

commend, or the city council enact, any law, that will operate to the injury of the manufacturers, and through them to the injury of the best interests of the city.

How to abate the nuisance of smoke arising from the combustion of smoke-producing fuel in cities, particularly where there are a multitude of extensive manufacturing establishments as in Toronto, is not a new question. It attracts public and special attention wherever the nuisance exists; and it will be a happy day whenever an effective and practical method of preventing it is discovered. London, the capital of the British Empire, where is amassed more wealth than at any other place on the globe, suffers more from the smoke nuisance than any other city, and has for many years. There are many cities where more smoke-producing fuel is consumed for manufacturing purposes than in London, but that which is thus consumed there, together with the emissions from the innumerable habitations of the people, together with certain peculiar conditions of the atmosphere almost always observable, produce conditions which the ablest scientists of the world have tried in vain to correct. Untold wealth has been unstintedly spent in endeavors to cure or greatly modify the evil, but even now it is of frequent occurrence that even during the hours of supposed daylight artificial illumination is indispensable in residences and places of business, and any profusion of gas and electric lights is not capable of lighting the streets sufficiently to make travel over them safe or comfortable. With all its wealth and prestige the great city of London is not able to dispel the smoke nuisance that almost constantly covers it like a black pall; and it is not probable that that city will ever be rid of its incubus until the consumption of smoke producing fuel within its limits is entirely abandoned. If no smoke-producing fuel is used there can be no smoke nuisance.

What is true of London as regards the smoke nuisance is also true to some extent regarding hundreds of other cities, towns, and manufacturing centres both in Europe and America, Toronto included. Until the utilization there of natural gas as fuel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the largest and most important iron manufacturing centre in the United States, was known as the "Smoky City;" and while the general complaint there was that nothing could be kept free of defilement from the soot and smoke; and while numberless inventors came forward with their so-called smoke consuming apparatus, striving for the great wealth that would certainly accrue to them if their inventions should prove a perfect success, the smoke nuisance there was never abated except in proportion to the relinquishment made of smoke producing fuel. We are not aware that the inventor or manufacturer of any smoke consuming apparatus ever became a millionaire.

"What can't be cured must be endured." We are all agreed that the smoke and soot from industrial establishments in cities are a great drawback to personal comfort. So are fogs and the east wind. There is no possible way known by which these latter can be avoided, and the former cannot be remedied except through the abandonment of smoke-producing fuel and the closing of factories, foundries and other industrial establishments in which such fuel is necessary in the generation of steam. Country graveyards are never troubled with the smoke nuisance.

THE GALLED JADE WINCES.

Our readers will remember that a few months ago the Toronto *Globe* lent itself to a persistent effort to have the Toronto Board of Trade commit itself to the political heresy of Commercial Union. A meeting of the Board was called to discuss the question, the evident scheme being to have a series of resolutions favoring Commercial Union passed. As the advocates of that measure might and should have known, the views of a large majority of the members were against the measure, and strong anti-Commercial Union resolutions were passed. Chagrined at this, and not being willing to accept the declared expression of the Board, another meeting of the Board was engineered, at which the defeat of the Commercial Union movement was even more crushing, as far as the Toronto Board of Trade was concerned.

No other effort since then has proven successful in getting the Board to re-consider its previous verdict, but the loyal stand of that body has rankled in the bosoms of the annexationists ever since, and now the *Globe* finds an opportunity to vent its spleen by trying to cast odium upon such men as Mr. Ince, the president of the Board, and Mr. Wills, the secretary. It shows that Mr. Ince is also president, and Mr. Wills secretary of the Toronto Grocers' Guild, an association of wholesale merchants whose object is to protect the interests of their trade. The *Globe* expresses indignation that these gentlemen are parties to what it is pleased to call an "iniquitous conspiracy," known as the "sugar combination." It says it is glad that there is no official connection between the Grocers' Guild and the Board of Trade, though its whole effort is to cast odium upon the latter through the connection of Mr. Ince and Mr. Wills with both associations. It says that the dual positions of these gentlemen is wholly incompatible, and that as long as they are connected with both organizations "it will be difficult to convince the public that there is not an underground connection between the two bodies," and that "the Board of Trade cannot afford to lie under the suspicion." It declares very emphatically that "the Board is, from its very nature and composition, anything but friendly to workmen," yet "no trades union ever resorted to methods more tyrannical than those of the grocers, to whom Mr. Ince and Mr. Wills acted as tools." This language is about as insulting to these gentlemen and to all the members of the Grocers' Guild as the English language admits of; and the intention to create hatred towards them on the part of workmen is apparent. It speaks of what Mr. Ince and Mr. Wills have done as members of the Grocers' Guild as being "abominable," and "very much more offensive and indefensible than those acts which now bring Irishmen within the walls of gaols."

It goes without the saying that Mr. Ince and Mr. Wills are both honorable gentlemen, else they could never have been chosen to occupy the positions that they hold in both the Board of Trade and the Grocers' Guild; but the Toronto Board of Trade has twice sat down very heavily and emphatically upon the *Globe's* Commercial Union scheme, and the members of the Grocers' Guild are pretty much of the same way of thinking; and the venomous spleen of the *Globe* finds most convenient expression by denouncing the gentlemen alluded to.

The *Globe's* language is disgraceful in the extreme, and should not be tolerated.