

The Michigan Tradesman.

GRAND RAPIDS, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1889.

NO. 277.

VOL. 6.

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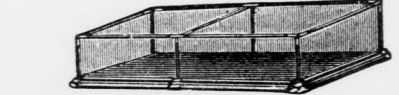
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I guarantee "SILVER STARS" to be a long, straight filler, with Sumatra wrapper, made by union labor, and to give complete satisfaction.

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Sole Manufacturer,

70 Canal St., GRAND RAPIDS.

THE SPICE TRADE OF NEW YORK.

[CONCLUDED FROM LAST WEEK.]

Last year, mace was imported to the extent of 175,890 pounds, in boxes containing 66 pounds each. Mace is obtained from the fleshy part which envelops the nutmeg. It is the second coat or aril, a thin, yellow substance, of wax-like texture, which covers the nutmeg, and is very fragrant and aromatic, and has a strong, but agreeable taste. It is raised mostly in the Spice Islands, but Penang and Singapore are the largest shipping markets. It comes to New York on the ships bringing general cargoes of East Indian merchandise. Part of our supply of mace comes from the Banda Isles, a group in the Molucca Archipelago. The Moluccas, or Spice Islands, as they are generally called, are of volcanic formation and very fertile. They produce cloves, nutmegs, mace and other spices, not to mention sago, decorative woods, and fruits, while the pearl and trepan fisheries have long been well known. The Banda Isles were produced by some fearful convulsion of nature, perhaps ages before man appeared on the globe, and are among the loftiest of the group. The Island of Goonong-Ape rises 7,880 feet above the sea. The four larger of these fruitful volcanic isles are devoted to the production of nutmegs and mace. The group is in constant danger of earthquakes, and the last island already mentioned is known as one of the most active volcanoes in the archipelago. The islands are little more than an open conservatory bearing odorous spices, with volcanic heat to stimulate the growth of the wonderful vegetation. The houses are mostly of wood, roofed with leaves, owing to the danger of earthquakes. Spices from the Banda Isles often find their way to New York by way of London, whence they are shipped on the regular steamers.

Mustard is a popular condiment, and has been known for many centuries. California raises a large crop. The mustard-tree of the Scriptures still abounds in the East, and though the seed has no aromatic pungency, it is used like ordinary mustard. The most important species known to commerce are black mustard and white mustard. The plants are natives of all parts of Europe, and are also cultivated in gardens. The white and the black seeds are ground together. Mustard is not only useful as a condiment, but is valuable as a medicine. It has stimulating properties, known to every household, and it is beneficial in some cases of indigestion. In England, white mustard, in the seed-leaf, is sometimes used as a small salad, having an agreeable pungency. In India, the oil of mustard-seed is much used for lamps. In China, a species is cultivated as greens for the table, as we use spinach.

The bran of ordinary European and American seed is used in making French mustard, which is very popular. The finest mustard-seed is the black, or, as the brokers term it, the brown, which is received from Trieste. The next in point of quality is the English brown, and then comes the Dutch seed, though of the two last-named descriptions very little is received here. Large quantities of the white, or more properly yellow, California seed are used annually by the spice mills of New York. It is cheap, and it makes itself felt. The Trieste sells at 7 to 8 cents a pound at wholesale, and the English and Dutch from 5 1/2 to 6 cents, but the California is obtainable at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 cents. When there is an especially brisk market, the California seed is sent overland by rail to New York, but usually it comes in sailing vessels that go around Cape Horn, as the "good old days" before regular mail steamers to the Isthmus and the Panama Railroad were ever dreamed of on the Pacific coast. It takes from 80 to 150 days for these ships to make the Cape Horn voyage, according to the wind, and besides mustard seed, they bring wool, raw sugar, wine, and the salmon of the Oregon, which assuredly hears something besides its own dashings in these days of feverish activity in trade and commerce. The foreign seed is often sent from the Mediterranean to London, and then trans-shipped to New York, though it also comes direct from Sicily. Some comes from Bombay. The fruit steamers from Sicily bring considerable quantities.

Curry powder is a preparation borrowed from India. It is composed of turmeric and various spices. In India and elsewhere it is largely used as a seasoning for a large variety of dishes. It often consists of turmeric powder, coriander seed powder, black pepper, fenugreek, ginger, Cayenne pepper and cummin-seed. Sometimes the recipes include scorched mustard, mace, cinnamon and cardamoms. This agreeably stimulating preparation is largely manufactured by the various spice companies of New York.

Sweet marjoram is extensively used as a seasoning in cookery. The plant is a native of Greece and the East. Thyme is a half-shrubby plant long known as a flavoring for various dishes. The garden thyme is the most fragrant. It grows in all parts of Europe and in the north of Asia, but is not indigenous in this country. "I know a bank where the wild thyme grows" is a humble plant, but grateful to the smell and the taste. Wholesale houses here sell it in powdered form in boxes and barrels. Savory is largely sold here. The plant has lilac or white flowers. It has a strong and agreeable aromatic taste and smell, and is used for flavoring dishes. Winter savory and summer savory are used for the same purposes. Sage in powdered form flavors not a few dishes, and it is also used in the leaf. It grows wild, and is also cultivated. The whole plant has an aromatic smell, penetrating and peculiar, somewhat like that of camphor, and it has also an aromatic taste, rather bitter, but nevertheless

agreeable, and is more generally known in the household kitchen than other sweet herbs. It is much used in flavoring meats and sauces. Italian sage is sold here by the bale.

Pickles are really a condiment, and are, therefore, worth a word in passing. If used judiciously, they stimulate the appetite; properly made, they are not unwholesome, and are often, indeed, decidedly agreeable additions to the table. There is the celebrated Spanish pickle; it is a mixture of the red cabbage and slices of the large cucumbers prepared with special care to preserve their green color. Sometimes in cabbage pickles, in which the red vegetable is always employed, a few slices of beet-root are added. Cucumber is sometimes used to improve the color, and ginger, mace and white and black peppercorns are used as spices. French beans, onions, eschaloons, walnuts, mushrooms, nasturtiums, cauliflowers, capers and other vegetables and fruits are extensively used in pickling, and the trade requires large quantities of spices annually. Pickles are sometimes colored by boiling the vinegar in copper vessels, and thus forming the green-colored acetate of copper, or even by directly adding that poison—a fact that has led to serious results; but this baneful practice is believed to be much less prevalent than formerly.

Capers are the delight of the gourmand, and have long been used as a condiment and as an ingredient in sauces. It is more particularly used with boiled mutton, though also employed with other meats. They are simply the pickled flowers of the caper-bush, of a slightly bitter and yet agreeably pungent taste. The caper-bush is a native of Southern Europe and of other countries near the Mediterranean Sea. It is found on Mount Sinai. It decorates ancient ruins, clothing them in a trailing garment of green, and is a beautiful as the English ivy. It is a rambling shrub, in other words, that flourishes most in dry places, and it is often found growing on rocks and the walls of ruins. It flowers from early summer till winter. The caper, which contributes so much to the satisfaction of the epicure, is simply the half-opened buds of the caper-bush. They are gathered every morning and at once put into vinegar and salt. At the end of the season they are sorted according to their size and color. The larger buds are packed in small barrels, but the smaller and greener, being the most prized, are sent to market in bottles after having been again put in vinegar. The fruit of the bush is a small berry, and that is also pickled in some parts of Italy. Sometimes acetate of copper has been used to change the grayish-green color of the pickled capers to a brighter or more emerald-like hue, and this, of course, makes them dangerous. The presence of copper in a jar of capers can be detected by thrusting a polished iron rod into the vessel. If copper is present, the rod will soon become coated with it. The English and French steamers annually bring large quantities of various spices, condiments and sweet herbs to New York to gladden the epicure and satisfy the popular demand for stimulants, which is unquestionably very great in a nation of such restless energy as ours.

Olives are a condiment highly esteemed after a taste for them has been acquired, but at first they are not specially agreeable. Large quantities are imported every year. The consumption in New York is large, partly by reason of the cosmopolitan population. The olive-tree is indissolubly connected with sacred history. The Mount of Olives is a name as familiar as that of Jerusalem. The tree itself is so hardy that the olives now standing in what is termed the Garden of Gethsemane at Jerusalem are alleged to be identical with those named in tax-rolls as existing a thousand years ago, and there is a tradition—regarded by many as not altogether improbable—which makes them date back to the time of Christ. The tradition as to the extreme longevity of these trees still to be seen in the neatly-kept Garden of Gethsemane, and carefully watched by a sacred Order, is undoubtedly based on the well-known fact that the olive-tree is the hardest fruit-tree that grows. It survives the severest frosts, even sharp scorching by fire, and almost any degree of mutilation. It sprouts from the roots if everything else is dead. It is known to survive for centuries after the heart and all but the outer layer of young wood are gone. Often a large trunk is not only hollow, but split lengthwise into several distinct stems, all healthy and bearing fruit. Olive oil was known to the writers of the Old Testament, in whose time it was used for sacrificial libations, for illumination, for food, and for anointing the hair and body. Homer mentions the olive tree. It was conspicuous in Roman agricultural literature. The Romans used olive oil in the kitchen and at the table, instead of butter, which was scarcely used in the Roman cuisine.

