

being likely to lead to the production of mixed fabrics to a more than usual extent. Some Egyptian wool, at public sales, of inferior quality, has fetched quite fancy prices, say 1s 4d per lb, in consequence of its having been found admirably suited for the purpose. Hitherto 1s per lb. has been considered a remarkably good price for the same article; and it is not very long since that 3d. was the usual rate.—*London Times*.

Fuel on Railroads.

A correspondent of the Toronto "Colonist" calls the attention of Railroad Companies to the superiority of coal and coke over wood for this purpose. "Last season", says the writer, "the trains were constantly delayed, and the reason invariably given was '*bad wood*.'" Not only is the wood bad, but it is expensive, and necessarily becoming each succeeding year both more expensive and of worse quality.

"To show the immense advantage of coal and coke over wood, it is only necessary to give the relative costs. But I will first, however, state that in England coke only is used, coal being forbidden on account of the annoyance from the smoke, and being disliked on account of its comparatively heavy carriage, and requiring to be much oftener 'stoked' or replenished than coke. In the States coal is now much used.

Taking the line from Toronto to Cobourg—by the Times Tables of the Company—it is seventy miles :

Suppose one train burns one cord in twenty-four miles,—cost of cutting included, not less than \$5 per cord,—the cost is \$15.

One train, American roads, burns from sixty to seventy lbs coal per mile, say sixty-five lbs, at \$5.25 per ton—cost \$11.81.

In England, one train, burning coke, consumes per mile 12 to 15 lbs; cost in England, 5 to 6 cents; say cost in Canada, 8½ cents, or \$12½ per ton; cost between Toronto and Cobourg, \$9.

The above numbers and quantities may not be exactly correct, but I believe they show fair averages, and give the relative values. That coke, proper locomotive coke, not the unfortunate gas affair we have here, can be manufactured for the price I have stated, I have no doubt, provided a suitable place for the works be found, combining the two essentials, readiness of access for the vessel importing the coal, and convenient means for removal of the coke to the railroad."

Professor Comegys on the Adulteration of Food.

Professor Comegys, in his essay upon the adulteration of food, before the members of the Academy of Medicine, assembled in the lecture room of Bacon's building, said that hygiene was most important in medical science, and claimed from the profession the greatest care and consideration. What we eat affected to a great extent, one's health; and pure, wholesome food was absolutely necessary to the physical well-being of all. So important was this, that the professor thought our city council should interest itself in the matter, and adopt some method by which our citizens would obtain unadulterated articles for food, especially such articles as tea, sugar, coffee, milk, flour and spices.