

make use of it, as you must first convert the water into steam, that it makes it hardly worth while to burn hydrogen when present as a part of the water.

Chairman,—

I think, gentlemen, that we are wandering away from the subject under discussion to take up matters which are of interest, but tend to place Mr. Lamonte who was kind enough to come and read a paper before us this evening in an embarrassing position.

Mr. G. D. Bly,—

I think that one of the troubles of the engineer is that the coal for the engine room is bought at the office and the engineer does not have anything to say about it. The dealer will say to the purchasing agent, "I can give you that coal for five cents per ton less than you have been paying for it;" the purchasing agent says:—"You are just the man we have been looking for. We'll take that offer." The coal is sent down to the engine room. The engineer will probably raise a little objection about it, but the office will say, "You've got the coal there and you might as well use it." Pocohontas coal is rather dear, and I do not think the results obtained from it are sufficiently higher than those obtained from the ordinary coal to warrant paying the price for it. When it comes to a question of dollars and cents, the line is drawn on Pocohontas coal, except in the question of smoke.

To get away from the subject a little, I think we should take up the question of burning coal so as to obtain the best results. If we burn coal with one atom of oxygen we only get 4,500 B.t.u., but if we add two atoms of oxygen we get 14,500 B.t.u. This is where so many of us fall down in burning coal. If we watched the furnace and the fireman more closely we would get better results. My experience has been that a good fireman, no matter what you have to pay him within reason, will pay for himself in a short time.

Mr. J. S. Grassick,—

I think we will all be giving this shovel question consideration before the winter is over. I take much pleasure in moving that a vote of thanks be extended to Mr. Lamonte for the excellent paper he has taken the trouble to prepare and read before us to-night.

Mr. T. B. Cole,—

I second that motion.