

and the more so on account of improved industrial conditions—that provisions would command a higher value. But on the contrary most lines of hog products have been selling all summer at lower prices than a year ago. Smoked meats, while in excellent demand, have sold only on a lower basis. Hams are cheaper by ½c. per pound than they were last summer, while the difference in the price of bacon is even greater, extending up to 1c. per pound. The same may be said of rolls. Long clear bacon remains unchanged in price. Lard, which was abnormally depressed, shows a slight gain as compared with last year. The cause of this unfortunate condition of affairs is the depression that has existed in the producing centres of the United States. Packers there secured their hogs at less than the price paid in Canada and have been able to compete with great advantage for a certain class of Canadian business.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The Dominion line steamship Dominion, which sailed for Liverpool from Montreal on Saturday morning, had on board the contents of a whole train of refrigerator cars from Chicago laden with fresh beef quarters and fruit. It is neatly done up in a white covering which appears to be air-tight, and cannot be penetrated by flies or any other insect. It was handled very carefully while being transferred from the refrigerator cars on board the steamship Dominion, under a canopy which protected it from the rays of the sun and exposure to dust.

An improved dairy salt will soon be placed on the market, we understand, as the result of the investigations of a competent Ontario chemist. The process of preparing the salt is understood to be simple and inexpensive, while at the same time experiments have shown that it adds in a most marked degree to its preservative qualities. The farmer's wife, who has had to compete with the superior methods of the creamery, would do well to look around for a few simple ideas such as this to place her butter on the market in better condition. The sportsmen, and especially the piscator, will appreciate any new substance that can be carried in small bulk, which will enable him to carry home the results of his outing.

WITH THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Irish linen exporters are looking for increased business with Canada.

Canadian manufacturers' agents have received their samples of Mago prints for the spring of 1899, and the wholesale traders are having a look at them, and so far have been much pleased with their appearance.

The Riverside cotton mill at Montmorency, Que., is to be enlarged considerably. Three new flats are being added to the old building, which will make a splendid structure. The Montmorency Cotton Company's mill is also being extended by some 90 feet.

To Canada for the week ending August 19th, 52,000 yards of gray cotton piece goods and 300,000 yards of bleached, colored and printed goods were sent from the Mersey. The value of woollens taken from the same source in this period was £13,098, as against £87,000 the previous week.

How many merchants in keeping account of the work of their assistants behind the counter fail to keep track of anything but the aggregate amount of their sales. While this is valuable, it is an improvement to distinguish between sales that yield a profit and those that yield none. There is a decided difference in the skill and work required in these two branches of work in the dry goods store.

The Manchester correspondent of The Drapers' Record usually has something interesting for the dry goods trade. In the issue, August 20th, he reports that: "Recent arrivals from Canada include Messrs. Leslie H. Gault (Gault Bros. & Co., Montreal), V. de V. Dowker, G. B. Ryan, W. Dundas, J. A. Ogilvy Ackermann, D. H. Macpherson, B. Tooke, Joseph Carsley and S. Vineberg. The service of the Manchester Liners, Limited, with Montreal promises to be a great success, a large and remunerative traffic being apparently assured. How far this will affect the shipment of drapery goods to the Dominion remains to be seen. Liverpool still has the bulk of the trade."

The building and plant of the Coaticook Cotton Company were, some years ago, exempted from taxation on condition that they should employ a fixed number of hands in their mill. A portion of the mill was closed recently, and the council now claims that, the required number of hands not being employed, the company must pay taxes. The mills are assessed at \$100,000, and at the usual rate of taxation would have to pay taxes of \$1,000 per annum.

In Manchester manufacturers' agents are showing cotton goods with colored mercerized weft. "The idea," says The Record, "has been applied to quilts, but, owing to the cost of mercerized yarn, a 3 by 2½ size in these goods costs about 2s. extra, which seems a heavy extra cost for a cotton article. Just there, however, one is occasionally taken up sharply by sellers of mercerized goods. 'We do not invite comparison with cotton,' as one of them put it the other day. 'What we are showing is intended to compete with silk, and it is our price as against the quotation for the silk article that ought to be studied.' Opinions as to the capability of colors in mercerized goods standing the effects of the sun and of washing still differ considerably, the most conflicting statements being made."

THE CHEESE TRADE.

The cheese markets of the week have been quiet and values have not shown much improvement, as will be seen from the table below. Shipments of cheese from Montreal last week amounted to 73,399 boxes, against 79,733 boxes for the corresponding week a year ago.

Boards and Date of meeting.	No. of facto- ries.	Cheese boarded. Boxes.	Cheese sold. Boxes.	Price per lb. Cts.
Brockville, August 25. . .	..	3,285		7 13-16-8 1-16
Kingston, August 25. . .	..	1,560	350	8½
Perth, August 26.	..	1,290	1,290	7¾
Brighton, August 26. . .	10	780	400	8
Brantford, August 26. . .	..	2,615	2,465	7 15-16-8
Iroquois, August 26. . . .	..	480	380	8½
Ottawa, August 26.	..	1,710	1,710	7¾-8 3-16
Kemptville, August 26. . .	..	728	728	8 1-16
South Finch, August 26. . .	..	1,065		...
London, August 27.	..	972		...
Lindsay, August 29.	..	1,700	1,700	8
Belleville, August 30. . .	15	1,035	390	8
Ingersoll, August 30. . . .	..	2,675	150	7¾-8
Napanee, August 31. . . .	..	758	295	8
Picton, August 31.	14	720	480	8½

CLEARING-HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Sept. 1st, 1898, compared with those of the previous week

CLEARINGS.	Sept. 1st, 1898.	Aug. 25th, 1898.
Montreal.	\$11,375,001	\$12,747,213
Toronto	6,953,458	7,699,974
Winnipeg	1,365,998	
Halifax	1,094,972	1,038,243
Hamilton	517,051	575,580
St. John	589,717	645,958
	\$21,896,197	\$

Aggregate balances this week, \$3,573,440; last week, \$.....

—The large shipyards of the Bertram Engine Works Co., Limited, situated at Niagara and Bathurst streets, on the lake front, in this city, were visited by fire on Friday morning. The loss, which was a heavy one, could have been prevented if there had been adequate means of fire protection. Mr. Bertram has repeatedly pointed out to the city council that valuable property was lying exposed to conflagration, but without avail. If the Toronto aldermen are not willing to take the necessary steps to reasonably protect manufacturers in this city from fire, then they cannot hope to retain them here, much less attract new industries.