

THE PIONEER IN WOOD PULP PAPER.

Paper made partly of wood pulp was first manufactured and sold in this country by the Smith Paper Company, of Lee, Mass. In 1883, Albert Pagenstecher, who owned the patent of the Voelter grinder, and who had in vain endeavored to persuade paper manufacturers to use it, came to Stockbridge, adjoining Lee, on a visit, and finding a small available water power, he made a contract with this paper company to take his pulp at eight cents a pound. The pulp was used and the paper marketed at twelve cents a pound, the usual price at that time for printing paper. After some time the water turned out to be too small and Mr. Pagenstecher sold his pulp mill; soon after he sold to Congressman William A. Russell, of Lawrence, Mass., the right to use and sell the grinder in New England, and to Senator Warner Miller, of Herkimer, N. Y., the right for New York State. The commercial success of wood pulp is due to the efforts of these gentlemen, after the Smith Paper Company had demonstrated that paper made partly of this pulp was undistinguishable from cotton paper and was just as saleable, if the purchaser at that early day was not told what his paper was made of. The Smith Paper Company has the credit of being the very pioneer in the manufacture of this paper, which has fallen in 20 years from 12 cents to five and six cents a pound, principally because the wood pulp has fallen to one and a half to two cents. It may be noted, also, that the Hon. Eliza Smith, the senior member and the founder of this company in 1863, when in company with Geo. W. Palmer in 1884, made all-wood pulp from basswood. They experimented at the instance of a Frenchman named Melier, who came to Lee to persuade them to do so, and the paper that they made is believed to have been the first all-wood paper ever made in the United States. Samples of it are now preserved in the office of the Smith Paper Company, not well bleached and showing brown fibres, but otherwise much like the all-wood paper recently made and to be made at Glens Falls, N. Y.—*Paper World*.

PROSPECTS OF RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

The *Railway Review* remarks as follows:—"The talk of a revival in railway construction has not as much foundation in fact, as rail makers and railroad builders earnestly desire. Still the limit of extreme depression has almost been reached. An enormous volume of capital is only awaiting the word 'go.' No doubt it will be spoken, in time, but when, no one knows. So far the construction of this year is under 900 miles. But meanwhile railroad building on paper is being pushed with but little sign of flagging enterprise. Within a few days the announcements of new roads represent a mileage of 1,600 miles. The confidence of capital is still wanted, but when this is secured railroad construction will return to something like former activity, despite the warnings of the thoughtful ones who are telling the people that we are far ahead of requirements and must wait. Railroad building is a favorite pastime with a great many Americans, and they will not be deprived of their pleasures. They have become accustomed to ups and downs, bankruptcies and receiverships, and to long seasons of no dividends, and are willing to take all these risks again. This element is indisposed to accept the restraint of conservative counsels, and may be counted on to improve to the utmost any suspicious changes in financial circles."

MILL BUILDING IN THE SOUTH.

While, within the past year, but few mills have gone up in the Northwest, mill building in the South generally has been active. Several large corporations have started into existence. Timber lands have been bought very cheap, which, no doubt, is the main excuse of more progress in this direction in the south than in the Northwest. Yellow pine lumber, except for local use, has been rather slow of sale; but that has not seemed to put a damper on mill building. We are inclined to consider unfavorably the erection of so many mills. The demand for yellow pine has been on the

increase since its introduction in to the northern markets; but the point has been by no means reached where the product of the mills is readily taken. It is not wise in any line of manufacture to increase the supply much beyond what the demand will warrant. The minute is so increased there are sure to be depressed prices. That is the trouble with the white pine manufacturers at present. Ready sales and profitable prices, a few years ago, stimulated the building of mills, and every man who could control a tract of pine thought the erection of a mill the proper thing to do. But, as is now seen, it was overdone. The future demand for lumber, promising as it was, was discontinued. Some of the owners of white pine mills would not now object to their going to ashes, provided they were insured. There is altogether too much lumber on stick. It costs a good deal of money to carry it, and the influence it exerts is bad. Comparatively clean docks and yards act as a tonic on both the retail dealer and consumer. The Southern manufacturers, it seems to us would not wisely if they studied these conditions. The call for yellow pine lumber will become louder—it cannot help it—but it should be remembered that the territory in the south capable of producing lumber is a big one. There is no particular glory in running a saw mill; it should be run for the money there is in it, if at all, and an unlimited number of mills are not productive of satisfactory profits.—*Record of Lumber Mills and Lumber Dealers*.

