

much about the box business, but I did know something about engines and boilers, and I had a hobby in my head that I would not operate a plant unless I had a Corliss engine. I put one in. There were a lot of wise old sawmill men about the town, and there were at that time about ten or a dozen burners burning up the refuse, and they all quoted the old proverb about the fool and his money, and told me I had better go to work and buy a second-hand engine and go to burning up those shavings; that they would be in my way anyway, if I did save them—and such was the fact. I gave them to the farmers and to the livery stables and begged people to come and haul them away. Then, I hired a team and had them hauled to a wet place behind the building, and dumped them there until the insurance people came to me and said I was creating a fire hazard, and I saw I was getting in trouble. But I began to look around, and I found a market for fuel shavings; I found a market for clean resaw dust in carload lots and sold them—and I didn't take them to the city, either. So that at the expiration of three years my fuel account showed a net profit that offset the total cost of the Corliss engine and all the equipments that I had to buy to utilize my waste. If you really want to do it, you can find a way to utilize that waste.—Z.

THE ARGUMENT FOR BARRELS.

One of the strongest arguments for the use of the barrel, and a justification as well of all that has been said against packing flour in sacks, is the following from the "Northwestern Miller":—

Says an Indiana miller:—

"We manufacture soft winter wheat flour, and handle spring wheat for bakers' trade. The last part of a car we sold, which was stored in our warehouse, was damaged by rats. Many of the sacks were torn, and some of them were tunnelled. The writer examined the flour carefully, and found some unfit for use, while the most of it looked all right.

"We sold the good of this to a baker. He made several bakings of bread, and it appears that the third baking was complained of. On receiving the complaints they examined the fourth baking, still in the shop, and found occasional rat filth; also its presence in some of the bread called in from selling points. The baker knows to a certainty of three or four families who, having had the foul bread, have not patronized him since. He asks for a 'fair settlement.' We grant his right to one, and offered to cancel the invoice. He asks 'damages' instead, to more than the value of his shop."

This case was, submitted to William Furst, a Minneapolis attorney, who gives special attention to milling litigation, and he replied:—

"If the purchaser examined the flour before purchasing, or had an opportunity to do so and no fraud was used, he cannot be heard to complain as to any defects.

"In order that a man may have a legal claim for damages, by reason of a defect in an article sold to him, two facts must exist. In the first place, deception must be used in the sale, and in the second place, the purchaser must have relied on the deceptive representations.

"In this case, neither of these elements is apparent, if the letter is read correctly. The miller should not have granted the baker's right to a settlement. The baker has no such right.

"We take it from our experience in such cases, that the buyer thought he had a chance to get some flour cheap, and after an inspection, he bought it, but it proved to be much inferior to what he thought it was. That is his lookout."

The "Northwestern Miller" prints the above under the heading, "No Recourse." We do not doubt for a moment that the lawyer to whom the matter was referred understands the law. We believe, however, that the purchaser of the filthy flour has a recourse, and one which he should take for philanthropic as well as for selfish reasons, and that is, to insist that his flour come to him in the good old-fashioned packages which is by nature intended for flour—the barrel of our daddies. Nobody should ever buy flour in bags if he can afford to buy a barrel of flour at a time. The best housekeepers everywhere are learning this. Grocers and other dealers should take the fact to heart that the barrel is the only practical sanitary package for the staple food product, and they should tell their customers so. It is the right thing to do, and it pays.

GOOD CEMENT FOR WOODTURNERS.

(1) Mix and melt together: One part of resin; 1 part of potash; 2 parts of beeswax, and brickdust to make of the desired consistence.

(2) Mix equal weights of resin, pitch, whiting, and yellow wax.

(3) Use 8 parts of resin and 1 part of wax.

(4) Melt together 4 parts of resin and 1 part of pitch, then add enough brickdust to make the melted mass hard when a little is dropped on a stone. This will hold wood in the chuck, and is easy of removal by a smart tap with the hammer. An application of benzine will remove all trace of the cement from the wood. To use the cement, take sufficient of it to cover the chuck one-sixteenth of an inch. Lay it over the surface to be cemented, mixing it with one-eighth of an inch of its bulk of guttapercha cut up in thin slices, then heat an iron to a dull red heat, and hold it over the chuck until the mixture and guttapercha are mixed, stir the mixture until it is well mixed, chuck the work, lay on a weight to keep it in contact, and in twenty minutes it will be perfectly cemented.

—The "National Coopers' Journal," Philadelphia, Pa., gives the "Canadian Woodworker" some very nice compliments on its typography, general make-up, etc. It, however, criticizes a statement in an article on the "Slack Barrel" in our April issue to the effect that "if only 25 per cent. of the volume of the log was utilized for slack heading, as stated by the 'Canadian Woodworker,' we fear the manufacturers would soon go to the bow-wows." We may say that this estimate was derived from a circular issued by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. We may also add, for the information of our esteemed contemporary, that in this country the bulk of the straight grade timber is put into lumber and only the balance put into heading.

—Somehow the substitutes for wooden packing-boxes have not materialized to any appreciable extent, probably because the wooden box is still the best obtainable, and cheap enough.