

ALL MADE FROM SMOKE.

The old saying that nothing is wasted or lost in nature is true in regard to the smoke from the furnace of Elk Rapids, Mich. In this furnace are manufactured fifty tons of charcoal per day. There are twenty-five charcoal pits, constructed of brick. Each pit is filled with 100 cords of hardwood and then fired. The vast amount of smoke from these pits, which was formerly lost in the air, is now utilized. Works have been erected to convert the smoke into chemicals and acids.

These works are a curiosity. First, they have a circular tube, made of wood, with pine staves, sixteen feet in length, bound together with heavy iron hoops. This tube is placed directly over the pits in a horizontal position, with an opening from each pit into the tube. At the end nearest the building there is a large drum containing a rotary fan, propelled by machinery, the power of which is gas. That acts as a suction or draft for the smoke, which is conveyed into fire stills filled with copper pipes two and one half inches in diameter. The boxes in which the pipes are situated are twenty feet square, eight feet deep, made of heavy pine and filled with cold water; they are all connected by copper pipes; they are connected with the main still, 100 feet in length, 10 feet wide and 8 feet deep, filled with copper pipes 2½ inches in diameter, in horizontal position, surrounded by cold water; from this conveyed to a purifier, from which runs what is called pyroligneous acid, which is as clear as amber, with an unpleasant odor.

From the acid is produced, first, acetate of lime; second alcohol; third, tar; fourth, gas, which is consumed under the boilers. Each cord of wood contains 28,000 cubic feet of smoke; 2,800,000 feet of smoke handled every twenty-four hours, producing 12,000 pounds of acetate of lime, 200 gallons of alcohol and twenty-five pounds of tar. These products have a commercial value in the manufacture of various articles. The smoke from 40,000 cords of wood consumed per annum is thus made a source of much profit, as the works are automatic, and require no workmen to run them.—*Boston Journal of Commerce.*

Commercial.

BRITISH MARKETS.

London, Nov. 12, 1884.

Beerbohm says, floating cargoes—Wheat, very dull; maize, none offering. Cargoes on passage—Wheat, neglected; maize, quiet and steady. Mark Lane, wheat and maize, slow; English and French country markets quiet.

Liverpool, 12th.

The breadstuffs market continues dull. Quotations for Flour, 10s. to 11s. 6d.; No. 1 California wheat 6s. 7d.; No. 2, also 1d., cheaper at 6s. 4d.; red winter, 6s. 4d.; spring 6s. 5d.; maize, 5s. 5d.; corn, 5s. 5½d.; barley, 5s. 6d.; oats, 5s. 5d.; lard, 38s. 6d.; bacon, long clear, 47s.; tallow, 35s.; cheese, 56c. 6d. There are heavy supplies of American and Canadian cattle on the market, and prices have dropped 3c. to 14c. Dressed beef stands at 5½d., which is higher than for some weeks.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Nov. 12th, 1884.

In the stock market there has been an absence of any activity in sales, but values do not show material alteration, except in the case of Federal which dropped considerably, offerings being made at 41, with 36 bid. Montreal, 189½; Commerce, 116½; Richelieu, 56½; Union, 67. Money is in ample supply, and loan and discount rates remain as before. General trade is no more active, and the close of navigation now imminent has not induced any freer buying, except perhaps in the case of metals, which are in a little better demand from such few sections as are still principally dependent on river freights. Payments are not materially improved and renewing has to be done to an extent that is not satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.—Our remarks of the last several weeks apply in all their force to the situation of

