

great improvement may be made in the fabrication of shoes and other articles of leather by the use of cement. He has also made steam packing, by mixing powdered cork with this cement, and spreading it between two layers of thin hempen or brown flax cloth. This packing is used by the Rogers Locomotive Works, and by others, whose use of it is good evidence of its utility."

Paraffined Wood.

The *American Artizan* says: Mr. Stuart Gwyne has experimented in the preparation of wood for fine work, in which quality is of more importance than cheapness, and has found that paraffine is the best substance with which to saturate it. It resists moisture, acids, alkalies, and the prevalent causes of decay and change of dimensions, and is easily forced into the pores, as it fuses at a moderate heat; and it does not injure other substances. He thinks it will preserve the panels which artists paint upon, so that they will not warp and split; and will be applicable for coach and joiner's work. But the work he has applied it to is engineers' work, such as the teeth of wheels, for which it appears to have all the qualities desired. He intends to patent the use of it for such purposes if further trials confirm his present views of it.

The "Twa Hauded Wheel" and Hand Loom Weaving.

(From the *Canada Farmer*.)

SIR,—When a man makes up his mind to go into any new undertaking, the first, and all engrossing question is, will it pay? Now, it can be shown beyond a doubt, that spinning with the "twa hauded wheel," and weaving with the hand loom, will not only pay, but pay well in Canada. In order to show that this would be the case, I have made a very careful calculation of the Scotch flax reel, as compared with the cotton reel; and find that about two spindles of yarn of the Scotch reel, will give about as much warp as a bunch of cotton warp. Now, it was the common task for a lass in Scotland, to spin two and a half spindles of yarn every week; or ten spindles in four weeks. And ten spindles is equal to five bunches of cotton, so far as warp goes. Now five bunches of cotton costs fifteen dollars and five yolk shillings. A bunch is five pounds weight. Well this would require twenty-five pounds of fine lint, to be equal to five bunches of cotton. And if five dollars is allowed as the price of the lint, there still remains ten dollars and five yolk shillings. Now where is the Canadian lass who can earn as much as this in four weeks spinning wool? Would not this sum pay a farmer, even to hire the spinning of his lint and tow? But I would remark further, that if the farmer grew the flax, then the quantity of flax which would yield twenty-five pounds of lint, would also yield a good deal of tow, the value of which would go a long way in paying for scutching and heckling the flax.

Fine lint yarn, to take the place of number 8, 9, and 10 cotton warp, has been much wanted this good while back, for the winter dresses of women especially. A dress all cotton is too cold, and a dress all woollen is too heavy, therefore, they want

the lint yarn, because they cannot get the cotton, it is so scarce and dear.

Sir, I was highly delighted in reading the article in your last number, headed "Hand Loom Weaving."* I have always had the hand loom in view, but I thought that it was no use saying one word about it until it could be seen whether or not lint and tow yarns could be got to set it agoing. At the present time, there are as many hand looms as work up all the yarn that the people want to put into cloth. But where these looms were made, and the price of them, it would be hard to tell. The only supposition is, that when a district became a little cleared up, some handy, ingenious weaver made the loom himself, or superintended the making of it. A Canadian carpenter, who never made a loom before, could not do it. In my own case, when I came to the place where I now live, better than twenty years ago, I and my son went to work and made a loom, and it wrought first rate. For the encouragement of others, and to get the "twa handed wheel" started, I may mention that I made it a point to clear a hundred dollars every winter, for a good number of years. In fact, all the payment for my farm, came through the eye of the shuttle. With regard to the price of looms, so far as I remember, they were about two pounds ten shillings sterling, before I left Scotland, all made of American pine. But the making of a loom appears to me to be such a simple matter, that I will show any man the way to make one, and give all the information I can to any one, about the manufacturing and weaving of flax, for I was engaged at the trade for more than thirty years in the old country.

JAMES BUIK.

Nichole, Feb. 23, 1865.

Preservation of Cheese.

The preservation of cheese is a most important point to those engaged in the manufacture of them. Their consistence and their state of fermentation, more or less advanced, should serve as a guide. The method of manufacture also affects largely their preservation. Those cheeses which have received pressure in a too fresh state, and from which the whey is not entirely separated, are liable to rise, and have in their centres holes, or receptacles of air, which give to the paste a spongy and disagreeable appearance. When this accident arises during the manufacture, and if the fermentation be considerable, remove the cheese to a cool and dry place, and pierce it with iron skewers in the spot where it rises most; by these openings the gases escape, and the cheese subsides. To prevent this accident, mix intimately together one pound of nitre and one ounce of powdered Armenian bole; and before salting the cheese, and while it is about being placed in the press, rub in an ounce of this mixture. The addition of the salt, on the one hand, and the preparation or perfection in the storehouse, on the other, succeed in procuring a gentle fermentation, or a gradual reaction between the elementary substances of the cheese. This reaction proceeds so much the more rapidly as the cheese is softer, and the place warmer and more moist. In proportion as the fermentation

* Copied from this *Journal* page 3.