In Palestine, and in some of the Mediterranean islands, the olive tree is as lofty as the tallest oak, but in Europe it does not often exceed twenty feet in height, being kept down by pruning for the sake of convenience in gathering the fruit. It grows in Asia Minor, Syria, Northern Africa, Southern Europe, the Greek Islands, Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, California, and even to some extent in the Crimea. Olive trees are planted from fifteen to twenty-five feet apart, and with careful husbandry will bear every year. Italy produces an enormous supply of olives and olive oil, and the crop in California is steadily increasing. The olives are gathered when fully grown but still green; they are first steeped for a day in weak lime-water or lye of wood ashes; then in fresh water changed every day for four or five days, or until they have lost their bitter flavor. Then they are salted or pickled in a strong brine. This is the practice when

the harvest is simply for the olives themselves. When it is for olive oil, the fruit is allowed to remain on the tree until it is of a dark wine color. Then the olives are dried a little, and then compressed for the oil. The best oil is from unground fruit, but it is also ground and subjected to repeated pressure, sometimes with the aid of hot water.

Olive oil is adulterated with lard oil and cotton-seed oil. There are large exports of American oils mentioned, and they come back from Europe, notably from Marseilles, traveling under the disguise of the best olive oil of Italy or Provence, really being largely an extract of American lard and cotton-seed which unscrupulous French and Italian merchants foist upon us with smirking complacency. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, no less than 744,766 gallons of olive oil, valued at \$662,197, were imported into this country, mostly at New York. Olives and olive oil come to this port in the English, French and Italian steamers.

The total importation of spices into this country in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1887, were 30,980,735 pounds, valued at \$3,481,412. Pepper is the most extensively used of any of the spices known to commerce, and nearly \$2,000,000 worth is consumed in this country every year. Spices are admitted free of duty except when ground.

It is well known that spices are much adulterated. Burnt crackers, buckwheat and ground cocoa-shells are used to adulterate pepper. Ground almond shells are mixed with cassia and cinnamon. Flour is mixed with mace. Meal and starch help to make full weight and good measure of ginger. Pimento is too cheap to make adulteration profitable. Nutmegs have never been adulterated except in Connecticut, where a very successful imitation is said to have been made many years ago by some of the thrifty deacons who happened to keep country stores. The late Erastus Brooks, for many years one of the editors and proprietors of the old *Evening Express*, began his career as a clerk in a country store. His employer was a hard-fisted old Yankee deacon, who used to say to him in the morning: "Well, Erastus, wet the tobacco and sand the sugar and then come to prayers."

That particular pillar of the church was intimately related, morally, to the Connecticut Yankees who made wooden oats, wooden hams and wooden nutmegs.

There are no wooden nutmegs now in market. Cloves are very cheap. At one time they cost only one and a half cents a pound at wholesale. Mustard is adulterated with flour and turmeric, which is yellow in color, and gives it its pungent taste. Turmeric itself is the root of a plant found in the East Indies and in Cochinchina. It is sold in the form of dried root or powder, and besides being used so extensively in coloring mustards, it is employed in the dyeing of silks and wool, as well as in medicine and chemical analyses. As originally used in Europe, mustard was simply the finely-ground seed, but in time the demand arose for an improved yellow color, the natural tint being rather dull and unattractive, and then the flour of mustard was introduced, this merely being the interior portion of the seed, the bran being rejected as in the case of wheat in making flour. The result was a loss of the pungent taste peculiar to mustard, which is largely due to the presence of a bitterish oil in the husk of the seed, and to supply this deficiency the next step was to introduce turmeric, Cayenne pepper and other foreign ingredients, with wheat flour to increase the bulk and the lightness of color. There is little or no pure mustard to be had anywhere; it is practically a druggist's compound, and in New York mustard-seed is sold by drug brokers.

But the shipping element of the mighty commerce of New York is always more interesting than its formal array of statistics. Here, at a wharf on the East River, near old Rutgers Slip, is the ship *Alice D. Cooper*, with big tan-colored spars and a brave array of rigging, pulleys, ratlines, cordage, chains and white decks. The sides of the black ship are barked and rusty with the long voyage from Hong Kong. A companionway is lowered to the wharf, and a notice close by announces that there is no admittance to the ship, though this warning is but slightly regarded. A queer little floating house on one side of the raft, the steam wharf, with which the cargo is hoisted from the depths of the somber hold to a slanting skid, down which the merchandise is sent to a platform supported by wooden horses. From this platform the men take the bales of rich goods and pile them up, according to their marks, further along the wharf, or else put them on trucks to be taken to various parts of the city. On the dusty and splintered wharf are bales of cassia, bags of ginger, boxes of preserves, chinaware, rattans and curios, bales of straw braid, and rolls of netting bearing such labels as "Kee Ning," "Hong Kong Fanat" and "Mandarin," packed in bales of native grass. There are boxes of soy, a kind of sauce or flavoring made in China from a small native bean; there are cases of lacquerware, such as cups, saucers, trays, pots and dishes. The cargo contains no less than 500 cases of native preserves, and nearly 5,000 pounds of ginger. There is chinaware consigned to a Chinese firm in New York, Lin, Fong & Co., besides rattan chairs. In all, the big ship will yield up more than 18,000 rolls of better than carpets for certain rooms of the dwelling, and so much superior to the cheaper carpets or the chilling oilcloth for halls. Big red trucks are being loaded with this merchandise from the far East, and every few minutes a team of stout horses, with flanks and harness glistening in the afternoon sun, rumbles along the wharf out into noisy South Street, where the stout-

lunged driver is speedily reveling in a wordy and profane warfare with the driver of a horse-car, whose observations on the truckman's parentage, physical appearance and mental characteristics call forth a vituperative deluge in response from that malignant but fluent individual. Truckmen, as a class, are probably the same all the world over—as profane and abusive at times as parrots with a bad "bringing up"—as, for example, some falsely reported to have been reared by clergymen—and yet in the main as harmless as doves.

The big ship, we find, left Hong Kong September 3, 1887, and arrived at New York February 7, showing that the trip required more than five months. The log shows that she did not have altogether smooth sailing, for, on October 2, in latitude 11° 10' North, longitude 116° East, she encountered a violent typhoon and lost or split some of her sails. Happily, no lives were lost. Here is the stately ship *Governor Robie*, named in honor of a former chief magistrate of Maine. She is owned in New York and Bath, Me., is 256 feet long, 41 feet wide, and was built in 1882, costing ninety thousand dollars. She is of 1,627 tons register, with a capacity of 2,100 tons, commanded by Captain Wm. Blanchard. She left Hong Kong October 20, and arrived here January 29, a trip of sixteen thousand miles made in three months and nine days. She brings Chinese ginger, as well as a miscellaneous cargo, including matting, fire-crackers, fans and curios, which the crew are helping to unload. Most of the men before the mast are Scandinavians and some of them do not speak English. The work goes briskly on, however, directed by sharp-spoken "down East" Yankee officers, the maritime law requiring that American ships shall be commanded by American citizens. The cases of ginger coming from the Orient suggest Mr. Stockton's humorous story in which the "ginger-jar" plays so important a part. The consumption of Chinese preserved ginger in this country has been large for many years; the blue earthen jars, in their light rattan casings, are familiar to thousands of households.

The big ship used to trade from San Francisco to Liverpool, carrying grain cargoes; then she would come back to New York in ballast, and then take a general cargo, consisting of flour, railroad iron, produce, and a hundred articles of manufacture, to San Francisco, there to take on another grain cargo and go the same round again. This trade was not considered altogether satisfactory, and she embarked in the commerce with the Orient; but she will probably go back to her former business on the Atlantic and the Pacific, as the China trade involves long voyages and considerable loss of valuable time.

It is a busy scene on this brown and dusty wharf, splintered by the hoofs of thousands of horses that have, in the lapse of years, drawn away their heavy loads of East Indian merchandise. We may pause a moment to note, as a part of the picture, a brigantine on the other side of the wharf, which lately brought a cargo of sugar and molasses from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, and is now taking on a cargo for the return voyage, which comprises big casks of oil-meal, presumably for feeding cattle, barrels of flour, bundles of staves and other merchandise. She will be at least twenty days on her return trip to Trinidad. Further along there is a large scow loaded with strange-looking volcanic rock, which was brought as ballast from Barbadoes by a trading-vessel. The rock is taken from the mountains to the coast, and proves very useful in ballasting vessels. At present the scow is in command of a boy of sixteen, who says that he will sell the rock as dirt at sixty cents a ton, as it has been somewhat injured by exposure to snow and rain; but usually the ordinary rock is worth \$1.25 a ton. He has a cargo of 100 tons, and expresses a willingness to sell it to the writer at the large reduction mentioned.

It is a tempting offer, but we pass on to a canal-boat which is being loaded with 7,000 bags of bran. The bags are emptied in the hold, and a man so covered with bran as to suggest Father Time, is distributing the load here and there with a wooden shovel. It will take nearly five days to load the boat, and then it will be towed to Harlem, where it will be unloaded by an elevator in about a day. It seems a primitive way of taking the bran to a point so near as Harlem, but the owner of the merchandise is also owner of the boat, and it is cheaper to utilize this antique method of transportation than to pay the cost of cartage. The buyer secured the meal on the floor of the Produce Exchange, and then had it brought to this wharf, near ancient Rutgers Slip.

