

Adulteration.

Eastern trade papers announce a convention of Canadian merchants to be held at Hamilton, Ont., between August 19th and 23rd, at which questions affecting the interests of mercantile men, wholesale and retail will be discussed. It is to be hoped that the convention will be a representative one in the fullest sense, and that some of the burning questions of the hour may find a solution there.

Adulteration would be a subject which should receive attention, as it is a practice too common, and one for which the merchant is seldom responsible, although he generally receives all the blame and abuse from the consumer. One leading grocer of this city frankly states, that he does not know of two kinds of ground coffee prepared in Canada, which are absolutely pure coffee, while several retailers assert, that it is simply impossible to purchase a pound of pure ground spice from any spice mill in the Dominion, all being more or less adulterated. In many instances, especially in coffee the manufacturers are not alone to blame. The public taste has to a large extent become vitiated, and calls for in many instances the adulterated in preference to the pure article.

This state of affairs is something to be deplored, and at the same time something not beyond the reach of remedy. The Hamilton convention if it turns out to be a good representative one would furnish a good opportunity for the airing of the subject, and possibly for devising means for counteracting what seems to be not only a growing evil, but a general system of fraud.

Elsewhere in these columns will be found an extract from the *Monetary Times*, showing the detection and prosecution of a Montreal grocer for selling in Crosse & Blackwell's pickle bottles, pickles not made by that firm. Fraud committed thus on a firm or individual is usually quickly detected and stopped, but fraud on the public is not so closely looked after.

Lumber Cappings.

The M. & O. L. Co's. mill at Norman shut down last week for want of logs.

Graham & Horn's saw mill at Vermillion Bay is running at its full capacity, and is averaging 10,000,000 feet per week.

A large raft of logs are lying in the bay waiting for sawing operations to commence, and the firm intend running their mill as soon as possible and to its greatest capacity.

G. McPhee, who has charge of the Brandon log-drive, has given up the attempt to take them through for the present. They are stuck on the rapids about eight miles below the town.

The building for the Ross, Hall & Brown mill at Rat Portage is completed, and the men are now engaged putting in the machinery as fast as possible. The saw mill is the same as all other mills, the main building being 150 x 75 with a basement for the running of shafting and pulleys. It is now being fixed for one circular, which is already in position. The large fly wheel, which is in two pieces, was hoisted into position last week, and the engine also.

The supply of black walnut is rapidly becoming exhausted, and there is no satisfactory sub-

stitute for it in this country. No other tree can approach it in value. It is a rapid grower, and it will thrive in almost any soil on this continent. It is a sturdy, handsome, vigorous tree, easily grown, because no animal and only one insect feeds upon it. The black walnut has a transcendent value but little known, which is that the fine European walnut grows finely on it, either stock or top grafted. The hardier varieties of this finest of nuts from the north of Europe should succeed top grafted on this hardy stock in Ontario and the Northwest. It can be made to yield a fortune by those who cultivate it on a large scale. In twenty years a grove will have more than have paid all expense and interest on the investment. In fifty years at present prices the trees would be worth at least \$20,000 per acre.—*Canadian Lumberman*.

Personal.

Another who has returned from a business pilgrimage through a great portion of Europe, is Mr. W. M. Ronald of Porter and Ronald wholesale china and crockery dealers, Winnipeg. He is already out on the road to place some of the goods he has purchased.

Mr. W. A. Mackenzie representing the McAlpine Tobacco Company of Toronto and New York, started for the east last Tuesday, after a lengthy tour over the Northwest and British Columbia, in which he made good work in the introduction of the Company's goods over the wide area referred to.

Dairy Matters.

The Broadview creamery has commenced operations.

The cheese factory at Crystal City is now in running order, and both quantity and quality of output is said to be excellent.

T. A. Pearsell, of Huron County, Ontario, intends going into dairying, cheese and butter making industry in the neighbourhood of Moose Jaw.

Fraudulent Imitation.

It has been ascertained that certain shopkeepers in Montreal were selling pickles put up by parties in that city, and making use of the trade mark and bottles of Crosse & Blackwell, the English makers. It was also found that an imitation of that firm's trade mark was being made use of. A prosecution was instituted (under the Act against fraudulent marking of merchandise) against Stanislas Gareau, of 1430 Notre Dame street, for using and for imitating the trade mark aforesaid. On being brought before the magistrate, Gareau pleaded guilty and was fined with costs; but upon his undertaking that he would cease to make further use of the trade mark, further proceedings against him were stopped. In addition, notices were served upon the following firms for selling spurious pickles in English bottles or with an imitation of the same trade mark:—Vannier Freres, McCurley & Casselman, J. J. Robillard, Daoust Freres. These parties have given up to Crosse & Blackwell's agent the names of the parties from whom they purchased the pickles, and upon their doing so and promising to

abstain from selling more further prosecution against them was stopped. The injured firm have properly determined to prosecute promptly and with vigor infringers of their rights, and it would be well for grocers to take warning.—*Monetary Times*.

New Bridge Across the St. Lawrence.

The St. Lawrence is to be crossed at Quebec by a gigantic railway bridge, which will very materially effect the traffic of the two great railways of Canada—the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific—as well as the important part of the railway system of the New England States. The great depth of the St. Lawrence river opposite Quebec has hitherto been a powerful argument against the construction of a bridge, but engineering skill has overcome this obstacle with a scheme to build a cantilever bridge, which will cost close upon \$10,000,000. The width of the river from shore to shore at Quebec is 24,000 feet (about 4½ miles.) Two main piers are to be constructed of solid granite in 40 feet of water, about 500 feet from each shore. The two piers are to support a cantilever bridge of a span of 1,442 feet. The total length of the bridge, with the approaches, will be 34,000 feet (nearly 6½ miles.) The top of the bridge from highwater level will be 408 feet, and the largest ocean steamer will be able to pass under it. The principal object in building the bridge is to connect the Intercolonial railway from Halifax and St John to Quebec, which is run by the Canadian Government at a great annual loss to the country with the Canadian Pacific railway. This is the only link uncompleted necessary to give the Canadian Pacific railway an uninterrupted line from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans through Canadian territory.—*Free Press*.

The following parties have been granted letters of incorporation as the Pilot Mound Milling Company, with a capital stock of \$16,000. Thomas McKay, James B. Baird, John Hiebert, William A. Donald, John M. Fraser, John Knox, William Carson, James T. Gordon and C. Burns, all of the village of Pilot Mound.

The site for the new roller mill at Crystal City North gives general satisfaction. The well sunk by Hood & Co. for the mill is supposed to be equal to anything of the kind in Southern Manitoba. At a depth of 25 feet an abundance of excellent water was secured, sufficient, it is said, to run two mills of larger capacity. The material is now being placed on the ground, and it is expected that the new mill will be ready in time for the first of the incoming crop.

A bonus of \$5,000 is being given, \$2,400 by direct subscriptions, and \$2,000 in the form of debentures of the municipality repayable in twenty years by the people in townships 1, 2 and 3, in ranges 20 and 21, to aid the Deloraine roller mill. The bonus by-law is to be submitted in a short time. Messrs Preston and McKay, of Stratford, Ontario, are the men interested, and it is intended to put in a 100 barrel a day roller process mill, building to be of stone, and to be run for five years as a flouring and grist mill.—*Times*.