

companies in Nevada, as well as many in this State, with wire cables for hoisting purposes, besides considerable wire cordage for shipping. Owing to the unfavorable operation of the internal revenue tariff, the manufacture of wire rope in this State has of late largely decreased, it being found more profitable to import standard sizes of wire cordage from Great Britain, the manufactures of which are now mostly used on this coast. All the wire consumed in making cordage by Messrs. Hallidie & Co. is imported, but is redrawn by them prior to use. They have complete machinery for the purpose, and at one time intended making wire from "bloom" iron, but as yet have not done so. The pig metal, made of the Oregon iron ore, is said to possess peculiar properties which may admit of making wire, and if favorable results in working it into "bloom," at the Pacific Rolling Mills, are obtained, it may possibly be used for the purpose. The works of Messrs. Hallidie & Co. are of sufficient capacity to meet the entire requirements of the coast, if necessary; single length cables, seven and three-fourths inches in circumference and 3,500 feet long, and flat ropes for hoisting purposes, four inches wide, five-eighths thick and 1,500 feet long, having been already made.

The only other manufacturer of wire is Joshua Gray, whose works are on Brannan, near Third Street. This firm confines its business to making broom wire, samples of which, exhibited at the Mechanics' Fair, were of excellent quality.

**WIRE WORK.**—The only manufactory of wire work is that of H. T. Graves, 412 Clay Street. All kinds of wire screens, sieves, cages, etc., are made at this establishment, which supplies fully two-thirds the requirements of the Pacific Coast.

**CUTLERY.**—There are quite a number of cutlery establishments in this city, Messrs. Will & Finck and M. Price being the only ones who manufacture for sale as contradistinguished from the others who manufacture only to order.

Messrs. Will & Finck, in addition to table cutlery, also manufacture dental and surgical instruments, besides barbers' and other cutlery. This firm made a display at the Mechanics' Fair of the different kinds of goods manufactured by them, which, for material, workmanship and adaptability for the purposes intended, would do credit to any manufactory in the Union.

M. Price also exhibited a very superior assortment of table cutlery, that attracted very favorable attention.

**BELLOWS.**—There are two bellows manufactories in this city, the principal one being that of C. W. Thomas, 22 California Street. The domestic manufacture for blacksmiths' use has a high reputation, and has almost driven importations out of the market.

**RICE MILLS.**—There are two rice-cleaning mills in this State, both of which are located in this city—viz., India Rice Mills and those of Flint, Peabody & Co., on Battery Street near Greenwich. These mills are capable of cleaning all kinds of rice, their principal employment being cleaning and recleaning cargo and other rice imported from the Sandwich Islands and Asia—mostly for Chinese consumption. These establishments have machinery capacity for cleaning 30,000,000 pounds rice per annum, but as a rule are not employed one-quarter the time, the great bulk of rice coming from China in a cleaned state, and ready for consumption. With a climate and soil both admirably fitted for the favorable production of rice, no attempts have as yet been made to raise that grain in California. The annual consumption of foreign rice on the Pacific slope, all of which is sold in the city, is estimated at about 26,000,000 pounds, the whole of which, and even ten times that amount additional, could be raised profitably on the swamp and overflowed lands of the

State. These lands possess every natural requisite for the successful production of rice, and it only needs the enterprise and attention of any intelligent farmer to make rice-growing a success. Land suitable for rice cultivation can, at present, be purchased at low rates, and the successful raising of only one acre of rice in the State would, in three years afterwards, be the cause of employment to thousands of Chinese, and add millions of property to the assessment rolls for taxation. The General Government at this port collects about \$750,000 duties on imported rice per annum, the entire value of which, when cleaned for consumption, may be set down at fully \$1,500,000 annually. A vast field is thus open to the enterprise of the farmer or capitalist, which, in the other States of the Union, would have long since been availed of.

**SAW MILLS.**—The Saw Mills located in this city are both extensive in their working capacity, and of great value to various branches of business. The rapid increase in buildings, most of which, and especially in the newer portions of the city, are entirely constructed of wood, and the requirements of business for cases and boxes of various kinds caused the re-sawing of fully 10,000,000 feet lumber during the past year. The principal mill for the sawing of pine and other soft lumber is that of Hobbs, Gilmore & Co., which turned out about 5,000,000 feet during the past year, the largest part of which was manufactured by that firm into packing boxes of various kinds.

A large amount of Spanish cedar is sawed to make boxes for the domestic cigar trade, and also considerable quantities of Oregon maple, California laurel and other hard woods into veneers, etc., for furniture and wainscoting purposes. These branches of trade are increasing rapidly in their operations, and promise to soon attain very extensive proportions.

**FLOUR MILLS.**—The most extensive flouring mills in the State are located in this city, which mills have in great part supplied the export trade, their brands of flour enjoying a most enviable reputation in the Atlantic States, as compared with all other competitors in those markets.

The wheat of California possesses such excellent keeping qualities, on account of its great dryness, that flour made from it can be transported in perfect safety to any portion of the globe. It is also superior in some respects to most of the wheat grown in other countries, being preferred by bakers on account of its greater strength, and increased quantity of bread produced per barrel. These advantages make California flour much sought after, and the care taken by our city millers to produce a strictly good article has already caused a very extensive export trade, which promises to be largely increased in the future.

Another cause which promises to stimulate the shipping of flour of our local mills, instead of grain, to the Atlantic States, is the constant practice there of mixing their inferior wheat with that of California in grinding. The flour thus made has been of lower grade than that produced by our local mills, and consumers in the Atlantic States prefer our city brands in consequence.

It is, therefore, safe to assume that exports of California flour will be increased in the future in proportion with the manufacturing facilities of our mills, which as a rule have, during the past year, been employed to the fullest extent possible. The principal flouring mills in San Francisco are the National, Golden Gate, Capitol, Golden Age, Genesee, Pacific, Commercial, Pioneer and Alta, all of which enjoy a deservedly high reputation for their manufactures.

**STEAM MARBLE WORKS.**—The only steam marble works on the Pacific Coast are those of the Pioneer Steam Marble Works, located on Jackson between