At a wharf close by is a steamer engaged in the East India trade, which often brings considerable quantities of spices to New York. She has now discharged her cargo, however, and is waiting for another load before making a voyage to London. She will take what is termed a "general cargo," which may include a hundred different items, such as flour, sugar, machinery, cotton goods, agricultural implements, leather, hardware, lubricating oil, furniture, beef, pork, bacon, hay, etc. On discharging her cargo at London she will, an officer says, coast up the German seas, taking coal and assorted merchandise to Antwerp, Hamburg and other German ports. The officer says that she will probably coast for about ninety days, so that the crew can be near home. Officers and men have, as usual, signed a contract for two years' service, but they do not like to be in the East India trade for the full time, as it takes them too far from home, and they wish to have an opportunity of seeing their families. It is an error to suppose that poor Jack is indifferent to those domestic ties which are so potent with right-thinking persons. Nothing is more absurd than to suppose that the

[CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.]

The Michigan Tradesman

Official Organ of Michigan Business Men's Association.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE
Retail Trade of the Wolverine State.

E. A. STOWE & BRO., Proprietors.

Subscription Price, One Dollar per year.
Advertising Rates made known on application.

Entered at the Grand Rapids Post Office.

E. A. STOWE, Editor.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1889.

DO YOU WANT IT?

The business men of Michigan now have an admirably conceived insurance plan before them, for adoption or rejection, by means of which they can save at least 40 per cent. of the money now paid to Eastern and foreign capitalists in the shape of a fire tax. If they wish to see the plan carried into execution, they must raise \$100,000, in order to obtain a charter from the State to do business. That money, for which certificates of stock will be issued, will bear an annual interest dividend of 10 percent., making it a good investment. The necessary amount could be raised in two days among the wealthy men of Grand Rapids or Detroit, but an element of mutuality which commends the plan to business men would thus be defeated—the insured would not be their own insurers.

It rests with business men, then, to say whether they want the plan as presented by the Committee, and to act without unnecessary delay.

ANOTHER VICTORY.

For years the insurance companies doing business in this State have been working for the appointment of an Insurance Policy Commission and the adoption of a standard form of insurance policy. The former was accomplished a couple of years ago, when Governor Luce announced his intention of carrying the plan into execution. The point at issue was, Who should be the third member of the Commission?—the Insurance Commissioner and Attorney General being the other two members. The President and Secretary of the Michigan Business Men's Association visited Lansing and asked Governor Luce, in behalf of the business men of the State, to appoint a representative business man. As a result of this request, and others of similar character, the Governor named Chas. Buncher, whose long and varied experience in insurance matters peculiarly fitted him for the duties devolving upon him in such connection. The insurance companies then began clamoring for the adoption of the policy known as the New York standard form. As this policy contained several technical points which would work manifest injustice, to the insuring public of the State, the Michigan Business Men's Association engaged an experienced attorney to give the form a careful reading and point out the objectionable features, and, later on, to appear before the Commission at its final hearing to defend his objections and answer the arguments of those who appeared to criticize his objections. What is the result? The adoption—not of the New York form, but of a form from which most of the objectionable features are eliminated—a form which must now be used by all the insurance companies doing business in the State, so that hereafter a person who has read one insurance policy has read them all—a form which is devoid of the ingenious technicalities which frequently deprives the insured of justice. This work—which was prosecuted so unselfishly for the benefit of 25,000 business men by the 3,000 members of the Michigan Business Men's Association—will save the insuring public thousands of dollars, besides curtailing the necessity for much expensive and unsatisfactory litigation.

And yet there are some men who wonder, "What good the Association can do?" and there are others—members of local bodies—who begrudge the *per capita* payment of 50 cents per year to the State body on the ground that they can secure the same benefits by acting in a local way. Such men are "penny wise and pound foolish," and the future will demonstrate the truth of the statement.

THE NEXT CENSUS.

In one important matter the House has been more prompt than the Senate. The bill providing for the taking of the census of 1890 in June of that year, has been before the Senate's committee since early in the summer, but without action thus far. There are some nice questions to be settled in that connection. There is a very general feeling that something less than twenty-four volumes should be enough to contain what the people need to learn from our national statisticians; and yet new lines of profitable investigation are suggested constantly, while none of the old ones are without interest and value. Perhaps it might be possible to pass over the matter of the location of

having given the doctors all they need or can digest. And there may be found some other branches of inquiry, good enough in themselves, but not requiring repetition every ten years.

On the other hand, no census has shown the American people exactly what are the costs of the state, county, township, and municipal governments for the census year, and we submit that no point can be of greater importance as a guide to national legislation at the present time. At the same time the sources from which these many governments derive their revenues should be carefully ascertained, as should the costs of collection, the amount of bonded, floating and repudiated debt, and the rate of interest paid. Next to this should come the statement of the objects of local government outlay, the number of persons employed and in what capacity, and the like. As any one who has looked into the matter must know, there are few subjects about which it is harder to obtain authentic statistics.

The Senate Committee favors following the lines of the last census in the main, as indeed does the House bill, but it also thinks of conferring a large discretion upon the Secretary of the Interior as to limiting or increasing the minor inquiries, while indicating in the bill the things which are indispensable. This is a very sensible proposal, but it would be still better if the Secretary were given discretion as to the years in which other parts of the census than the enumeration of the population should be taken. A permanent census bureau, with its work spread over the whole decade, is what we now need.

ADVANTAGES OF INSURANCE.

The town of Marblehead, now one of a series which closely lines the northern coast of Massachusetts, will have sorrowful reason to remember the Christmas of 1888, a fire which broke out in the evening of the day having laid the business district in ashes. As it was one of the shoe-making towns, a considerable number of working-people were thrown out of employment. But the people at once set themselves at the work of replacing the old wooden structures which had been burnt with others of brick and stone, and ten years hence Marblehead will be a finer and probably a more prosperous place than ever. It is one of the great advantages of the insurance system of modern times that the losses of a great fire are widely distributed, whereas they once fell upon a single community with unrelieved weight. Towns were burnt down as frequently in the north of Europe two centuries ago as they now are, and perhaps even more frequently. In that case the people had nothing to fall back upon except the Christian charity of their neighbors, which in those days of imperfect communication was a very meagre source of relief. Insurance against fire, if it included all the property affected, would reduce the loss to a temporary inconvenience. Even as it is, it enables any burnt-out Marblehead to draw largely upon the capital of the rest of the country for rebuilding, without incurring an obligation of any kind.

Michigan is quite a State after all. It furnished a man who was cunning enough to wring a half million dollars out of the credulous capitalists of England and New York, by pretending to have discovered a process for refining sugar by electricity. Like Mr. Keely, Mr. Friend found it advantageous to keep the "process" a secret until the pockets of his dupes had been emptied.

The *Business World* speaks of the work done by the "chemist of the Michigan State Dairy Commission." The *World* is a little premature. There may be a "State Dairy Commission" after the present session of the Legislature, but so far the idea exists only in the aspirations of those who are seeking the creation of such a body.

Saginaw Jottings.

J. S. Smart, Jr., has closed out nearly all his stock.

R. Phillips' stock is being sold for the benefit of his creditors.

Our lumbermen have "invited company" for the 23d and will have a big time. Lumber dealers from all over the country are expected.

A. D. Haight, of the Palace Laundry, goes to Jackson to manage the Jackson Laundry, recently purchased by E. E. Russell, of Tecumseh.

Gawkey & Corby have sold out their hardware business to T. B. Spencer. We understand that Mr. Gawkey intends going into the lumber business.

The Jas. Stewart Co. is now fairly settled in its new store—and it is a beauty. There is a cellar under the entire building. The first floor is occupied by as fine a set of offices as there is in the State, and the three stories above—connected by heavy, water-power elevators—are piled full of goods. The building and enterprise of this company are a credit to our city.

Merchants should remember that the celebrated "Crescent," "White Rose" and "Royal Patent" brands of flour are manufactured and sold only by the Voigt Milling Co.

AMONG THE TRADE.

GRAND RAPIDS GOSSIP.

P. H. Vander Byl has opened a meat market at 374 West Leonard street.

Hawkins & Perry have sold a grocery stock to Perry & Griffith, at Boyne Falls.

Wm. Rogers has opened a meat market at the corner of Henry and Sherman streets.

J. R. Harrison & Co. expect to open their new dry goods store at 143 Monroe street by the end of the present week.

Wm. H. Ross has engaged in the drug business at the corner of West Fulton and Mt. Vernon streets. The Hazeltine & Perkins Drug Co. furnished the stock.

C. E. Pennock has sold his drug stock at the corner of West Fulton and Mt. Vernon streets to a gentleman named Cummings, who has removed it to Flint.

W. D. McMullen and J. R. Crane have formed a copartnership and engaged in the boot and shoe business at Grand Ledge. Geo. H. Reeder furnished the stock.

White & Co., the Reed City druggists, have started a branch drug store at the corner of Fourth and Stocking streets. The Hazeltine & Perkins Drug Co. furnished the new stock.

A number of men of means have under consideration the formation of a company to engage in the manufacture of water gas, on the same plan as the Jackson establishment. The Central City company furnishes gas for forty cents per thousand for the first 5,000 feet and all over that at thirty cents per thousand.

ABOUT THE STATE.

Ashley—M. Netzorg has assigned his dry goods stock.

Harrisburg—Wm. H. Harrison has opened a general stock.

Kentville—Albert Kunt has lately added largely to his stock.

Sparta—J. O. Norton has assigned his grocery stock to L. B. Lull.

Saline—Martin S. King succeeds C. King in the grocery business.

