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APRIL, 1897.

No. 4.

The number before your name on the envelope in which this copy is mailed, indicates the serial number of the issue to which your subscription is paid. This is No. 34.

The Barr Clay Works at Streator, Ill., have gone into operation with a force of 200 men.

Ohio Valley potters are experimenting with a process of decorating by transferring colors from gelatine films.

Tempest's brickyard at Courtney, Pa., was damaged \$3,000 by high water. His stock is almost totally destroyed.

J. J. Busse, of the Busse & Heidecker Brick Company, Mentor, Ky., had his hand caught in a flower-pot machine and badly mangled.

The Montezuma, Ind., clay shingle factory will probably start April 1. The Burns & Hancock Fire Brick Works have gone into operation.

The Vitrified Brick & Tile Company, of Coffeyville, Kan., is making improvements and adding new machinery at a cost of \$8,000. An addition, 25 x 40 feet, has been erected to contain the new machines.

Smith's brickyard at Middletown, O. was damaged by the recent high water in the Ohio River. Lumber, sheds and drying racks were washed away.

Conrad Kaltenbach, brick manufacturer of Reading, Pa., suffered \$3,000 loss March 5 by the total destruction of his yard by fire. He had no insurance.

The Chester, Pa., Pottery which has been idle the past year, is now running on full time, with a good outlook for the spring trade and prospective demand for its ware.

Charles Ebert, proprietor of the Riverside Brick Works, at Parkersburg, W. Va., has contracted to sell his entire output for a number of years to H. C. Stewart, who will have sole control of the sale to builders.

At Erie, Pa., contracts were awarded to Mayer Bros. for paving with Canton shale, Holloway re-pressed brick, at \$1.70 per square yard. Another contractor received an order for some paving at \$1.64 the square yard.

Only a few years ago it would have been considered a ridiculous impossibility to burn Portland cement with a consumption of not more than 16 per cent of fuel, but with the improved kilns of today this is commonly done.

Ohio River potteries have had to close several days on account of the recent flood. At East Liverpool 7 concerns had to draw the fires in the boilers and shut off steam from the engines. Some damage was also done by water getting into clay bins.

Clay industries of Uhrichsville, O., are resuming activity. The Diamond Fire Clay Company, the Uhrichsville Fire Clay Company, the Buckeye Fire Clay Company, J. J. Mazurie Tile & Sewer Pipe Works and the Advance Brick Works, have all started.

Novaculite paving has been tried at Quincy, Ill., and found wanting. The novaculite top-dressing adheres to and is carried away by the wheels, leaving the macadam bare. After their experience many of the property owners give their preference to vitrified brick.

X rays were employed to determine the injury sustained by George Bastian, who is suing Alexander Young, superintendent of the Evens & Howard Fire Brick Company, at St. Louis, Mo., for \$5,000 damages. His shoulder was dislocated, it is alleged, by a fall in front of Young's property.

James Snyder narrowly escaped being crushed in a fall of earth while excavating in D. F. Gohn's brickyard at Columbia, Pa. As he was standing against the bank he felt the earth moving and tried to get away. He had moved only a few feet when his legs were caught under several tons of terra firma.

By their purchase of 1,000,000 brick held by McCreery & Thedinga, Ord & Halstead, of Colorado Springs, Colo., have effected a combination of the brick manufacturers whereby no brick will be sold below cost. The price has been fixed at \$7.50. Those in the agreement are Ord & Halstead, J. W. Atkinson, Goshen Bros. and the Newton Lumber Company.

The Purington Brick Company has filed a bill in chancery against the city of Memphis and the Illinois Central Railroad to recover \$2,908 on account of 7,000 yards of brick. The Purington Company has the railroad receipts for 399,000 brick, but the city alleges not all were delivered. If this be true the Purington Company claims the railroad is responsible.