to-day. Business is flat; in a good many cases travellers are home from the sorting trips which have not proved satisfactory as a rule, and prospects for further sales of fall goods in quantities are not favorable, retail stocks being as yet hardly broken. The continued mild open weather affects both city and country business, as city people in a good many instances put off buying till forced to do so, and farmers will work out as long as the weather permits, deferring their trading till work in the fields is impossible. Country remittances do not show much improvement, except in isolated cases. Cottons show no new features, unless it be that the tone of the market is slightly firmer.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—From down-river sections and some other localities more dependent on boat than rail for transport, there have been rather more orders for iron, &c., of late, as buyers have to lay in their winter supplies, but otherwise business is quiet, and letters from travellers west report business as very flat. Prices of pig iron as annexed last week, still hold. At home warrants are again advanced, the figures now being 43/-, but makers' brands do not seem proportionately higher. Canada plates are quiet, the season being about over, as also are tin plates, the season for which has not yet begun. The latter are easier at home, but advanced freights fully offset this. Ingot tin was cabled 7/6d. higher on Monday, and is firmer here, other lines are unchanged. We quote: Gartscherrie and Summerlee \$19 to \$19.50; Langloan, \$19.50; Coltness, none in market; Eglinton, \$17.00 to \$17.50; Dalmellington \$17.25 to \$17.50; Calder \$19.00 to \$19.50; Hematite \$20 to \$22.50, according to brand; Siemens, \$19.00 to \$19.50; Bar Iron still \$1.70 to \$1.75; Canada Plates \$2.90 to \$3.00 as to lot and brand; Tin Plates Bradley Charcoal, \$5.85 to 6.00; Charcoal I O \$4.60 to \$4.75 as to brand; do. I X \$6.25 to 6.50; Coke I C., \$4.25 to \$4.40, Galvanized Sheets, No. 28, 6 to 7c. according to brand; Tinned Sheets, coke, Nos. 24 to 26, 6½ to 7½c.; Hoops and Bands per 100 lbs., \$2.25 to \$2.30; Sheets, Boiler, Plate per 100 lbs. Staffordshire, \$2.45 to \$2.55; Steel Boiler Plate \$3.25 to \$3.00; heads \$4.50; Russian Sheet Iron, 10 to 11c. Lead per 100 lbs.—Pig, \$3.75 to \$4.00; Sheet, \$3.75 to \$4; Shot, \$6 to \$6.50; best cast Steel, 11½ to 12c firm; Spring, \$3.25 to \$3.50, firm; Tire, \$3.25 to \$3.50, firm Sleigh Shoe, \$2.25 to \$2.50. Round Machinery Steel, 3½c. per lb. Ingot Tin, 20 to 21c. Bar Tin, 24c.; Ingot Copper, 15 to 16c. Sheet Zinc, \$4.50 to \$4.75; Spelter, \$4.00 to \$4.50 Bright Iron Wire, Nos. 0 to 6, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

ASHES.—The market is rather easier. We believe some No. 1 pots have been sold at \$4.00, and quote \$4 to \$4.15, last sale of seconds were at \$3.70. Pearls still nominally \$5.00; last transaction reported, took place a fortnight ago at these figures. Receipts have become lighter of late, and as shipments have more than equalled receipts, stocks in store are somewhat reduced from what they were, and are now about 1200 bbls.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Trade remains only fair, and remittances do not show much gain. Iodide of Potash reported as advancing last week has gone up with a bound, presumably due to a combination of producers, and is now double former figures, being quoted at \$3.50 to \$3.60; Iodine \$4 to \$4.25, and iodoform \$5.50 to \$5.75. It is altogether probable that these prices may go higher. Cream tartar which showed some signs of falling off, is again firm at quotations, other lines unchanged. We quote: Sal Soda \$1.10 per 100 lbs.; Bi-Carb. Soda, 2.50 to \$2.60; Soda Ash \$1.65 to \$1.75; Bichromate of Potash, per 100 lbs., \$8.50 to \$10; Borax refined, 11 to 12½c.; Cream Tartar crystals, 32 to 34c.; do ground 36c. to 38c.; Tartaric Acid crystals, 52½ to 55c.; do. powders 55 to 58c. per lb.; Caustic Soda, white, \$2.40 to 2.60; Sugar of Lead, 9 to 11c.; Bleaching Powder, \$2.50 to \$3.00 according to lot; Alum \$1.75 to \$1.90; Copperas, per 100 lbs., \$1.00; Ground Sulphur, \$2.75 to \$3.00; Flowers Sulphur, sublim per 100 lbs., \$3.00 to \$3.25; Roll Sulphur, \$2.40 to \$2.60; Sulphate of Copper, \$5.75 to \$3.50; Epsom Salts, \$1.25 to \$1.40; Saltpetre, \$9.00 to \$9.50; German Quinine, about \$1.10 to \$1.20; American do., \$1.20 to \$1.25; Howard, \$1.25 to \$1.35; Optum, \$4.25 to \$4.50; Morphia, \$2.20 to \$2.30; Gum Arabic, sort, 28 to 33c.; White, 40 to 55c.; Carbolic acid, 45 to 50c.

FISH.—No further receipts of Labrador herrings and prices quoted remain at \$6 to \$6.50.

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