Mason—Longyear Bros. succeed E. Woodworth in the drug business.

Hickory Corners—Mr. Francisco has sold his meat market to Wesley Lawrence.

East Saginaw—T. B. Spencer succeeds Yawger & Corby in the hardware business.

Stanton—S. E. Reams succeeds J. C. Bradford in the grocery and restaurant business.

Hastings—Houghtaling & Co. will shortly remove their general stock to Lake Odessa.

Lapeer—Grove & Crankshaw succeed Thos. F. Dunn in the agricultural implement business.

Ann Arbor—Walter Toop has sold his bakery and confectionery business to Thos. Caswell.

Bay City—Geo. W. Mansfield has assigned his grocery and meat business to Reuben Ferris.

Saranac—Dudley & Titus is the style of the firm which has bought the clothing stock of Brown Bros.

Eaton Rapids—Sterling & Co. have sold their boot and shoe stock to E. V. Bowers, late of Mt. Clemens.

Charlotte—Church & Fenn have purchased the balance of the L. F. Mikesell grocery stock and consolidated it with their own.

Traverse City—Carl Howard has sold his grocery stock to John Helm, for several years past engaged in trade at Burdickville.

Detroit—J. A. Murray has retired from the wholesale dry goods firm of Allan Sheldon & Co. The firm name remains the same as before.

Hartford—M. C. Conkling has sold his grocery stock to Giles Cook, who will continue the business. M. C. has gone to Colorado in quest of better health.

Detroit—John B. Crosby, for many years in the employ of Root, Strong & Co., has been admitted to partnership in the new firm of Strong, Lee & Co.

Coopersville—Dell Wright has assigned his general stock to Thomas Hines, Cashier in the bank of Watson & Co. The assets and liabilities are about equal.

Boyne Falls—J. H. Perry has sold a half interest in his grocery stock to Milton Griffith and the two will continue the business under the style of Perry & Griffith.

Kalamazoo—C. A. Overocker and E. Curtenius have bought the grocery stock of Richard Loveland and will continue the business under the style of Overocker & Curtenius.

Traverse City—Isaac Winnie and Geo. F. Steven have bought the grocery stock of Perket, Lardie & Co. and will continue the business under the style of Steven & Co.

Fennville—P. S. Swarts & Son have bought of Mr. O'Brien the drug stock recently purchased of H. D. Purdy. Dr. Andrews will officiate behind the prescription case.

Bandola—H. C. Meyer, the merchant who disappeared mysteriously a couple of years ago, is now reported to be enjoying himself in his native land on the other side of the Atlantic.

Orange—P. H. Kilmartin & Son have purchased the general stock of Hinds &

Bessy and will continue the business. The elder Kilmartin was formerly a member of the firm of Tew, Kilmartin & Tew.

Portland—The *Review* says: "The attachment upon the goods of Willis M. Elder, levied by Jas. Tuft & Sons, of Boston, and the events in connection therewith are fresh in the minds of the public. It may not be generally known, however, that at the time of issuing the attachment, a mortgage upon the entire stock and fixtures, amounting to \$4,920.50, and running to Mrs. L. K. Showman, was on file in the office of the township clerk. After the attachment proceedings had been commenced, Mrs. Showman began a suit for damages against Sheriff Hiram N. Lee and Deputy Sheriff George Van Wagner for seizing the goods, claiming \$5,000. The suit has been set for the January term of the Circuit Court and will probably come up before Judge Smith some time this week. The officers mentioned a merely the nominal defendants. If Mrs. Showman wins her case, the Tufts will be the losers, and big losers, too."

STRAY FACTS.

Detroit—Elliar, Gregory & Co. succeed Elliar Bros. in the commission grain business.

Detroit—C. V. Bryan & Co. succeed J. W. Flynn & Co. in the commission grain business.

Traverse City—Walter Hardwick succeeds S. W. Perkins & Co. in the manufacture of mince meat.

Detroit—Several commercial travelers have organized the J. G. Moore Cigar Manufacturing Co., with a capital stock of \$10,000. The factory is at 243 Michigan avenue.

Petoskey—Connable & Sons will build a fish dock here this winter and establish a branch fishing station at St. Joseph.

The firm had 140 tons of frozen fish on hand at the beginning of the season.

MANUFACTURING MATTERS.

Charlotte—Dolson & May succeed Ward & Dolson in the manufacture of carriages.

Au Sable—The J. E. Potts Salt & Lumber Co. cut 81,343.418 feet of lumber in 1888.

Saginaw—The Ring-Brady Co. succeeds Chapin, Ring & Co. in the manufacture of furniture.

Evart—Cowan & McLennon have purchased the shingle mill formerly owned by Keeler Bros.

Detroit—The Dry Dock Sheet Metal Works is succeeded by the Detroit Sheet Metal and Brass Works.

Detroit—The name of the Bingham Hoop & Thin Lumber Co. has been changed to the Crescent Manufacturing Co.

Luther—Fred I. Nichols started up his sawmill, two miles west of this place, last Friday. He will cut hardwood exclusively.

Muskegon—It is reported that Hovey & McCracken have recently purchased 25,000 acres of timber lands in Ashley county, Ark.

Scottville—Albert Vogle will build a new sawmill to take the place of the one lately burned, the capacity to be 10,000 feet daily.

Petoskey—David Seibert has sold his stove and heating factory to Mrs. Eunice Allen, of Caledonia. She will manufacture stoves, heating and bowls.

Tecumseh—A. W. Slayton has sixty mills cutting basswood for him, located in twenty-nine different counties, and his freight bills amount to about \$10,000 a year.

Manistee—White & Friant, of Grand Rapids, have purchased the sawmill, shingle mill and planing mill of Tabor & Sons. They have about 30,000 feet of timber tributary to the headwaters of the Manistee.

Detroit—J. E. Bolles & Co. have become a corporation with \$50,000 capital stock, of which \$30,000 is paid in. John E. Bolles and Erastus H. Chamberlain hold 400 shares each; Merritt Randolph, 200; and Horatio Barr and Charles M. Chamberlain, 120 each.

Detroit—The American Store Railway Co. has been organized, with a capital of \$300,000, to manufacture patent cash carriers. Morse Rohmert and James R. Turner each hold fifty shares, while 11,900 shares stand to the credit of Cyrus D. Reeves, of Wausau, Wis.

Ossineke—L. R. Sanborn & Son, who recently assigned, show total liabilities of \$93,739.17, of which \$36,169.40 are secured, while the assets are only \$3,934.49 as against \$57,569.77 in unsecured debts. Alger, Smith & Co. are secured for \$29,295.43 by real estate mortgage and notes.

Detroit—The Frost Lumber Co. plant was appraised at \$66,500 and sold for \$38,425. Several unsecured creditors think that this was not enough, and that more could have been realized if better notice of sale had been given. They asked Judge Garpner not to confirm the sale, and he has granted their request.

Hudsonville—Thos. Curry is getting timber on the ground to rebuild the sawmill recently burned. The building will be 28x100 feet in dimensions, two stories high, and the machinery will be driven by a 25 horse power engine. The mill will be located a mile and a half east of town, where Mr. Curry has 150 acres of elm and ash timber.

Masonville—Benj. F. Bridges estimates that the five streams entering Little Bay de Noquet are tributary to 250,000,000 of standing pine. Bridges, Snell & Co. and Gardner & Booth are each cutting about seven million per year, Mason & Davis are cutting about four million and the Flat Rock company is cutting about ten million. Present indications are that eight or nine years will see the extinction of the pine tributary to the Bay.

Grpsack Brigade.

H. B. Carhart, of Detroit, was in town over Sunday.

Everything points to a pleasant outcome of the annual ball on February 15.

C. B. Lamb, traveling representative for Adams & Ford, the Cleveland shoe jobbers, was in town Monday.

"Hub" Baker is rejoicing over the receipt of a gold watch which came to him as a present from his employers.

J. Will Richards, the Reed City hardware dealer, will represent the Bingham Hardware Co., of Cleveland, on the road.

J. L. Anthony, traveling salesman for F. J. Dettenhaler, is spending a couple of weeks among the trade of Ohio and Pennsylvania.

W. F. Wurzburg, of the firm of F. W. Wurzburg's Sons & Co., has returned from his wedding trip and resumed his visits to his trade.

Scott S. Swigart, traveling representative for the National Tobacco Works, of Louisville, is spending a couple of weeks in the Upper Peninsula.

O. M. Benedict, traveling representative for Broome & Co., of New York, received a china tea set from his employers as a Christmas token.

Sigmund Florsheim, junior member of the firm of Greensfelder, Florsheim & Co., is accompanying Frank E. Chase on his initial trip this week with the new house.

The coin collection of the late James A. Crookston is valued at \$2,000. It was left to his daughters, who are having it catalogued for the purpose of effecting a sale.

Geo. F. Owen has been laid up since New Year's day by a surgical operation involved in the removal of a small tumor from his back. He will be as chipper as ever in a few days.

John M. Sweeney, formerly with Reeder, Palmer & Co., succeeds Chas. E. Morgan as traveling salesman for Jennings & Smith, taking as his territory the trade of Southern Michigan and Northern Ohio and Indiana.

W. F. Wilson, for several years past traveling representative for the American Co-operative Shoe Co., of Stoneham, Mass., has engaged with Adams & Ford, of Cleveland for 1889, taking Eastern Michigan as his territory.

