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satisfactory trade is going on, both as recorded in the reports of men on the road and by the number of letter orders coming forward. Metals for the most part continue very firm, indeed, with a good volume of trade passing. During the early part of this month there was only a moderate amount of business in pig iron being done in the United Kingdom, but recently there has been a considerable improvement. Shipments from the Cleveland district are heavy, and now it is stated that British iron and steel will be required for America; this has stimulated enquiry, and some good business has been arranged. Prices of Scotch iron have only increased about 9d. per ton during the month, but Cleveland prices are some 3s. per ton higher, and the market strong and active. Copper in the same market has been strong throughout the month, but is only about 30s. per ton dearer. Tin has been an excited market, and has advanced some £12 per ton, and is strong. Spelter is very firm at an advance of 32s. 6d. per ton. Lead is unchanged, and is latterly firmer.

Hides, Skins and Leather.—Prices of hides are exceedingly strong just now, and there is no saying just when they are likely to become lower. In fact, some people are inclined to look for even higher prices yet. In tallow there is no appreciable change to report. An active trade is now being done in leather, and values continue very firm.

Provisions.—Prices for butter have a distinctly easier tendency, owing to the more liberal offerings. New cheese is coming forward more plentifully, being quoted at 11½ and 12c. (for twins). Old is steady. Eggs are hardly sufficient for the demand, and 17c. is now the ruling quotation. They are very dear for picklers' requirements. Good chickens are wanted, but there is little or no business passing. There is a good average demand for maple syrup. Stocks of hog products are becoming

low, owing to the indisposition of dealers to load up at the high prices, but further advances are now in order. Hogs, too, are high. Beans are steady at \$1.70 to \$1.90, the latter being for best prime hand-picked.

Wool.—Large quantities of wool are coming in, and there is quite a large

supply of unwashed throughout the country. For the latter 16 to 17c. is quoted. American buyers have been in the market for lots of old crop, and they have about cleaned it up. Conservative dealers believe there can scarcely be much upward movement in the near future, however, for the new clip.

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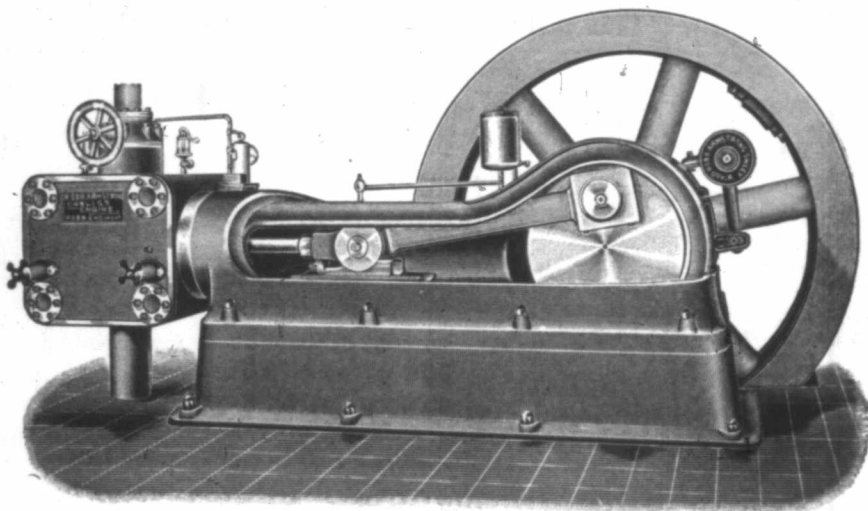
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