

PINE EXTRACT FOR BATHING.

It has long been recognized that the atmosphere of pine forests has an invigorating and beneficial effect upon people with weak constitutions and suffering from pulmonary disorders. At some of the watering places of Germany the very simple prescription of the physician is that the patient should spend several hours a day walking or riding through the pine wood. This simple treatment is sometimes supplemented by the taking of pine baths, and in the case of kidney diseases and for delicate children this is claimed to be highly beneficial. The bath is prepared by simply pouring into the water about half a tumblerful of an extract made from the fresh needles of the pine. This extract is dark in color and closely resembles molasses in consistency, and when poured into the bath gives the water a muddy appearance with a slight foam on the surface. The repugnance one feels to enter into such a muddy looking fluid is dispelled as soon as the delightful aroma which arises from the bath is inhaled. Although there may be some doubt whether pine baths act upon the system in any other wise than as a tonic, still as an adjunct to the daily bath, infusion of the pine extract induces a most agreeable sensation. It gives the skin a deliciously soft and silky feeling, and the effect upon the nerves is quieting. It is a matter of some surprise to us that the business of manufacturing and bottling the extract for private use and public bathing establishments has not been tried in this country, where pine forests abound so extensively. The extract when properly bottled and securely corked will not deteriorate for a long time, and the cost for gathering the pine needles and extracting their tarry substance would not be very great, while the demand for it would likely increase to large proportions when the public became accustomed to its use.—*Scientific American.*

Milkweed Fiber.

In a late issue we published a suggestion to microscopists by President Spitzli, of the Textile Microscopic Society, of Boston, in regard to the fiber of the *Acletoleas* and *Acerates*, the milkweed or silkweed. We have succeeded in dyeing the fibre of this plant a bright red, a brilliant green, deep blue, bright yellow, and a delicate pink, by the use of Thomas' one-dip dyes. We have recently added to our facilities for examination a first-class microscope, with all the accessories and apparatus for the examination of cotton, wool, silk and other fibers, and shall be pleased to receive from our friends who are interested in their manufacture such samples as they may be pleased to send us of fibers which show peculiarities in their treatment, or specimens which have been injured in any of the processes which they undergo. Specimens of the milkweed fiber show a simple tube with a very thin transparent cell wall, easily ruptured and without convolutions, imbrications or contents. The section is a plain ring showing a very thin wall and no internal matter. This wall is very fine and brittle, and we doubt if it can ever be utilized for textile purposes, although its appearance when dyed is beautiful in the extreme, from the silky glossy appearance of the fiber. We trust that President Spitzli's suggestion may receive the attention of microscopists, and that, if possible, a use may be found for this fiber, which at present, though growing wild, is not to our knowledge utilized in any way.—*Cotton, Wool and Iron.*

The Pine Region of the Northwest.

The resources of the pine region of the Northwest are surprising to those who looked upon it years ago as a waste of forests. During the last ten years the lumber and shingle yield of these forests has sold for more than the assessed valuation of the real estate and personal property of the state of Michigan, and more than the valuation of both Wisconsin and Minnesota. This is not taking into consideration the hardwood trade, which, especially in Michigan, has been heavy. In the latter state salt, mineral springs, iron and copper have been found in such quantities that the future revenues from them cannot be calculated. It is safe to say that portions of Wisconsin are rich in iron, and now there are strong hopes, at least in the mind of the gentleman who has invested in

"diamond land," that diamonds will be one of the productions of the Badger state. What Minnesota may produce is to be known. She will have to do well if she goes the sister states one better, but the possibilities of the great Northwest are so great that no one will be astonished if she does.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

The Foreign Trade of the United States.

