

Local Manufactures.

In a latitude as high as that in which Winnipeg is located there is generally a falling off in manufacturing business as soon as deep winter sets in. The demand for manufactured goods necessary for building and other out-door operations ceases, and an increase of the demand from other sources is necessary to continue the activity. The manufacturing for out-door material has ceased for a season in Winnipeg. The lumber mills have shut down, and other producing institutions have suspended operations. Still there is no let up to the activity in manufactures generally, and it seems that while one class have ceased others have increased greatly. As the market reports show the milling industry is at present at its busiest point, and will continue so in all probability during the entire winter.

Next to the lumber branch that most likely to suffer from the closing of out-door work is the

IRON INDUSTRY.

Inquiry shows that this branch of manufactures is in the most hopeful state. The leading manufacturers have all that they can attend to and all are making preparations for additions to their factories. The Vulcan Iron Works proprietor is making a large addition to his works, and will in a few weeks add materially to the machinery now in operation. The Waterous Engine Works are equally busy, and the managers are about to add a foundry and several large lathes and other machinery. In addition to these improvements the Winnipeg Iron Works on Postoffice Street are fast approaching completion, and within three weeks will supply another extensive machine shop and foundry for the city. The smaller houses seem to be equally as pressed with work, and among carriage builders the demand for sleighs and cutters makes matters unusually lively. In the course of a few weeks the work of bridge construction at different points throughout the province will be in full swing, and very great increase may be expected to the demand for heavy wrought iron work for such purposes.

The Winnipeg Barb Wire Works are running full at present, and the proprietors inform us that orders have commenced to come in at least one month earlier than they did last year, and they are rapidly increasing with them. There is every prospect that this business this coming year will be far in excess of that of the present.

PLUMBING AND STEAM FITTINGS.

Is now at its best, and is the only line connected with building operations in which there is any great activity. The numerous new buildings which have been fitted with water, gas and heating arrangements will keep the trade busy until far on in the winter, and will not be all completed until near the opening of spring. Another branch of industry which is growing in Winnipeg is

FURNITURE MANUFACTURE.

And in this line there is unusual activity at present. Factories have all the orders they can attend to, and have during the last week had to refuse fresh contracts. It is not a temporary rush they have either, as the work now in their hands will keep them busy away

into 1883. Working overtime is a necessity at present, and many hours have to be borrowed from the night, and still the demands from the country have to be greatly delayed to allow of city orders being filled. Even

THE BREWERS

Have a steady good trade, although this branch is usually more or less dull throughout the winter in all places. The greatest difficulty brewers seem to have is to secure a full supply of good barley from local sources, and the scarcity of hops still continues to hamper them to some extent.

In the various branches of manufactures, in which small concerns only are engaged there is no lack of activity, and there is every prospect that the demand for skilled mechanical labor is more likely to increase than decrease for some weeks to come. The supply of mechanics is liberal, as many are now located in the city for the winter, who have been out west on prospecting tours during the summer, and will probably start westward to make homes for themselves as soon as spring opens up again.

Bogus Butter Defended.

Under the heading of "Our Oleomargarine exports" the *American Mail and Export Journal* of New York published an article in defence of the abominations that are manufactured in the slums of eastern cities, and foisted upon the public as butter. We extract the following portion:

"Our foreign trade in oleomargarine has become a recognized fact in Europe. Heretofore it has been carried on under certain mystifications, although why it had to be thus carried on is in itself a mystification—unless we charge it to that old scape-goat, public prejudice.

There is nothing unwholesome or forbidden in oleomargarine. Its manufacture is open, and investigation has only shown that it is in all of its component parts butter. The only thing that be said against it is that, it is not produced through the recognized channel. As 'the hand of little labor hath the daintier touch,' so the public stomach which has been daintier with luxuries is more squeamish than that which has never been able to appreciate the luxury of being well filled with even common food. To the working people of Europe, therefore, who have never been able to secure more than lard and grease—and thankful enough for that—for their black bread, oleomargarine is a very welcome luxury. It has all the appearance, taste and quality of butter and while just as wholesome, on general principles, as old-fashioned butter, is far more wholesome to those who can buy it and who cannot buy regular butter."

The fact that a package of oleomargarine never appeared in a market in the United States labeled or branded as such, until the laws of some states, and ordinance of several cities, compelled a system of branding or marking as a matter of public protection, is rather a strong argument against the intended logic of this quotation. Nor is law always powerful enough to prevent, although it may punish the practice of representing oleomargarine as butter, as the records of the courts in several American cities

go to prove. The success of oleomargarine manufacture like that of glucose, depends to a great extent upon how far the public can be gulled, and the medical evidence in every trial that has taken place goes to prove, that the mixture, no matter how carefully manufactured does not possess the healthy properties of natural butter, but must have a bad effect upon those who continue to use it.

It does seem strange, that a journal like the *Mail and Export* should defend the manufacture of bogus butter in a country which has wider facilities for the production of the pure article, than any other under the sun.

Heat Power of Wood and Coal.

Under the heading "Practical Lectures on Coal," the *Mining Review* of the 9th inst. publishes a valuable letter from Professor C. D. Wilber, M. A., L. L. D., which furnishes some valuable information on the relative merits of coal and wood as fuel. For the benefit of our manufacturers we should like to give the letter in full, but our space will not permit. The relative nature of wood and coal as fuel is placed in the letter as follows. One ton of bituminous coal is equal to two cords of ordinary hard wood; to two and one half cords of soft or green wood and to one and three-quarter cords of dry oak or hickory. The relative quantity of carbon the bases or source of heat in the different fuels is tabulated as follows:

OAK:	Carbon,	49.10,	Hydrogen,	6.30,	Oxygen,	44.60.
PEAT:	"	60.00,	"	6.20,	"	33.80.
COAL: (Bit.)	"	82.60,	"	5.60,	"	11.80.
COAL, (Anth.)	"	94.04,	"	1.75,	"	4.21.

The heat power of the different classes of fuel are as follows.

WOOD	(Green)	2,200	Fahrenheit.
WOOD	(Seasoned)	2,867	"
PEAT		2,732	"
COAL	(Bituminous)	4,082	"
COAL	(Anthracite)	4,170	"
DRY COKE		4,332	"

The excess of heat of bituminous coal over dry wood is thus 1,215 F., and over green wood 1,882 F. The oxygen and hydrogen in wood represent principally moisture, and the carbon of oak represents six-tenths of that of bituminous coal, and five-tenths that of anthracite.

The letter contains a lot of figures on the economy of using coal instead of wood, but these are based upon the prices of the Western States, and consequently cannot be applied to Manitoba. Taking the Professor's ratio of value which is based upon a careful study and observation of the case since 1850, our poplar wood at \$5 a cord is about equal to bituminous coal at \$12.50, and Anthracite at \$13.50, and with the recent heavy decline in the price of wood it is a singular coincidence how Winnipeg fuel dealers have come so near to the relative values of different classes of fuel.

The facts and figures contained in the letter are of great value to manufacturers of this country in particular and are of interest to the public generally, and should stimulate the efforts now being made to open up the rich coal fields which are known to exist in the Northwest.

Within the latitudes of 44 and 48 north the letter estimates one ton of coal per annum per capita is about the quantity used for household,