W. H. Downs left Monday for Boston, whether he goes to pack the sample trunks of Wheeler, Conant & Blodgett, with whom he will be identified the coming year, covering the same territory formerly traversed by John Fearing Gill.

John F. Gill, for the past year traveling representative for Wheeler, Conant & Blodgett, of Boston, will this year be identified with Brezee, Storms & Gill, also of Boston. He takes the New England states as his territory, spending most of his time in the house.

Byron Yant, a worker from Workville, who has traveled over about half the country, has been assigned the Michigan trade exclusively by Hiram W. Davis & Co., of Cincinnati. He will make his headquarters at Grand Rapids, basking under the smiles of the genial Harry Dibble.

Fred. E. Angell, for the past year traveling salesman for Ball, Barnhart & Putnam, has engaged to travel for L. Ladd, of Adrian, with whom he was associated for two years previous to his coming to Grand Rapids. His territory will be the same as before—the jobbing trade of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and a part of Illinois.

Bank Notes.

Wixon & Carpenter, bankers at Mecosta, who recently burned out there, are said to be contemplating removing to Luther.

The new Home Savings Bank, at Detroit, has begun business in the McGraw building. Ex-City Treasurer Schmitt-diel is Cashier.

A new bank has been organized at West Bay City, to be known as the People's Savings Bank. The officers are: President, George L. Mosher; Vice-President, John Bourn; Directors, George K. Mosher, E. T. Carrington, H. W. Webster, John Bourn and C. E. Pierce, of West Bay City, and C. E. Chapin, L. C. Butler, J. E. Stahl and E. F. Butler, of Lansing.

A Marvel at Figures.

Cassius Manigold, who clerks in the general store of H. P. Whipple, at Kingsley, is said to be a marvel in the way of lightning calculators, inasmuch as he can solve the most intricate mathematical problems without recourse to mental instrumentality. No sooner is a problem propounded to him than he is ready with the answer. He says it comes to him without mental effort, the answer apparently appearing before him in the air. The faculty is a source of constant wonder to the possessor, who is unable to account for it.

Purely Personal.

Chas. E. Olney leaves for Santa Barbara on Thursday.

Lou A. Pelton, the Luther hardware dealer, has been in town several days.

C. D. Spaulding is expected back from Mexico by the end of the month.

Frank E. Leonard celebrated New Year's day by welcoming a new boy at his house.

C. H. Pelton, who is building the new Catholic church at Manistee, spent the holidays with his family here.

Frank Sanford will have the management of White & Co.'s new drug store at the corner of Fourth and Stocking streets.

Geo. H. Blackmar, for some time past manager of the People's Store, at 333 Canal street, has resigned to engage in other business.

Jas. T. Watson, shipping clerk for Foster, Stevens & Co., is rejoicing over the advent of a 6½ pound boy. He arrived Dec. 30.

J. A. Haak, whose mill is located at Haak Siding, has cut up all his stock and will remove his mill in the spring. He manufactured 1,000,000 feet the past season.

H. E. Hesselstine has been granted a patent on his newspaper and bill file. The patent was dated December 25, which is probably a mistake, as government employees are not given to laboring on holidays.

Benj. F. Bridges, of the firm of Bridges, Snell & Co., sawmill operators at Masonville, was in town a couple of days last week. It is the first time he has visited Grand Rapids since the firm removed from Lumberton, four years ago.

Michigan Dairymen's Association.

The fifth annual convention of the Michigan Dairymen's Association will be held at Jackson on Feb. 12, 13 and 14.

FOR SALE, WANTED, ETC.

Advertisements will be inserted under this head for two cents a word the first insertion and one cent a word for each subsequent insertion. No advertisement taken for less than 25 cents. Advance payment.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—NEWS DEPOT, NOVELTY STORE AND ICE cream parlor, cheap for cash. Also city bill posting. Stock, about \$2,000. Sickness, cause of sale. M. E. Higgins, Meadota, Ill. 347

FOR SALE—SECOND-HAND MACHINERY. ONE highland four-side Smith moulder; one Joslin re-saw; one Smith re-saw; exhaust fan, shafting, pulleys, etc. Cheap for cash. F. B. Wiggins & Co., 341

FOR SALE—CHEAP, SET OF TINNERS TOOLS AND MACHINES. E. A. Hill, Coloma, Mich. 349

FOR SALE—ONE CHANDLER & TAYLOR STANDARD saw mill with saw, etc. Entire outfit new. A bargain. Look Box No. 6, Manistota, Mich. 357

FOR SALE—AT A BARGAIN, YOKES OF OXEN, medium weight, quick action and well trained. Address C. C. Root, Grand Rapids, Mich. 352

FOR SALE—MILL SUPPLIES. LARGE STOCK OF belting, packing and hose, five, sand paper, oils, varnishes, etc. Also new and second-hand machinery. Write us for prices. F. B. Wiggins & Co., East Saginaw, Mich. 345

FOR SALE—THE UNDIVIDED ONE-HALF INTEREST in a hardware business in a lively town of six thousand inhabitants, situated in Northern Michigan, doing a yearly business of over sixty thousand dollars. Address J. B. Frost, Jackson, Mich. 354

DRUG STORE FOR SALE—IN CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. Population, 50,000. Good location, good trade. A bargain for some one. For full particulars, those who mean business, address P. O. Box 293, Chattanooga, Tenn. 314

FOR SALE—OUR RETAIL STOCK OF GROCERIES at 110 Monroe street, Grand Rapids. Goods are all new. The stand is in the best location in town and can be leased. Bonis Bros. 307

FOR SALE—A CLEAN, WELL-ASSORTED STOCK OF general hardware, stoves and tinware. Tin shop in connection. Will inventory about \$5,000. Located centrally and one of the best points for retail business in the city. Good reasons for selling. Address Hardware, care Michigan Tradesman. 309

FOR SALE—CHEAP—18-HORSE POWER ENGINE. Good as new. Address 29, this office. 305

FOR SALE—GOOD RESIDENCE LOT ON ONE OF the most pleasant streets "on the hill." Will exchange for stock in any good institution. Address 286, care Michigan Tradesman. 306

WANTED.

WANTED—BY AN EXPERIENCED TRAVELING man, a position with some good house or factory. First-class references. Address 345 this office. 315

WANTED—TO EXCHANGE 100 ACRES OF TIMBERED land in Southern Illinois for horses or hawkeye timberlands in Michigan or stock merchandise. Address G. 226 Michigan, West Chicago. 745

WANTED—TO AN ENERGETIC MAN OVER 22, NOT afraid of work and able to give security, we will give permanent position, good salary and rapid promotion. Address J. B. D. box 662, Chicago. 344

WANTED—TO EXCHANGE OUR SET OF GOOD WIGGINS property and stock of drugs. Real estate consists of two frame stores well located for business above. Other store, 20 x 40 (adjoining) one story. Large lots with barn, ice house, etc. Title perfect. No encumbrance. The occupant is a w. c. b. but is anxious to make a change. Satisfactory reasons given. Will sell or exchange for a good business property

GROCERIES.

COFFEE.

Growth—Preparation for the Market—Adulteration—Best Varieties.

F. B. Thurber in Medical Clinics.

There is perhaps no one article which more generally enters into the domestic consumption of the world, than coffee. In some countries, tea is more largely used, but in all countries where tea is consumed, coffee is also; while in other countries, coffee is largely consumed and tea is not used at all. The essential principles of each, however, which make them both popular beverages, are very similar; the theine of tea, and the caffeine of coffee, both being stimulating to the nervous system, and furnishing a com-forting drink which "cheers, but not inebriates." It is interesting to note, however, that, while the effect on many persons is the same with both beverages, there are some people whose physical idiosyncrasies are such, that they can use one, but cannot use the other. For instance, if some people drink tea at night, it prevents them from sleeping; while with others, precisely the reverse is true. But, with the majority of people, either coffee or tea, drunk sufficiently strong, will stimulate the nerves of the stomach and brain, so as to produce sleeplessness. One of the earliest legends regarding coffee is that a Mahometan priest, in charge of a monastery, found that an infusion of coffee beans made his sleepy monks more alert and ready to receive and remember his instructions. And from this small beginning, the use of this fragrant berry soon spread throughout Arabia, and ultimately to other countries.

Coffee is grown in many countries lying within the tropical or semi-tropical zone, the largest producing countries being in South and Central America, although considerable quantities are also produced in both the East and West Indies. Coffee trees in bearing vary from ten to twenty feet high. The slips or suckers are usually set about ten feet apart, so that an acre will hold about 300 trees. It takes three or four years for a coffee orchard to begin bearing, and six or seven years to produce a considerable crop; after which they will bear continuously for perhaps twenty years.

The coffee berry grows on the branches near the stems of the leaves, and when ripe, is red, and looks very like a cherry. Inside of the skin is a sweetish pulp; and within the pulp, two coffee beans, each inclosed in a tough, horny skin, or parchment, lie face to face. Within the parchment is the greenish bean of commerce, surrounded by a thin, tissue covering, called the silver skin.

When the berries are gathered, they are put through a pulping machine, which removes the pulp. The beans in the parchment are then spread out to dry, which is sometimes done in the sun, and sometimes in drying houses by artificial heat. When dry, they are run through a machine, to remove the parchment and silver skin; then winnowed, picked over to remove pieces of branches and defective beans, and the coffee is ready for market.