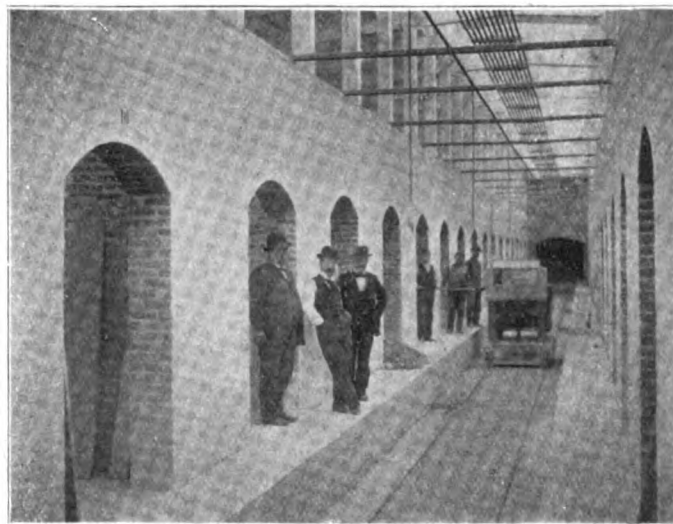
Charles Whitmore & Co., contractors, by assignee John A. Merritt, have recovered \$1,420 from an Ohio brick concern whom they sued for damages for delay in filling contract. An agent of the brick concern, it is alleged, addressed the following letter, which was introduced in evidence, to three aldermen: "Gentlemen—We hereby agree to pay you fifty cents per thousand on all Canton Shale brick accepted by your city engineer or inspector of streets. Payments to be made to the above named parties as estimates are made on the work contemplated."

to end need not be longer in one than the other, but a slightly greater cost to the chemist and a proportionately greater cost to the clayworker ought not for an instant to check its adoption, since it is practically paying twenty dollars for something which is well nigh useless, and twenty-five for something which is eminently useful. Between such alternatives it seems that there would not be much room for choice.

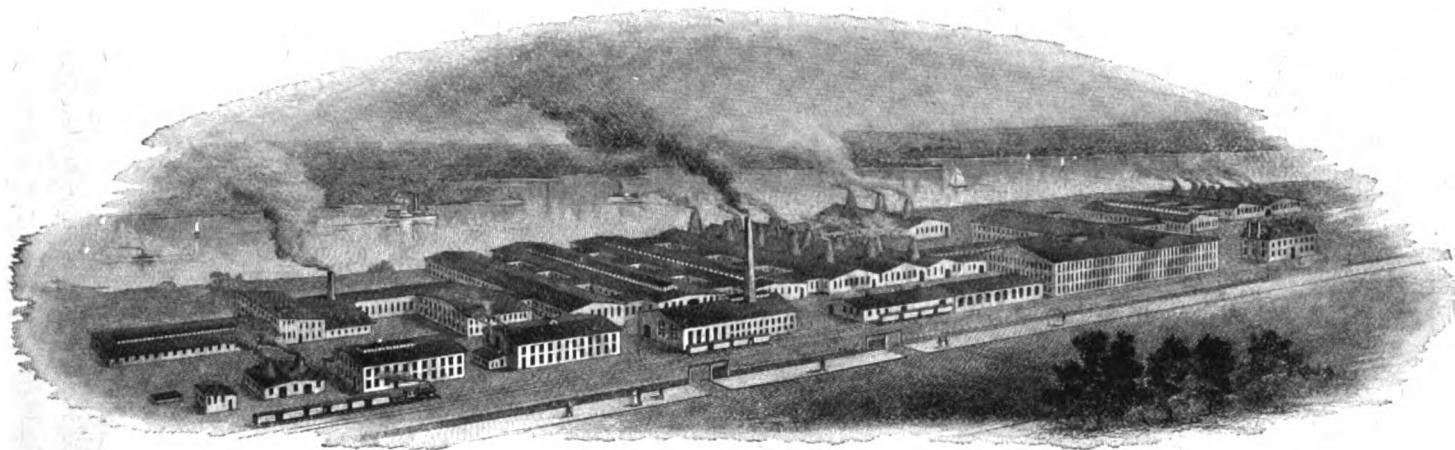
#### The American Encaustic Tiling Company.

The great establishment of the American Encaustic Tiling Company at Zanesville, O., was a cause of astonishment to every one of the visitors who, on the occasion of the Ohio convention, were welcomed to the plant and given free access to every part of it. The delighted visitors spent more time here than anywhere else, but still only could see a part in the hour and a half that was devoted to the visit.

