

period equal to the present for inaction has not been experienced in many years, and that little of an encouraging character can be discerned in the prospects for the near future. Most of the leading staples are offered at extremely low prices, but the cheapness of an article does not recommend it for purchase under present unusual circumstances, merchants declining to venture upon lines or quantities that are not absolutely necessary for current wants. Opium continues to show a downward tendency. Naphthaline is lower. Oils pennyroyal and coriander are doing better. Gum chicle is firmer."

**DRY GOODS.**—It is the same old story of a dull trade through the absence of seasonable weather. Travellers returning from the country report that stocks carried by retail houses are probably as large, if not larger, than in previous June. In some cities the closing of factories and car shops, as a result of the scarcity of coal, has intensified the depression of trade. Values, however, remain steady, although we hear of some odd lots of goods being sold at very low prices.

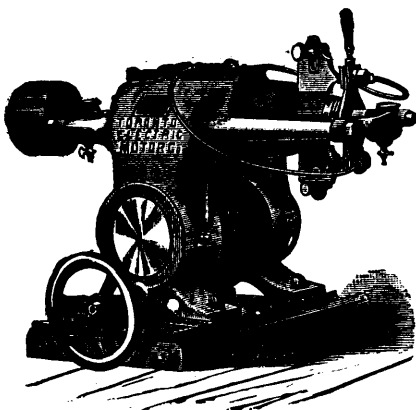
**GRAIN.**—From the close of last week to the middle of the present things have been dull and uninteresting. However, on Wednesday advices gave the Chicago wheat market in an unsettled condition. The departmental report of the State of Kansas shows a deterioration of the growing crop from 35 to 45 points, and this has naturally added some strength to the market. In the local market there is a good milling demand, but beyond this nothing is doing. Oats are firm and  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. higher, the only advance so far this week reported in the local grain market. Oats are also firmer in Chicago. The offerings about equal local requirements, which are about 5 cars a day. A few cars of feed barley at 38c. have been passing during the week. Odd cars of peas for feeding purposes have also been sold, but the movement is not a large one. Buckwheat is dull. Rye and corn are purely nominal.

The stocks of grain in store at Port Arthur on 26th May were 1,701,788 bushels. During the week there were received 848,000 bushels, and shipped 455,684 bushels, leaving in store on June 1st, 1,359,905.

**GREEN FRUITS.**—Continued cold weather is something beyond the power of the trade to remove. It has interfered to a considerable extent with the sale of lemons, and as a consequence they remain at exceedingly low values, quotations varying from \$2 to 3.00 per box,

according to quality. We elsewhere note particulars of a sale of 8,000 boxes in Montreal on Tuesday. Oranges have not gained any strength during the week; Messina are quoted at \$3.50 to 4.00; Valencias at \$6.50, and California at \$3.25 to 3.50 per box. Pines are in good supply and at 7 to 18c., as to size; they are selling very freely. Bananas of good quality are in better supply this week; quotations stand at \$1.25 to 2.00 per bunch. Strawberries are at the time of writing rather scarce, prices standing at 13 to 14c. per box. Some domestic strawberries have already arrived, but are not in sufficient quantity to create a market.

**GROCERIES.**—No distinguishing feature has characterized trade this week. In dried fruits the market is bare of fine layer Valencias. Panariti currants appear to have become a staple in the market and are finding good sale notwithstanding their somewhat high values. There is a dearth in dark and medium syrups



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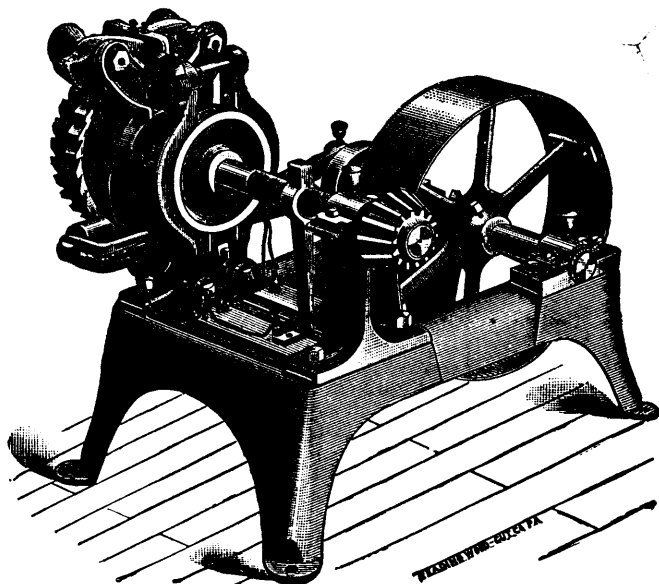
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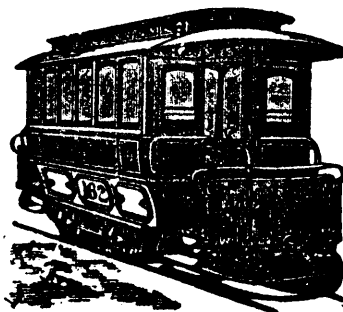
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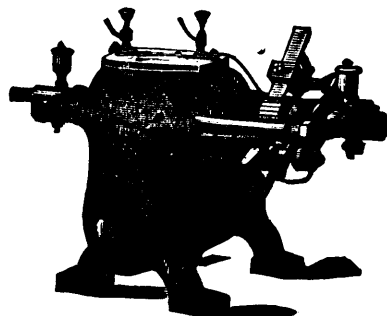
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