From the importer it goes to the wholesale grocer, and by him it is sometimes sold green to the retail grocer, but more often is roasted by the wholesale grocer or coffee merchant, and sold in that form to the retail merchant.

The process of roasting, although apparently simple, is one of the most delicate and difficult things to do well. As in a competitive trial of firemen for steam engines, a youth of nineteen won the first prize by getting the largest number of revolutions out of a given quantity of coal, so some persons seem to have a gift for roasting coffee perfectly. All coffees do not roast alike. A slight variation in the heat of the fire, or a moment's inattention, may result in the coffee being roasted too much or too little. The happy medium, in this even more than in other things, is a very difficult thing to attain.

After roasting, the quicker it is consumed, the better, as the delicate aroma technically known as the caffeine, gradually evaporates or passes away. Indeed, there are three things in the production of perfect coffee for the table, which cannot be too fresh, viz.: fresh-roasted, fresh-ground, fresh-made. This brings us to the next, and quite an important process. If ground too coarse, the strength of the coffee is not readily extracted, and it will not be strong enough; if ground too fine, it is apt to be muddy. Here again the happy medium is best. It should not be ground too fine, but just before it is made, as, after grinding, the aroma passes off very rapidly. Hence, it is best for every family to have a small coffee-mill, and grind their own coffee. Where this is not practicable, the ground coffee should be kept in a tightly-closed tin or glass jar. We are now come to the important part of making the coffee.

As before stated, it should be fresh-made. Fifteen minutes before drinking the delicious aroma and tender it comparatively worthless slops. This is the reason why it is so difficult to get good coffee at many hotels and restaurants. The persons charged with the duty of making the coffee do not like to take the trouble to make small quantities often. There are many different methods of making coffee. The simplest of them are good enough if the coffee is fresh-roasted, fresh-ground, fresh-made. The ordinary French filtering coffee-pot is perhaps the most convenient; but good coffee can be made in an ordinary tin coffee-pot, or in a cup, if the foregoing conditions are observed. A favorite recipe, which I have long used, is as follows:

Grind moderately fine a large cup or small bowl of coffee; break into it one egg with shell; mix well, adding enough cold water to thoroughly wet the grounds; upon this pour one pint of boiling water; let it boil slowly for ten or fifteen minutes, according to the variety of coffee used and the fineness to which it is ground. Let it stand three minutes to settle, then pour through a fine wire sieve into a warm coffee-pot; this will make enough for four persons. At table first put the sugar into the cup, then fill the full of boiling milk, add your coffee, and you have a delicious beverage that will be a revelation to many poor mortals

who have an indistinct remembrance of, and an intense longing for, an ideal cup of coffee. If cream can be procured so much the better, and in that case boiling water can be added either in the pot or cup to make up for the space occupied by the milk as above; or condensed milk will be found a good substitute for cream. Coffee which is sold ground, is often adulterated with various substances. Hence, it is always safer to buy coffee in the bean. Chicory is perhaps the substance most frequently used for the adulteration of coffee, and some persons profess to like it. But it is safe to say that there can be no improvement upon pure coffee.

An anecdote is told of M. Grevy, when President of the Republic of France: Some years ago he was invited, with a friend, M. Bethmont, to a hunting party by M. Menier, the celebrated manufacturer of chocolate, at Noisiel. It happened that M. Grevy and M. Bethmont lost themselves in the forest and, in trying to find their way, they stumbled upon a little wine-house and, tired out, stopped for a rest. They asked for something to drink. M. Bethmont found his wine excellent, but, as usual, M. Grevy would not drink. He wanted coffee, but was afraid of the deception which would be brought him. He got a good cup, however, and this is how he managed it:

"Have you any chicory?" he said to the man. "Yes, sir." "Bring me some." Soon the proprietor returned with a small can of chicory. "Is that all you have?" asked M. Grevy. "We have a little more." "Bring me the rest." When he came again with another can of chicory, M. Grevy said: "You have no more?" "No, sir."

"Very well. Now go and make me a cup of coffee." The other adulterants commonly used in ground coffee are roasted and ground peas, and rye, which perhaps are not so pungent and objectionable in flavor as chicory. But none of these adulterants possess the same stimulating properties as coffee, and hence have no merit except that of cheapness.

Of course, one necessity for the making of good coffee is the coffee bean itself. Of these there are many different varieties, chief among which are those produced in Brazil, commonly known as Rio coffee; that which comes from Java; and the Arabian coffee, known as Mocha. Of these, the two latter are most highly esteemed; and a blend, or mixture, of Mocha and Java, is considered perhaps better than any other, although there are many favorite blends and mixtures suited to different tastes. Some varieties of coffee are strong and somewhat acid in flavor, and others are milder and richer; and there is great scope for an expert in coffee to produce good effects by carefully blending and roasting. This is probably the reason why most of the coffee now sold by retail merchants is purchased by them in a roasted state, while formerly it was sold to the consumer green. Naturally, wholesale merchants doing a large business in coffee can employ the most expert blenders and roasters, and produce the best average results, although any careful and intelligent person, who can give the necessary time to it, can, with a little study, perform this delicate operation very well.

Hurried Shopping in Guatemala. A Grand Rapids man who is now sojourning in Guatemala writes as follows relative to the trading habits of the people there:

"They are a very polite people, and on coming into the store will pass some remark about the weather and ask how business is. Then, if I am well, and if my wife is, and my sister and my cousin, and everybody connected with me; and when I say they are well, they say they are extremely glad of it, and hope we will always be well."

I must ask the same of them, even if it consumes an hour or more to do it, and must wish long life and prosperity to them. Then we smile all around, and I ask if there is anything I can do for them to-day. They say they hadn't thought of it, but will look at this, that or the other."

I get down goods of every grade, and they examine them all, and price them, and discuss them very sociably, and, after spending a good deal more time, they thank me with many pleasant words for the kindness and consideration I have shown them, and say, "Yo voy avisa," that is, "We will go and advise," meaning that they will now go home and consult all their other folks about it.

With many bows and polite words we separate, and the next day they come back, accompanied by the whole family—men, women, children, cousins, and whoever else may constitute the household. The same formalities as to health are gone through with, and then the goods are all brought forth again, until the counters are all littered over, the fabrics and cost are discussed thoroughly again, and then it is possible they may buy.

However, perhaps they will say, having selected something, that it is very fine and beautiful and cheap, but that they will call for it at some day soon, and thank me for the kindness I have shown them. I see then that they have not the money just ready, so I say that I shall be more than pleased to have them take whatever they want, and hope they won't bother themselves at all about the mere matter of compensation.

Well, then they say they will be pleased to take the goods, and will pay me in thirty days, or whatever time may seemest suit their purpose. They thus at last accept the goods, and with many polite bows take their departure.

"This is the way business is done here. The baking powder infamy has assumed proportions which should call forth active and rigid interference. If brazen assertion and audacious lying could be made passports to heaven, then many of the baking powder people would have no difficulty in passing through the golden gate.

The first thing a new born baby does is to scream in a burst of anger and displeasure at the unwelcome change. It is the first sign that there is a human soul within. No animals cry when born, not even the new born monkey.

The Talkative Drummer. How dear to the ear of the Drummer it soundeth. "We've goods enough left for six months to come." But still he hangs on; with hope he aboundseth. To scoop in an order, or talk the man dumb. He knows that his customer hard is to tackle. That he "buys very cheap," is a tough one to sell. And that, as he listens, he'll inwardly cackle At the nerve of the Drummer who hangs on so well.

Chio.—The much-abused Drummer, The persistent Drummer, The talkative Drummer Who hangs on so well. Einstein's "taking stock;" (what could be more grating?) "When your 'round again, call in," says Grimes; Smith's buyer is "out," and 'tis "quite useless waiting;" And Jones will not purchase these "very dull times;" But still, whether cheerless or bright be the weather, No matter how cold or how wet is the spell, He goes on his way with a heart like a feather, The determined Drummer who hangs on so well.

Chio.—The much-abused Drummer, etc. "Drumming" Back in '90's. "It amuses me," said the white-haired head of a jobbing house in a conversation, "to hear traveling men nowadays complain of the hardships of the road, the taking of late trains, traveling in caboose, and such like inconveniences. Lord bless you, they should have seen the 'drummers' of old days and heard their experiences, and then they would have known something about the woes of the traveling man. Thirty years ago I was young, ambitious, full of energy, and went on the road for a jobbing house. When I could not travel by river—and that could be done only in going through a certain portion of our trade—stage coaches and horseback were the only means of travel. Many a cold and weary winter's day have I passed in the saddle, starting out early in the morning, going through snow or rain, fording creeks, and half-frozen all the time until I could hardly dismount when my day's journey was over. And then there were no banks or collection agencies through the country to facilitate the collection of debts, and the 'drummers' had all of that work to do. We traveled with old-fashioned valises, which could be used as saddlebags when we had to ride horseback, and these were the receptacles for what money we collected. It was sometimes pretty ticklish work stopping at lonely country taverns with saddle-bags filled with good, hard money, but it had to be done. I slept on the floor in a little tavern office one winter's night, with my valise under my head for a pillow, containing over \$1,500 cash. It was a hard pillow, but I felt safer with it there, and slept quite soundly. The drummers of to-day don't know what hard traveling is. They should have frozen or half-drowned or starved with us of the old school back in the '50's."