The imports for the first seven months of the fiscal year as published by the Treasury Department, show a falling off from \$428,000,000 to \$389,000,000, almost wholly in dutiable goods. Chemicals have fallen off 60 per cent., cottons 25 per cent., earthenware 50 per cent., pig iron 40 per cent., steel rails 93 per cent., woollens 25 per cent. Sugar and jewelry are the only articles showing a heavy increase. Our total exports for the same time show a decrease from \$495,000,000 to \$462,000,000, but hops, raw cotton, and wheat have fallen off more than enough to account decrease. Pork products have all increased in the value of exports over last year as have dairy products. The value of cotton manufacturers exported for the seven months ending January 31st, was some \$6,870,000, against about \$8,000,000 for the corresponding period a year ago. The exports of woolen manufactures for the corresponding periods show an increase, being about \$400,000 against \$192,500. The imports of cotton manufacturers a decrease of about \$1,100,000.

A Long Straight Edge.

An absolutely exact straight edge of more than 30 inches is a wonder of mechanism. One of six feet was not recently believed possible, although several had been made on different plans of web-like and truss construction. It has been claimed, however, that almost absolute exactness has been secured by a straight edge 12 feet long. The appliance looks like an arched truss, the highest spring of the arch being only 20 inches in a length of 12 feet. The space between the chord and the spring is filled with diagonal lattice work; the whole is a casting on which no peening with the hammer is allowed. Three of these straight edges have been made, one remaining in the establishment where built and two going to technical colleges. Each of them has been tested by each other, and proved to be practically perfect. Such a tool is invaluable in testing lathe and planer beds.—*Scientific American.*

Decreasing the Amount of Sawdust.

Speaking about sawdust, it seems to us that, with regard to the best way of counteracting the evil tendency of its wholesale accumulation, a reduction of the quantity produced would have the most beneficial results. We have decreased the size and thickness of structures as we successfully used cast iron, wrought iron and steel; we have substituted stronger for weaker material in various parts of almost every industry; why should we despair of finding some metal or alloy stronger than the steel of which our present saws are made. Anything which could by some means or other reduce the thickness of the saw blades one-fourth or one-third, would reduce the quantity of the resulting sawdust in a corresponding ratio, and would increase the quantity of lumber by just as much.—*Buffalo Lumber World.*

Forest Preservation.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Macpherson to amend the Dominion Lands Act provides for the preservation of trees on the crests and slopes of the Rocky Mountains to secure the proper maintenance throughout the year of the volume of water in the rivers and streams which traverse the Northwest Territories. The Government propose to reserve from sale, lease, or license, portions of land in the Northwest Territories, and appropriate such lands for forests, parks, and officers will be appointed for the preservation of such reserves and forest parks. Heavy penalties will be imposed upon persons convicted of wilfully and unnecessarily destroying forest trees in the Northwest. This is a wise and much needed measure. Had the same policy been adopted in Ontario, a great benefit to the public would have resulted, and even yet it is not too late.

Chips.

The mills at Moss point, Miss., are running day and night.

The Red Cedar river in Wisconsin will furnish 110,000,000 feet of logs for the approaching sawing season.

The Dubuque Iowa *Herald* says:—"In this prairie state it would be a wise movement if every man, and especially every farmer should on a certain day, set apart for the purpose, set out one or more trees."

The Ottawa *Free Press* says:—"It is reported that G. B. Hall & Co.'s extensive mills at Montmorenci are going to saw for Gilmour & Co., of this city, this year. Contracts for freight from this city, have been made about 10 cents less per 1,000 feet than last year's rates."

It is estimated that about 5,000,000 cubic feet of cottonwood, sycamore, basswood, and elm, have been cut this winter in Essex county, along the shores of Lake St. Clair, for manufacture in hoops and heading. It will all be rafted next summer, and floated down the river to Detroit and Trenton mills.

A. W. LOBBELL & Co., of Mecosta, have a team of horses weighing 2,400 pounds, which they claimed hauled the biggest load of shingles ever hauled by one team in this state. The load consisted of 50 M. of 18 inch shingles, and the distance was three and a half miles, including one sharp hill. The load weighed about 9½ tons.

