

band carried on a millinery business. Seven years afterwards the business was changed to her name, she being the practical person. Since then she has made but a comfortable living and now assigns.—Other assignments are those of E. A. Carpenter, contractor, Fort William, and W. A. Simpson, butcher, at North Bay.

Raw silk is advancing in price. A New York journal says that Italian silk was sold for \$4.60 at the end of last week that was bought at the beginning of the week for \$4.35, the intrinsic value of the two lots being identical, and the market price varying about six per cent. in six days.

It is said that since the passage of the McKinley bill, pearl button manufactories have been established, so at this time there are employed in the States, in the State of New Jersey alone, over 2,500 employees, who are earning all the way from 75c. to \$2.50 a day, the lower sum being paid to young girls. Before the tariff was passed, says the *Dry Goods Chronicle*, there were less than 100 engaged in the same employment, and they did not get much more than one-half the pay they do now.

ANOTHER sugar refinery is to be erected in New York by the Mollenhauers with a capacity of 2,000 barrels per day. A list of the American refiners east of the Rocky Mountains is given by the N.Y. *Bulletin*, headed by the Havemeyer & Elder refinery at Brooklyn, with a capacity of 8,000 barrels per day. There is one in Philadelphia of 6,000 barrels, one at Jersey City of 4,500, three in Brooklyn of 3,000 each, one each in Boston and New Orleans of 3,000, and others varying from 500 to 1,500 barrels. The total product of seventeen refineries is placed at 44,800 barrels per day.

A BIG lumber combine to include every company shipping by water from Lower California to Alaska is talked of in Tacoma. The plan is outlined by *Lumberman* of that place, which says: "Small mills, numbering something over 100, will receive from \$400 to \$1,000 per year, according to the figure they put in water shipping. It will cost the 'combine,' if it goes through, between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per year for subsidies alone." An effort will, it is said, be made to enlist the British Columbia dealers. It is claimed that such a combination will place the mills of British Columbia, Washington and Oregon on an equal footing in foreign markets. For this reason, says a Pacific coast exchange, it is not likely that the combination will be effected, for

British Columbia lumbermen are too shrewd to sacrifice their interests in Australia in order to benefit two states which are debarred from that market on account of the McKinley bill.

UNDER the heading of "Alberta's Dusky Diamonds," the *Calgary Tribune* flouts the coal deposits in the Rocky Mountains west of that town. Besides the beds of hard coal at Anthracite, there are immense beds of superior steam-producing coal at Canmore, out of which some 300 or 400 tons per day are being taken and used on and along the line of the road. Two companies are at work here, one the Northwest Coal and Lumber Syndicate. This company now hauls its coal up a 300 feet shaft to the surface and then running it down a steep incline of some hundreds of feet to the C.P.R. cars; but they have a tunnel nearly done which saves this haul up and down and loads into the cars at about one-half the present expense. The company are at present taking out about 50 to 75 tons per day, but they expect to take out from 200 to 300 tons per day before winter sets in. The other is known as the H. W. McNeill Co., the same which operates the Anthracite mines. Mr. McNeill, who is a practical coal miner, found at Canmore a deep ravine through which a lively stream ran, and on each side of which he sunk shafts and got his coal seams. He then had the C.P.R. run in a spur track. He built a bridge or platform across the ravine in which are the coal screens, then out of either side he hauls the coal, empties it to the screen, the assorted coal going into the coal cars, while the screenings at present go into the stream and are carried off. He is now getting out 200 tons per day and can greatly increase the output. The quality is said to be something unusually fine.

HINTS FROM OLD LEARNERS.

"Do you know," said a storekeeper from an eastern town the other day, "I've discovered in my short experience with a stock of boots and shoes, that a man may make a lucky or an unlucky beginning in selling certain things? I had a line of ladies' wear that I'm told was well bought, and which I felt sure would go like hot cakes. They first caught the eye of a woman, not known to have much if any taste in her selection of either clothes or boots. I wasn't aware then that this meant anything to me, or to the well-dressed folk in town. But it did. Well, that line hung—why it hung like a newly wedded wife about her husband's neck. I know now that if Mrs. So-

and-so had bought them, her friends who approved of her judgment in such matters would have followed suit, and as the smaller fry always affect the manner of the great more or less, my hopes for that line of goods would have been realized. No doubt my friend the tailor, over the way, has had similar experience. There are stuffs which when made up into suits and worn by certain men that take your eye at once. Moreover, many will say to themselves, Well, if Brown wears that, it must be the proper thing, and they make a mental note of it. While the very same goods on others never seem to attract attention. Now in groceries, about which I know most, it isn't a matter of taste—that is, in one sense of the word—at all. The sale of sugars and teas, for instance, does not depend upon the whims of fashion. Simply because Mrs. Jones buys my "secret blend" is no reason why Mrs. Smith will. "Are they good, and are they cheap, are the main considerations." Still what may be "good" to one may not seem so to the other, and if views differ as to quality, of course they will as to relative cheapness.

—As much building has not been done in St. Thomas in any one year out of the last ten as this year. By the close of the season the value of new buildings and additions will reach \$150,000.

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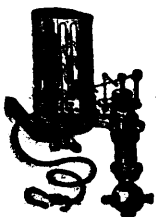
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