The Grocery Market. Sugar is without material change. Matches have been advanced 50 cents per case by the Diamond Match Co., except in the case of the Woodbine "fighting" brand, which has been withdrawn from the market. The oat meal and rolled oats men have gotten their pool into working order and will advance prices 30 cents per barrel on the 15th. Crackers and sweet goods have declined 1/2 except in the case of X, or low grade goods, which have been dropped from the list by order of the combination.

Not in Debt. "I make it a rule never to go in debt, no matter how much I need a thing," said Gracie. "But I don't see how a young lady can manage going in debt. However do you manage it?" "Why," replied Gracie, "I have the things charged to pa."

Oil Was Up. From the Jackson Patriot. In looking over the old files of the Patriot, we notice that in April, 1859, the grocery house of Burr & Thurber, which many of the older residents of the city still remember, was selling kerosene oil at \$1.50 per gallon.

Wool, Hides, Tallow and Furs. The situation of the wool market does not change. Manufacturers are busy with the past year's invoices and in no hurry to buy at the advanced prices of wools, preferring to wait until they see how the market for manufactured goods opens, while many of the larger manufacturers are well supplied with earlier and cheaper wools. Hides and leather are dull and low, with little doing. Boot and shoe manufacturers want lower prices, which tanners cannot stand. Leather dealers say they must come in and buy soon, as their supplies are light, and their orders fair for the time of the year. Hides being the poorest of the year's take-off, are not likely to advance until they come good again. Look for lower prices. Tallow is in fair demand, tendency downward. Furs are unchanged, until reports from January sales, at which higher prices are looked for on rat and skunk, which have been anticipated in last month's purchases.

Burial by Machinery. An Austrian inventor is said to have devised a means of interment by machinery. The coffin, instead of being lowered by the more or less clumsy means now adopted, is placed on a platform (the grave being concealed by black drapery), and, by pressing a spring, the platform and coffin sink into the grave with measured dignity.

When a Man is Drunk. A recent judicial ruling on this question is as follows:

When consciousness becomes modified, in any degree whatever, through the influence of alcohol, and when, or as long as, no exercise of independent nervous force is adequate to restore it to a normal state, the man so affected is drunk.

HARDWOOD LUMBER. The furniture factories here pay as follows for dry stock, measured merchantable, mill cuts out:

Basswood, log-run	13 00/15 00
Birch, log-run	15 00/16 00
Birch, Nos. 1 and 2	16 00/17 00
Black Ash, log-run	14 00/16 00
Cherry, log-run	25 00/26 00
Cherry, Nos. 1 and 2	30 00/31 00
Cherry, Cull	12 00/13 00
Maple, log-run	12 00/14 00
Maple, soft, log-run	11 00/13 00
Maple, Nos. 1 and 2	16 00/17 00
Maple, clear, flooring	25 00/26 00
Maple, white, selected	28 00/29 00
Red Oak, log-run	18 00/20 00
Red Oak, Nos. 1 and 2	24 00/25 00
Red Oak, 1/2 saved, 8 inch and up w'd	40 00/45 00
Red Oak, 1/2 saved, regular	30 00/32 00
Red Oak, No. 1, step plank	25 00/26 00
Walnut, log-run	25 00/26 00
Walnut, Nos. 1 and 2	30 00/31 00
Walnut, cull	12 00/13 00
Grey Elm, log-run	12 00/13 00
White Elm, log-run	10 00/11 00
White Oak, log-run	17 00/18 00

Crockery & Glassware

No. 0 Sun	50
No. 1	55
No. 2	60
No. 3	65
No. 4	70
No. 5	75
No. 6	80
No. 7	85
No. 8	90
No. 9	95
No. 10	100
No. 11	105
No. 12	110
No. 13	115
No. 14	120
No. 15	125
No. 16	130
No. 17	135
No. 18	140
No. 19	145
No. 20	150
No. 21	155
No. 22	160
No. 23	165
No. 24	170
No. 25	175
No. 26	180
No. 27	185
No. 28	190
No. 29	195
No. 30	200

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PRODUCE MARKET. Apples—Winter fruit is in fair demand at \$1.50/2.00 per doz. Celery—Handlers are paying about \$1.25 for un-picked and getting \$1.50/2.00 for hand-picked. Butter—Creamery is in fair supply at 20c. Dairy is easier, No. 1 readily commanding 22c. Cabbages—Home grown command \$2.00/2.50 per 100. Celery—20c per doz. Cider—\$2.00 per gal. Copra—Pork barrels \$1.25; produce barrels \$2.50. Cranberries—\$7.00/8.00 for Bell and Cherry and \$8.00/9.00 for Bell and Bugle. Dried Apples—Commission men hold sun-dried at 10c. Evaporated at 12c/15c. Eggs—Strictly fresh are more plenty, commanding 20c/22c. Pickled and cold storage stock are in fair demand at 10c. Grapes—Malaga, 10c per kg. Honey—17c/18c per lb. Onions—Too low to quote, purchases being made only speculatively. Potatoes—The market is looking a little brighter, but not enough so to make any change in quotations. Buyers are paying 30c per bu. here and 20c/22c at the principal buying points out of town. Squash—Hubbard, 1c per lb. Sweet Potatoes—Kila-dried Jerseys, \$3.50 per bu. Turnips—25c per bu.

PROVISIONS. The Grand Rapids Packing and Provision Co. quotes as follows:

Mess, new	14 50
Extra clear pig, short cut	16 25
Extra clear, heavy	16 25
Clear quill, short cut	16 25
Boston clear, short cut	16 25
Clear back, short cut	16 25
Standard clear, short cut, best	16 25
SMOKED MEATS—Canned or Plain	
Hams, average 20 lbs	10 25
" 16 lbs	10 25
" 12 to 14 lbs	10 25
" 8 to 10 lbs	10 25
" 6 to 8 lbs	10 25
" 4 to 6 lbs	10 25
" 2 to 4 lbs	10 25
" 1 lb	10 25
" 1/2 lb	10 25
" 1/4 lb	10 25
" 1/8 lb	10 25
" 1/16 lb	10 25
" 1/32 lb	10 25
" 1/64 lb	10 25
" 1/128 lb	10 25
" 1/256 lb	10 25
" 1/512 lb	10 25
" 1/1024 lb	10 25
" 1/2048 lb	10 25
" 1/4096 lb	10 25
" 1/8192 lb	10 25
" 1/16384 lb	10 25
" 1/32768 lb	10 25
" 1/65536 lb	10 25
" 1/131072 lb	10 25
" 1/262144 lb	10 25
" 1/524288 lb	10 25
" 1/1048576 lb	10 25
" 1/2097152 lb	10 25
" 1/4194304 lb	10 25
" 1/8388608 lb	10 25
" 1/16777216 lb	10 25
" 1/33554432 lb	10 25
" 1/67108864 lb	10 25
" 1/134217728 lb	10 25
" 1/268435456 lb	10 25
" 1/536870912 lb	10 25
" 1/1073741824 lb	10 25
" 1/2147483648 lb	10 25
" 1/4294967296 lb	10 25
" 1/8589934592 lb	10 25
" 1/17179869184 lb	10 25
" 1/34359738368 lb	10 25
" 1/68719476736 lb	10 25
" 1/137438953472 lb	10 25
" 1/274877906944 lb	10 25
" 1/549755813888 lb	10 25
" 1/1099511627776 lb	10 25
" 1/2199023255552 lb	10 25
" 1/4398046511104 lb	10 25
" 1/8796093022208 lb	10 25
" 1/17592186044416 lb	10 25
" 1/35184372088832 lb	10 25
" 1/70368744177664 lb	10 25
" 1/140737488355328 lb	10 25
" 1/281474976710656 lb	10 25
" 1/562949953421312 lb	10 25
" 1/1125899906842624 lb	10 25
" 1/2251799813685248 lb	10 25
" 1/4503599627370496 lb	10 25
" 1/9007199254740992 lb	10 25
" 1/18014398509481984 lb	10 25
" 1/36028797018963968 lb	10 25
" 1/72057594037927936 lb	10 25
" 1/144115188075855872 lb	10 25
" 1/288230376151711744 lb	10 25
" 1/576460752303423488 lb	10 25
" 1/1152921504606846976 lb	10 25
" 1/2305843009213693952 lb	10 25
" 1/4611686018427387904 lb	10 25
" 1/9223372036854775808 lb	10 25
" 1/18446744073709551616 lb	10 25
" 1/36893488147419103232 lb	10 25
" 1/73786976294838206464 lb	10 25
" 1/147573952589676412928 lb	10 25
" 1/295147905179352825856 lb	10 25
" 1/590295810358705651712 lb	10 25
" 1/1180591620717411303424 lb	10 25
" 1/2361183241434822606848 lb	10 25
" 1/4722366482869645213696 lb	10 25
" 1/9444732965739290427392 lb	10 25
" 1/18889465931478580854784 lb	10 25
" 1/37778931862957161709568 lb	10 25
" 1/75557863725914323419136 lb	10 25
" 1/151115727451828646838272 lb	10 25
" 1/302231454903657293676544 lb	10 25
" 1/604462909807314587353088 lb	10 25
" 1/1208925819614629174706176 lb	10 25
" 1/2417851639229258349412352 lb	10 25
" 1/4835703278458516698824704 lb	10 25
" 1/9671406556917033397649	

The Michigan Tradesman

BUSINESS LAW.

Brief Digests of Recent Decisions in Court of Last Resort.

