

cheap. Although he has been in business six years he now assigns with asset, and liabilities about equal—say \$10,000 each. His creditors met in London on Monday, and offered to accept 40 cents on the dollar, secured, payable in one year, with interest. A Guelph paper says Mr. Lea will accept the offer, sell his property, and begin business in Toronto. — Last week we noted that the jewellery stock of S. A. Spangenburg at Belleville had been seized for rent. Since then he has assigned.

A FEW DON'TS.

Manufacturers and others would do well to draw the attention of those in charge of their stationary engines and boilers to the following "Don'ts" from the *Boston Journal of Commerce*.

Engineers often in packing a valve or piston rod, hammer their packing flat, if it happens to be a little large, so it will go into the gland. This practice cuts the strands of the packing and injures it. A better way is to squeeze the packing out as flat as desired in a vise. Don't hammer it too much. If the jaws of the vise are too short for this work, false jaws of wood or metal can easily be made.

Don't leave a pipe that has caught on by a couple of threads only, because it does not happen to leak. Some day it will give way and may result fatally, besides causing much damage.

Don't spring pipes to make them come into position to make connections. A stress is brought upon the threads which, together with the expansion and contraction of the pipe, may cause trouble.

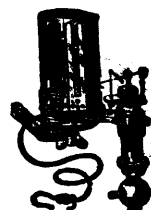
Don't go working around shafting with anything that can possibly catch in the belts, pulleys or couplings. If you wear an apron take it off when at this business, as it is a trap, for if the material does not give way you are liable to go sailing round the shaft, not a very pleasant journey to contemplate. Don't wear a jacket or shirt with ragged sleeves, or in fact any possible projections that could tempt the revolving set-screws or key-ways. Of course no such things should be around a shaft; the day for that is past, but do not be careless even if there are no such traps around the shop.

Don't think because there are no signs of trouble that a boiler is all right. Eternal vigilance must be observed. A boiler does not give notice beforehand that something unexpected is going to happen. Don't neglect to watch for possible trouble.

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Don't let the water connection to your water column go without blowing out at regular intervals. Water columns have been known to show considerable water when there was very little water in the boiler.

Don't think because the tubes are clean that is all that is needed, and leave the shell covered with soot. Too many engineers neglect to clean the boiler shells. This is the most efficient portion of the heating surface.

Don't leave your furnace doors open for two or three minutes when you fire. Air that enters there does nothing but cool down the boiler, and plenty of it enters, as there is a strong draft and no obstruction.

GROCERY NOTES.

Writing of Zante, an island of the Ionian group in Greece, Constance Fenimore Woolson, in *Harper's* for August, has the following, which though not new, is delightfully told: "This flower of the Levant exports not flowers, but fruits. . . . All the Ionian islands except Corfu export currants, but Zante throws them out to the world with both hands. I must confess that I have always blindly supposed (when I thought of it at all) that the currant of the plum-pudding was the same fruit as the currant of our garden. . . . I fancied that by some process unknown to me, at the hands of persons equally unknown (perhaps those who bring flattened raisins from grapes) these berries were dried, and that they then became the well-known ornament of the Christmas cake. It was at Zante that my shameful ignorance was made clear to me. Here I learned that the dried fruit of commerce is a dwarf grape, which has nothing in common with currant jelly. Its English name, currant, is taken from the French "*raisin de Corinthe*, or Corinth grape, a title bestowed because the fruit was first brought into notice at Corinth. We have stolen this name for our red berry. Then, to make the confusion worse, as soon as we have put the genuine currants into our puddings and cakes, we turn round and call them 'plums!' The real currant, the dwarf grape of Corinth, is about as large as a gooseberry when ripe, and its color is a deep violet-black."

There is an old merchant in a thriving little town near Minneapolis who scorns a paper ledger and insists on keeping a pine board account with his customers. He planes this board off once every five months and starts afresh. Some time ago a customer dropped into the old merchant's store to pay a balance of 40 cents, six months standing. "I guess

you don't owe me nothin'," replied the old trader to a question about the debt. The customer protested that he did owe the debt, in fact he remembered buying the goods some six months ago. "Oh, well, five months alters the case," said the weigher of sugar and molasses. "You may owe me forty cents for all I know. You see I've up and started a new board since you got your stuff and I don't remember your debt. You may pay me if you want to, but if you don't it's all O. K., as I've shaved your account out." The trader got his forty cents.—*Minneapolis Commercial Bulletin*.

An estimate of the apple crop in Canada for 1892 is made by Mr. H. Peterson, of Port Colborne, Ont. He thinks Ontario has 10 per cent. more than last year, but not of as good quality; Nova Scotia 20 per cent. more. The United States crop is generally light, save in the New England States, where it is large, and of better quality than last year.

The ship "A. J. Fuller," which left San Francisco for New York on 29th July, carried 65,439 gallons wine, 1,008 gallons brandy, 6,469 cases canned fruit, 1,500 cases canned peas, 200 cases canned corn, 20,179 centals barley, 7,000 sacks beans, 100 tons borax, 400 flasks quicksilver, 15,097 gallons whale oil, etc. A prolific State, California.

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