The company was incorporated in 1877, not on such a large scale as now, for at present the plant is 35 acres in extent, with  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile of side track and the company's own locomotive for switching. The buildings cover a space 500 by 1,400 feet, and between 600 and 700 work people are employed, all this, be it remembered,

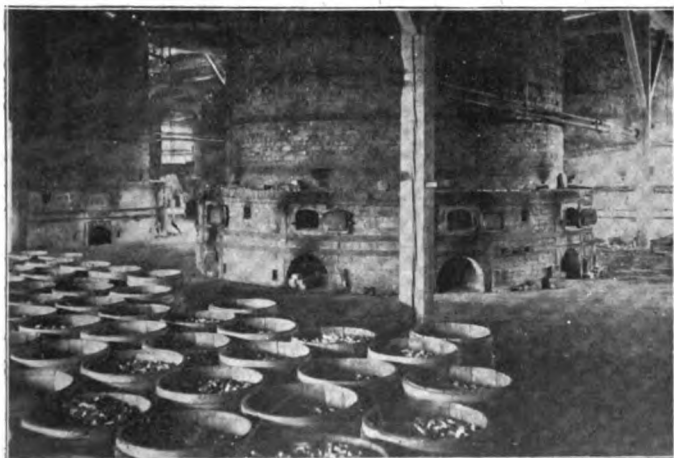


CLAY STORAGE.



PLANT OF THE AMERICAN ENCAUSTIC TILING COMPANY, ZANESVILLE, O.

for the purpose of making ware that is used purely for ornamentation; glazed tile for hearths, embossed art tiles, glazed wainscot-



KILNS AT AMERICAN ENCAUSTIC TILE COMPANY.

ing, glazed and enameled tile mantel facing, etc., etc. Two pattern books which were presented to us are really beautiful works of art, the one a large album, containing over 200 color prints of ornamental tile for floors and walls, the other 70 different photo engravings of mantels with bas relief decorations; the figure work, which is often a weak point in our decorative art, being especially good. These books which are only part of a series, give some idea of the enterprising spirit of the company.

Beauty and art conjoined appeal successfully to our people as is evidenced by the fact that the American Encaustic Tiling company produces 3,000,000 of square feet of tiling annually, which is almost 1,000 square feet per hour. It will be quite easy to understand the possibility of doing this by looking at our illustrations, from photographs taken by us of some of the work shops. We made two views of the main press room in which there are two rows of machines, all of them were at work, not only on the occasion of the visit of the association, but a few days afterwards when we dropped in for the purpose of making our views.

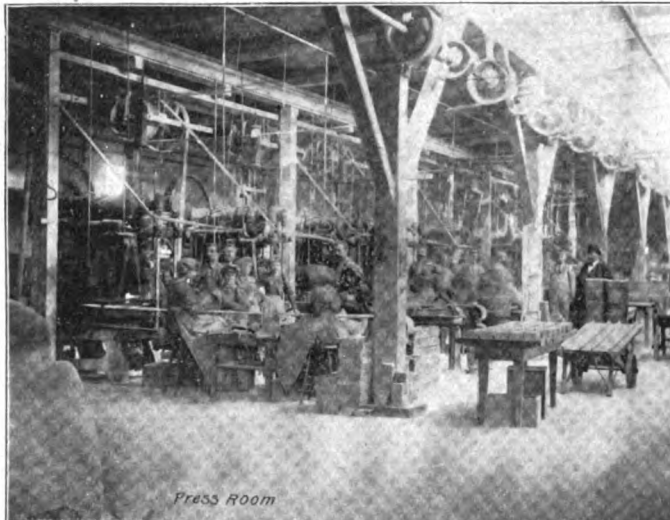
The clay storage, which we also illustrate is unique, we have never seen anything like it either in this country or abroad. A long, substantially constructed building, well lighted from the roof; with a railway track through the middle. On each side are 20 clay bins, or rooms. The railroad track being sunk, the floor of the

clay storage room is on a level with the floor of a car. The clay, we may mention, is brought from different places, most of it from the neighborhood of Zanesville. Our illustration shows that the operation of getting out a mixing of clay was just going on. The foreman sets the index of the weighing machine and all the workman has to do is to go to certain clay bins, which he knows by their numbers, and shovel clay into the hopper until the right quantity is indicated; he does not have to burden his memory with quantities, or the names of materials.

