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THE BURNING OF REFUSE.

Garbage and town refuse disposal is one mat-
ter where the cities of Europe are far ahead of
those on this side of the Atlantic. An ideal
plant for the purpose mentioned is that at Roch-
dale, Eng., described in the current number of
Cassier's Magazine. Investigators have agreed
that burning is the best way to dispose of the
accumulations. This preference is due to the fact
that by this method not only is all organic matter
destroyed, which would otherwise be liable
to putrefy and become a menace to the health
of the community, but it has been found by
actual trial that the heat derived from the burn-
ing of this refuse may be used for the production
of steam, which can be utilized for commercial
purposes, and the revenue received from this
source may be sufficient to more than pay for the
cost of burning. There are no less than fifty-five
such destructors in different parts of England.
The Health Committee of Rochdale, a manu-
facturing town of 73,000 inhabitants, recently
adopted that method, with the idea of ultimately
using the steam produced for electric lighting
purposes. It has been found that this rough,
nnscreened refuse, running as much as 35 per
cent. of clinker and ash, will evaporate 1.6
pounds of water for every pound of refuse
burned, under boilers built to produce steam at
120 pounds pressure. Coal burned under these
same boilers evaporated seven pounds of water
per pound of coal.

The author of the article, Mr. T. W. Brook-
man, says in conclusion: "The disposal of
two-thirds of the refuse completely is an im-
portant matter, but when to this is added the
fact that the remaining third is rendered quite
free from any organic matter whatever, it is
past conception that corporations and local
companies will continue to tip such immense
quantities of putrefactive matter away into
streams or to pile it in festering heaps."

TRADE SCHOOLS.

On the subject of trade schools an American
exchange says that in spite of the restraints
which are put upon the various trades by the
union, "it is fast becoming an easily provable
fact that all the skilled labor is passing into the
hands of foreigners, because they are taught
the principles of the trade thoroughly, and not
one part only." It has now come to this point,
that American young men and women must be
able to compete successfully with foreigners,
with the knowledge of principles and applica-
tion of design, which they cannot do without
trades schools. "As is known, there are thou-
sands of graduates of our grammar and high
schools who have nothing at all to apply their
minds to. They cannot find work, neither do
they know how to make work which they sell.
Hence the large army of poorly-paid clerks
and so on."

As illustrating the fall in the price of coal,
the Pictou, N.S., *News* says that the Domin-
ion Coal Company claim an increased G. T.
R. contract of 80,000 tons over last year—
fifty thousand tons at Montreal and thirty
thousand tons at Portland. The price delivered
of the latter coal is \$1.24 per ton less than the
Gowrie mines secured for a thirty-thousand ton
contract in 1881. That paper says it is likely
that the Cumberland Railway and Coal Com-
pany will receive the Chaudiere end of the con-
tract. "The Intercolonial company have made
their usual contracts with the Montreal Rolling
Mills and other customers, and may yet secure
a small slice of the railroad contracts. There
is not much profit in these, but they serve to
keep things moving briskly."

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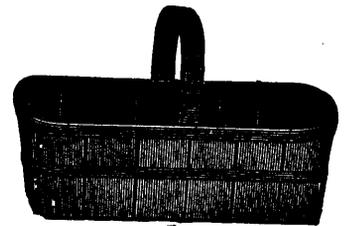
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