DEFENDING ALASKA.

The newly appointed governor of Alaska, Mr. A. P. Swineford, of the Marquette, Mich., *Mining Journal*, is noted as a joker and for getting back to the home stake every time in a repaitee. Secretary Hotchkiss of the Lumberman's Exchange having to write Swineford recently on business matters, took occasion to commiserate him on his forthcoming residence among the icebergs and grizzlies of Alaska, advised him to get his life well insured for the benefit of mankind in general, and hoped a kind providence would protect him from the Indians, and especially the Russian bear, and permit his going on pleasure "excursions" to Siberia or the North pole, etc., etc. Swineford's reply is characteristic: "Thanks for your sympathy I go where I will have cool breezes and a temperature of not more than 75 degrees in summer, and an average of 35 degrees above zero in the winter! Go buy you a geography or cyclopedia and then let me hear from you again! If after you see a piece of red or yellow Alaska cedar, cut from trees ranging in diameter from three to nine feet, you want to keep on handling scrub pine from Wisconsin and Michigan, just keep at it and you will have the sympathy of yours truly, A. P. S."—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

LEITH.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of August 1st says:—"There has been a fair average importation of wood goods from the Baltic this week, also a cargo of oak from Bayonne, and whilst writing another of the Quebec vessels is exciting general remark, and some of them, if much longer in arriving, will be unable to make this season their customary two voyages."

As regards the trade this week has been almost a blank, owing to the holidays, but it is hoped that now they are passed business will resume its usual course.

The public sale this week has been postponed until Thursday, to allow of the holidays being fairly over, so that a report of same will not appear until next week.

STATELY ROOM.

This magnificent apartment is probably unrivalled in the beauty of its oaken panels and carving. The noble and massive effect is increased by its exceeding lightness. It fills two storeys of the north front and is lighted by two tiers of three windows each, and by two oriels at the upper end of the north side. The room is fifty feet long by thirty feet wide. An oaken wainscot, which runs around two sides, rises as high as the top of the chimney piece. The wainscot is plainly panelled, and is without

ornament of any kind. This simple yet bold and free treatment of the work is incomparably effective. Warm, rich, and massive, the dusky oak most exquisitely reflects the ever varying shades of light. On the southern side of the room the wall space between the wainscot and the ceiling is filled up by some clear and delicate Gobelins, with deep effective borders. But it is to its carved oak screen and its two galleries that the Marble Hall owes most of its fame. The screen is at the western end, and partitions the room from the lobby outside. It is divided by richly carved pilasters into compartments filled slightly enriched panel surmounted by an open work fan ornament. The large folding doors, with the bold and sweeping arch, are identically treated. Above the screen, and projecting slightly from it, runs the Visitors' Gallery. The front presents a wealth of carving, modelled on the same lines as the screen, but richer and more fantastic. The plain shields of the two compartments beneath the apertures, for visitors to watch the diners below, are foils to the delicate arabesques and the fanciful tracery of the divisions which flank them. An enlargement of the fan ornament of the screen, surmounted by a bold and massive cornice, completes this delightful piece of woodwork. At the opposite or eastern end of the hall is a Minstrels' Gallery, which, having twelve open compartments, hardly presents so good an opportunity for the art of the decorator. Nevertheless it is richly pannelled, and the panels are filled with delicate arabesques. Here are introduced the heraldic lions of the Cecells, bearing cartouche-shaped shields containing the emblazoned arms of the marquessate.—*Magazine of Art*.

A Terrible Accident

STRATFORD, Aug. 18.—A young man named George Moore, of the township of Downie, was hitching the horses to a wagon, when his father came out of the barn with a barrel on his head, at which the horses took fright. As they started to run the pole of the wagon caught the son's nose, tearing it off and half of his face. There are little hopes of his recovery.

Life in The Paris Sewers

is possible, for a short time, to the robust, but the majority of refined persons would prefer immediate death to existence in their reeking atmosphere. How much more revolting to be in one's self a living sewer. But this is actually the case with those in whom the inactivity of the liver drives the refuse matter of the body to escape through the lungs, breath, the pores, kidneys and bladder. It is astonishing that life remains in such a dwelling. Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" restores normal purity to the system and renews the whole being.

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