EXEMPTION—STATUTES—HOUSEKEEPER.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals held, in the case of *Stirman vs. Smith*, that a debtor who was a housekeeper with a family and having determined to remove to another state sent his wife and children there, he remaining at his old home for the purpose of winding up his affairs, was still a housekeeper with a family, within the meaning of the exemption statutes.

PRIVATE MARKETS—LOUISIANA LAW.

The provision of the Louisiana act of 1878, which prohibits private markets within a radius of six squares from a public market, was lately before the Supreme Court of the State for construction in the case of the State of Louisiana vs. *Burthe*. The court said that the provision in question did not contemplate or justify the prohibited distance to be measured on an air line, but that its true meaning is to prohibit private markets in all directions projecting from the nearest public market within a distance of six squares over which customers would be able to walk from one market to another.

INSURANCE—COVENANT—INCUMBRANCES.

A covenant against incumbrances in a policy of fire insurance is broken the moment an incumbrance falls upon the property, whether the insured has or has not actual knowledge of such incumbrance, according to the decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in the case of *Hench vs. Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown*. The court said: An assured who covenants against incumbrances must keep his covenant precisely as every other person, and it is his business to see that no incumbrances fall upon his property. If an additional incumbrance does so fall let him notify the company and pay the increased premium, if demanded, or make his peace with them in the best way he can. Upon his failure to do so we cannot help him.

BANK—FRAUD—DIRECTORS—NOTICE.

A national bank, which was a depository of the funds of a municipality (New York), acting by its president, made, in absolute good faith and in pursuance of a custom of the banks of the city, advances not authorized by law to a commission for building a court-house upon checks regularly drawn and indorsed, and the legislature by a subsequent act authorized the repayment of such advances. The New York Court of Appeals held that the bank could recover the full amount, with interest, although it appeared that a part of the money so advanced was fraudulently misappropriated by certain of the city officials, who were also directors in the bank, inasmuch as their knowledge of the fraudulent character of some of the transactions, when they themselves perpetrated the fraud and enjoyed the fruit of it, could not be imputed to the bank in such a way as to charge it with bad faith as to the advance of so much of the funds as were misappropriated.

GOODS IN TRANSIT—TITLE—CONSIGNOR.

A decision of interest to shippers has just been rendered by the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, in the case of *American Oil Works (Limited) vs. Pennsylvania Railroad Company*. It appeared that the plaintiff had shipped a quantity of oil to a Philadelphia company, but before the goods were actually delivered the consignee failed, and the plaintiffs stopped the goods in transit. The railroad company set up the claim that under the bill of lading it had a right to hold the goods for the payment of a prior debt of the consignee to it. This claim was based on a clause in the bill of lading to the effect that "said merchandise may be detained for all arrearages of freight and charges due thereon, and also on any other goods by the same consignee or owner, and such arrearages and the freight and charges of said goods and merchandise shall be a lien thereon until the same shall have been paid." The court decided against the claim of the railroad company. It said that in ordinary business the consignee is the owner and the shipper under such circumstances assumes no responsibility. Under any other construction of the clause than that given the owner would become responsible for the debts of one to whom he had consigned the goods in commission or for storage. If the railroad company, the court said, intended the contract to reach such special cases they should have set them forth specifically, so that the responsibility of the owner might be apparent.

How Glass Lamp Chimneys Were Invented.

Why is it that the glass lamp chimney makes such a difference to the light given by a lamp? Because it increases the supply of oxygen to the flame by producing a draught, and concentrates and reflects the heat of the flame, in consequence of which the combustion of the carbon is more perfect and very little escapes unconsumed. Lamp glasses were invented by Aime Argand, the inventor of the famous lamp which bears his name. He had been experimenting for some time to increase the light, but to no purpose. On the table before him lay the broken neck of an oil flask. This he took up carelessly and placed it almost without thought over the wick. A brilliant flame rewarded this act, and the hint was not lost upon the experimentalist, who proceeded to put his discovery into practical operation at once.

Nutmegs a Poison.

"To our already formidable list of poisons," says an English journal, "may be added, as a source of occasional danger, the fragrant nutmeg. It is not likely that adults will ever die of eating nutmegs; but the inquisitive fingers of children find their way to the spice-box and thence convey many things to their curious palates. At least one fatal case has occurred, where a boy of eight, having eaten two nutmegs, fell into a comatose condition and died within twelve hours. The symptoms were similar to those of opium poisoning."

W. STEELE

Packing and Provision Co.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Fresh and Salt Beef, Fresh and Salt Pork, Pork Loins, Dry Salt Pork, Hams, Shoulders, Bacon, Boneless Ham, Sausage of all Kinds, Dried Beef for Slicing.

LARD

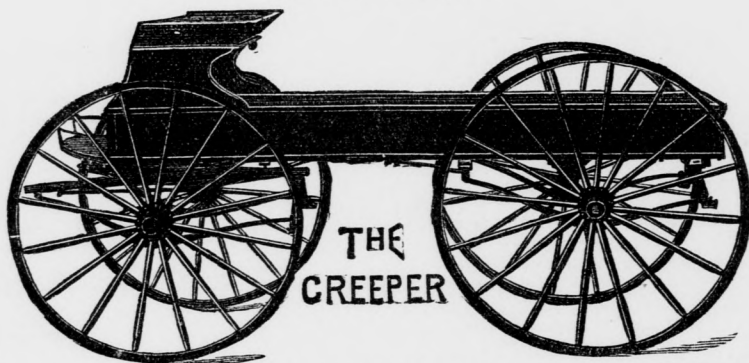
Strictly Pure and Warranted, in tierces, barrels, half-bbls., 50 lb. cans, 20 lb. cans, 3, 5 and 10 lb. pails

Pickled Pigs' Feet, Tripe, Etc.

Our prices for first-class goods are very low and all goods are warranted first-class in every instance. When in Grand Rapids, give us a call and look over our establishment. Write us for prices.

COLBY, CRAIG & CO.

MANUFACTURE



THE BEST DELIVERY WAGON ON EARTH.

Repairing in all its Branches.

COLBY, CRAIG & CO.,

West End Fulton St Bridge. Telephone No. 867.

P. STEKETEE & SONS,

JOBBERS IN

Dry Goods AND Notions,

88 Monroe St. & 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18 Fountain St.,

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Peerless Carpet Warps and Geese Feathers
American and Stark A Bags

A Specialty.

LEMON, HOOPS & PETERS,

Wholesale

Grocers

AND

-TEA-

IMPORTERS.

GRAND RAPIDS, - MICH.

Florida

FANCY FRUIT--The Celebrated Alligator Brand, direct from Florida in car lots by

GEO. E. HOWES & CO., Oranges

Grand Rapids.

THEO. B. GOOSSEN,

WHOLESALE

Produce Commission Merchant,
BROKER IN LUMBER.

Orders for Potatoes, Cabbage and Apples, in Car Lots, solicited.
Butter and Eggs, Oranges Lemons and Bananas a specialty.

33 OTTAWA STREET,

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

Stovewood Shingles

Moline Cheese

We are agents for the Celebrated

--STAG--

Brand FANCY Oranges

grown and packed

by W. R. Hillyer

Orange L'ke

Florida.

We are also agents for the sale of J. G. Lamoreaux's Orange Crop. This fruit will be **carefully packed** by Mr. L. and will be sold in lots to suit and at lowest possible prices. Ask for quotations before buying.

PUTNAM & BROOKS

CHANGE

OF FIRM

We have this day admitted as a partner in the firm of Hawkins & Perry, Mr. W. L. Freeman, who has been in the employ of the firm and its predecessors for the past sixteen years. The new firm of

Hawkins, Perry & Co.

will continue the Wholesale Grocery and Provision business at the old stand in the Hawkins Block, corner of Ionia and Fulton Streets.

HAWKINS, PERRY & CO.

LEWIS E. HAWKINS
GEO. R. PERRY
WM. L. FREEMAN

Grand Rapids, Dec. 24, '88.

J. H. THOMPSON & CO.,

IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS

TEAS,

COFFEES

SPICES

SPECIALTIES:

Honey Bee Coffee

Our Bunkum Coffee

Princess Bkg. Powder

Early Riser Bkg. Pdr.

SPICE

B
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MILLS

SPICE GRINDERS

and manufacturers of

BAKING POWDERS.

BEE Mills Gd. Spices.

BEE Mills Extracts.

BEE Mills Bird Seed.

BEE Mills Starch.

BEE Chop Japan Tea.

59 Jefferson Ave., DETROIT, MICH.

SWIFT'S

Choice Chicago

Dressed Beef

--AND MUTTON--

Can be found at all times in full supply and at popular prices at the branch houses in all the larger cities and is retailed by all first-class butchers.

The trade of all marketmen and meat dealers is solicited. Our Wholesale Branch House, L. F. Swift & Co., located at Grand Rapids, always has on hand a full supply of our Beef, Mutton and Provisions, and the public may rest assured that in purchasing our meats from dealers they will always receive the best.

Swift and Company,

Union Stock Yards,

CHICAGO.

MICHIGAN CIGAR CO.,

Big Rapids, Mich.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE JUSTLY CELEBRATED

"M. C. C." "Yum Yum"

The Most Popular Cigar.

The Best Selling Cigar on the Market.

SEND FOR TRIAL ORDER.

RINDGE, BERTSCH & CO.,

Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in

BOOTS and SHOES

AGENTS FOR THE

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