The machinery is driven by a 200 horse-power engine made by the New York Safety Steam Power Company. The main trans-

Shrinkage is a more important matter in wall and floor tiles than, perhaps, in any other ceramic ware, for it is absolutely necessary that the tiles should all be delivered of the same size. Our illustration showing one of the kiln houses was made under rather disadvantageous conditions as regards light.

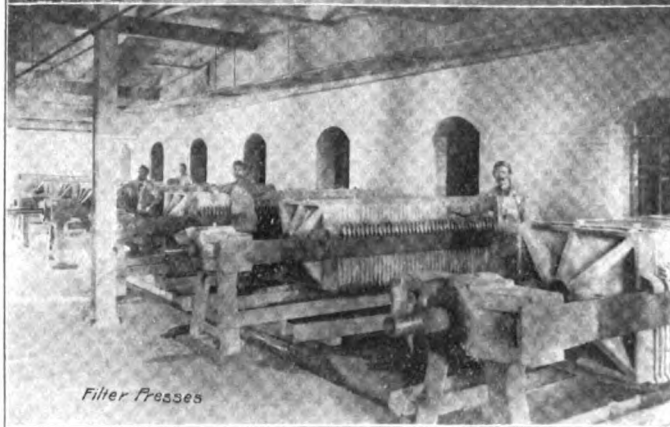
The American Encaustic Tiling Company was established in 1874, and incorporated in 1877, but the plant as it now exists was built in 1892. With ample means and the experience of years it was reasonable to expect that model works would result and that expectation has been fulfilled. The present officers are B. Fischer, president; Andrew Blum, vice-president; Charles A.



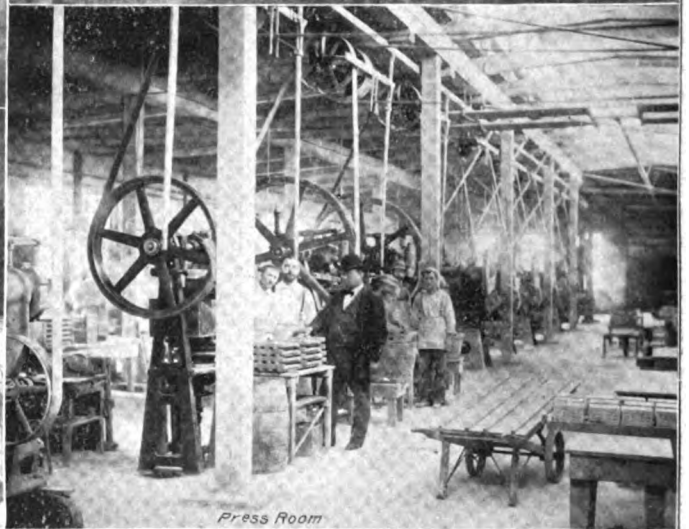
Press Room



Fettling Room



Filter Presses



Press Room

SCENES AT AMERICAN ENCAUSTIC TILE WORKS.

mission of power is entirely by electricity, by means of dynamos and generators made by the Eddy Electric Machinery Company of Windsor, Conn. The power is carried, in some cases, as far as 900 feet. The engine and dynamo room is a very large, well arranged, and well lighted building.

Most of the machinery is made on the premises. The filter presses, eight in number, present a remarkably good appearance; these are made by a Zanesville machine manufacturer, the Griffith & Wedge Company.

The kilns, 24 in number, are 16 feet in diameter. They are down-draft, not muffle kilns. The ware is all burned in sagers. Coal is used for fuel. The Seger cone has been employed here for the past six years and is quite indispensable. The ordinary test piece is also used, but this is only to determine the shrinkage.

Flammer, treasurer, and W. H. Fischer, secretary; but the practical success of the concern is probably due to the general superintendent, Geo. A. Stanbery, who has been associated with the undertaking from its start.

#### Wants Machinery for Manufacturing Grindstones.

Watts & Co., of South Berlin, Tenn., write: "We want machinery for manufacturing grindstones; this seems to be hard to find. Can you help us?"

The Bessemer Fire Brick Company, of Birmingham, Ala., is shipping 16,000 fire brick to Tampico, Mex., and 10,000 to Ciudad Porfirio Diaz.