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[FIRE]

German American
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CAPITAL

\$1,500,000

NET SURPLUS

5,841,907

ASSETS

12,980,705**AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.**

creased firmness is evident has made the manufacturers very cautious about purchasing, and, although evincing greater interest in the market, they have not been persuaded into operating with any freedom. Every one feels more sanguine about the future of the piece goods market, especially in view of the fact that the concessions made earlier to secure business have practically ceased, and buyers appear willing to pay full asking prices. Machinery is running full, and, with an increased production capacity ensured by new mills and additions to old ones, the consumption should show a corresponding growth. Interest centres in the prospect of the new season's crop, and opinions vary as to the outcome. European stocks are not particularly depleted, and there seems to be little likelihood of scarcity in this direction. The small stocks in Yokohama have meant that manufacturers have sought elsewhere for their material. As a consequence, Canton shows the effect in an increased demand for the sixth crop, which is generally admitted to be of very good quality.

IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

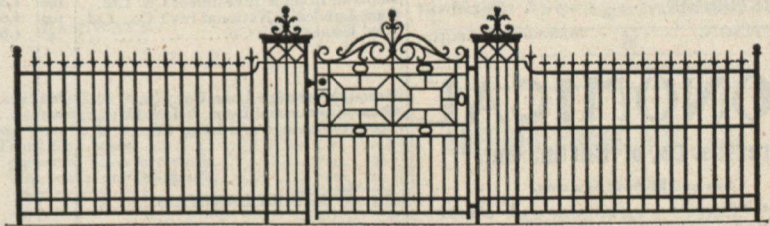
Some further broadening of the iron and steel markets has taken place during the week, says the Iron and Machinery World. All districts in the United States report good sales. The condition at mills becomes worse, and the tendency of prices is to advance. There is this exception. Scrap is weak. But for that weakness there are special reasons. All the winter there have been accumulations of scrap by the dealers, on the theory that the general brightness of the metal trades must favorably affect the prices of old material. These accumulations have now become so large and heavy that the holders are forced in some instances to let go. The offerings are much greater than a week ago, and prices have responded to the extent of fifty cents or a dollar. There are phases of the general activity that are specially significant. The engine

builders are well loaded up with orders, denoting that manufacturers are increasing their capacities for production. This favors not only the engine builders, but sooner or later every seller of the material consumed at these plants. There is greater public attention in the trade just now to the large business. Heavy consumers have been purchasing, and there does not seem any branch of finished material that has not furnished some interesting transactions recently. The railroads are gradually coming into the market for steel rails, and the demand for bridges is reflected in the rapidly growing business of construction companies. Building material of all kinds is active. There is some renewed activity in the construction of producing plants. There has been talk of a num-

ber of blast furnaces to be commenced soon in the north and one for the Chicago district is definitely announced this week. So, in finished steel mills there are efforts being made to meet the present strain upon production by larger capacities. All perceptible forces for the moment seem to be working for greater activity.

A WITTY AUSTRALIAN BISHOP.

The Strand Magazine tells some good stories of a witty Australian Bishop, now retired. When one of the clergy described a wealthy parishioner as a careless, indifferent sort of man, who cared only for his garden during the day and his billiard-room at night, he said:

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A Protection to a Well Kept One.

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