The Mobile and Ohio road hauls timber into Mobile from Kushla for four cents per hundred. The road offers similar inducements from more distant stations; consequently large amounts of timber is being sent from Mobile for export from points along the road. Sixteen carloads of heavy navy timber was received in one day recently from one point.

The cuneiform inscriptions of Nebuchadnezzar have lately, says the *Antiquary*, been discovered by M. Pognon, French Assistant-Consul, on the rocks in the Wady Brissa, a wide valley on the eastern slope of the Lebanon. They contain an account of buildings in progress at Babylon, and are supposed to make the site of a timber yard in that locality.

REGARDING operations on the Susquehanna river in Pennsylvania, a correspondent says that "the stock was secured, and we have probably about the same stock of pine as last year, with probably from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 feet less hemlock. The booms are hung, and we are waiting for a flood, with the drives all very well along in the small streams."

The value of lands in the Southern States aggregate but twenty per cent of the land values in the Union, but the annual products of Southern soil rank at thirty per cent of the whole. In other words, says the *Boston Commercial Bulletin*, one-fifth in money value of the land lying in the South produces one-third of the productive values of the entire country.

The destruction of black walnut trees in some parts of the United States has been enormous. Whole forests of valuable trees have been destroyed by farmers ignorant of their value. Of late an English syndicate through American agents have been buying all the black walnut they could get their hands on. In some cases they secured it at a merely nominal price.

ABOUT 500,000 feet of logs went rushing out into Lake Michigan recently, at Grand Haven, through the breakage of the Sisson & Lilly boom. Lumbermen at least occasionally are practically reminded that the removal of the timber adjacent to streams is conducive to destructive floods, whether "wise-in-their-own-conceit" lumber journals will have it so or not. They had a lesson at Grand Rapids last year.

MR. J. GALLIMORE, ex-mayor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, builder and contractor, twenty years ago, through circumstances over which he had no control, was compelled to arrange with his creditors. Since that time great success has attended his business undertakings, and a few days ago he surprised all his old creditors, or their representatives, by paying them in full. The balance remitted amounted to nearly 10s. in the pound on the original liabilities.

VULCAN IRON WORKS

(ESTABLISHED 1841.)

STEWART & FLECK, Jr.,

Manufacturers of every Description of

Saw and Grist Mill Machinery,

Water Wheels, Steam Engines, Derricks, Boilers, Steam Pumps, Mining Machinery.

30% REPAIRS PROMPTLY EXECUTED. 17

Wellington Street, OTTAWA, Ont.

J. T. LAMBERT,

Lumber and Commission Agent.

ORDERS FOR DIMENSIONS AND ALL OTHER KINDS AND GRADES OF

American Lumber

PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

Timber Limits and the Square Timber Trade a Specialty.

Office, Wellington Street, OTTAWA, Ont.

100 COILS

Pure Manilla Rope

Assorted Sizes up to 2 in. diameter.

3 TONS EXTRA

Dry Tarred Lath Yarn

Single and Double Tw. Samples free by mail.

5 TONS

Best Proved Boom Chain

½, ¾ and 1 inch. At the very lowest figures.

Gandy Cotton Belting

Under the fullest guarantee, all sizes. Delivered free of freight. Prices supplied on application.

Dynamite, Detonators, Platum Fuse and Safety Fuse, always on hand. Large Orders Delivered Free.

Iron, Steel and Hardware, both Heavy and Shelf, for Lumbermen and Mill Owners.

GEORGE STETHEM

613 PETERBOROUGH.

Burdock BLOOD BITTERS

WILL CURE OR RELIEVE.

BILIOUSNESS, DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, JAUNDICE, ERYSIPELAS, SALT RHEUM, HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, DIZZINESS, DROPSY, FLUTTERING OF THE HEART, ACIDITY OF THE STOMACH, DRYNESS OF THE SKIN.

And every species of diseases arising from disordered LIVER, KIDNEYS, STOMACH, BOWELS OR BLOOD.

S. BILLYN & CO., Proprietors, Toronto.