacturing for their own retail trade alone. In 1876 they built a new factory on B. Street near North Street. They built extension-tables only, but, in addition to work for their own trade, they branched out into the wholesale trade. There was at that time only one other factory making a specialty of extension-tables. In 1880 the store was given up and the entire attention of the firm was given to wholesale manufacturing. The sale was pushed, and wardrobes were added to the line of manufacture. The name of the firm was Sortman & Blum.



In 1886 the factory burned and was a total loss, entailing an uninsured loss of seventeen thousand dollars on Sortman & Blum.

In 1886 the Sortman & Blum Company was incorporated with twenty-five thousand dollars capital, since increased to thirty-five thousand dollars, with Mr. Sortman, President, and Mr. Blum, Secretary and Treasurer. A new factory was built in the same location, a roomy factory and an extensive warehouse, both three-story brick buildings. The manufacture is still limit-

ed to the two specialties, wardrobes and extension-tables. But these two lines have been much extended so as to include the higher grades of goods wardrobes in all the modern high-grade finishes, and extension tables from the simplest and cheapest to the more elaborate style and pillar tables. Twenty styles of wardrobes are manufactured and eleven patterns of extension tables. The product of the factory is marketed all over the United States but principally in the East and South. Messrs. Sortman & Blum both give personal attention to the factory and business.