

for 96 test. The buyer, upon the arrival of the cargo, would have to pay insurance, 1 per cent.; duty, 2.24 cents; and 2½ per cent. discount, the sales of duty paid being always made on four months' time. Adding these items to the cost and freight price would give the long price of the above purchase as 5.52 cents. Again, take a cargo of Muscovado sugar, sold at 2.87½ cents for 89 test. Adding 1 per cent. insurance, 2½ per cent. discount, and 1.96 cents duty, the long price is 4.98 cents.

Boxes of prunes and raisins exposed to view should be covered with glass. This will keep the dust out, and samplers will have to be content with feasting their eyes instead of their stomachs. Jellies and fruit butters in pails should be kept covered. Goods on shelves and counters should be wiped with a damp cloth, instead of dusting them with a feather duster, which only scatters the dust on other goods. There is no business which requires more care and attention in this respect. The goods you sell are mostly to be eaten, and to deliver them free from objectionable matter should be the aim of all grocers who value the patronage of people who trade with them.

According to the *London Grocer*, another tea-producing district is the greatest novelty in the tea trade. Lately it was tea from Fiji, now it is the growth of Perak, situate in the Straits Settlements of the East Indies. The first consignment to the London market has just taken place, and has consisted of an invoice of seventy-eight half chests. By expert valuers in "The Lane," the quality is favorably spoken of, and on its being offered in public sale it found ready buyers at full rates viz., broken pekoe, at 1s. 3d., pekoe at 11d., pekoe souchong at 9d., souchong (a single package) at the same price, and dust at 6d. per lb. Should the tea production of Perak materially increase it will doubtless come into competition with India and Ceylon, and in the course of time add to the general supplies for this country, and afford a wider and more desirable assortment for the trade to choose from throughout the year.

Short weight in barrelled herring received from Newfoundland latterly has, says the *N. Y. Bulletin*, been more conspicuous than usual, and for their own as well as their customers' protection, the jobbing trade should "sit down" heavily upon this growing evil. Receivers have had to make short weights good on some stock sold, but it is stated that they now insist that fish shall be taken as received for full weight, whether 200 pounds to the barrel or 40 to 50 pounds short.

Great efforts are being made in New Zealand to improve the system of packing butter in cold chambers for transport to Great Britain. When the New Zealand butter system has reached the advanced stage, and when the butter is landed in England, as it probably will be, in fine condition, says the *Grocer's Review*, of Manchester, farmers will more appreciate the new competitor with whom they will have to deal, for it will be only a matter of time for New Zealand to place very large quantities of butter in this market. They have determined to pack in square boxes rather than in tubs, more especially on account of the space which the latter occupy.

A Bright Child.—Just think, Mrs. B., my little Mollie lost a dollar bill on her way to the grocery. Mrs. B. (proudly)—That couldn't happen to my little Fanny. She is too smart for that; ain't you Fanny? Fanny—Guess I couldn't lose my dollar bill when you never send any money to the grocer's. He always writes it down in a book, and when he wants

any money from us he has to come five or six times.—*Texas Siftings*.

Customer—"I say, uncle, how long have you had these new-laid eggs in stock?"
Bastus—"I dunno ezactly, boss. You see I've only been wukin' heah a month."—*American Grocer*.

Fresh eggs are selling at forty cents a dozen in Winnipeg.

According to the *Free Press* the amount of fish exported to the United States from Manitoba during 1889 was 1,781,587 pounds, valued at \$75,465. This includes seven varieties of fish. Shipments were made to New York, Chicago, Minneapolis, Detroit, Buffalo, Helena, Butte City, Fargo, and Grand Forks. Last year's exports show a decrease compared with those of the previous year.

FACTORY NOTES.

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE of shareholders in the Chatham (Ont.) Manufacturing Co. was appointed to investigate the management of that company's affairs. It reported to a special meeting held last week, suggesting some radical changes looking towards economy in working expenses while maintaining the quality of the output. There are now orders on hand for 1,600 or 1,700 of the "Chatham Wagons," and it is proposed to increase the staff so as to turn out twelve wagons per day. Messrs. D. R. Van Allen, S. Barfoot, W. Ball, H. A. Patteson, and S. Stephenson are re-elected directors. A proposition of a practical kind was made by Mr. Wm. Milner, superintendent, and a committee, composed of S. Barfoot and S. Stephenson, directors, H. Malcolmson and W. E. Rispin, stockholders, was appointed to look into the proposal and report as soon as possible.

By an ingenious and novel application of electricity, every man can have his own fire alarm, without the services of a watchman. At the rooms in this city of the Dominion Electrical Manufacturing Co., which has been established to make electric appliances of various kinds, may be seen Cortland's Automatic Fire Alarm. This consists of a system of wires and magnets, distributed through every flat of a house, which gives security that no fire can break out which will raise the temperature above the normal but it will be reported by the loud ringing of bells. Not only this, but the locality of the fire, in basement or attic, is shown upon an indicator, and a signal may at the same moment be sent to the fire department. The system is patented in Canada by Mr. H. Cortland, whose idea is the use of thermostats, delicately adjusted to respond to changes of temperature, not mercury, not fusible metal, but a vulcanized rubber, whose trustworthiness has been tested. It is in use on the premises of Messrs. Christie, Brown & Co., at the Arlington Hotel, at the Massey Manufacturing Works, and at Firstbook Bros., who are loud in its praise. Underwriters, as well as manufacturers and merchants, are interested in such an automatic alarm. Mr. Kelso will be pleased to exhibit the mechanism and give a practical test to any business man who chooses to call at 66 Adelaide street east.

OVER 300,000 cotton spindles have been added to the manufacturing capacity of Bolton neighborhood, England. This means so many more spindles on fine numbers of yarn for which the long staple cotton of Egypt, Peru, and America is specially required. Already 5,000,000 spindles near Bolton are

running on fine numbers, principally.—*Boston Journal of Commerce*.

As a matter of record we repeat that during the year 1889 seventy-two wool dealers and woollen manufacturers in the United States failed, with liabilities amounting to \$10,442,000, and assets amounting to \$7,032,000.—*American Wool Reporter*.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances for the week ending 13th February, 1890:

	Clearings.	Balances.
February 7.....	\$1,636,732	\$ 207,501
" 8.....	1,337,126	242,934
" 10.....	1,242,412	236,933
" 11.....	1,518,338	282,559
" 12.....	1,258,698	254,697
" 13.....	1,337,276	142,571
Total	\$ 8,380,582	\$1,367,195
Last week.....	\$ 7,718,534	\$1,150,420
Cor. week last year	7,533,361	1,166,368

LONDON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE Co.—The report of this company congratulates its members on "keeping the lead" still in the insuring of farm and residence property in Ontario. It has 7,663 policies on the premium-note system and 6,063 on the cash plan, covering risks to the amount of \$45,729,000. Its receipts during the year from assessments were \$89,644 and from agents (cash system, we presume) \$44,982; while interest and other earnings were some \$3,000. The losses, which were less than in the previous year, amounted to \$92,387; while working expenses and commissions to agents show a reduction compared with 1888, except in the item of loss and agency inspection, the increased payment for which is probably money well laid out. Some agents were dismissed for carelessness. The company's inspector examined 348 claims, and there were eleven of them rejected, amounting to more than the extra cost of his department. This official says some strong things, well worth pondering, about over-insurance, incendiarism, and "unknown causes" of fires.

CIEY MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE Co.—This company has increased its business by \$300,000 during 1889, and now has at risk in Ontario, \$1,513,000. The losses of the year were between \$16,000 and \$17,000. It shows \$39,981 available on premium notes, and a total balance of assets equal to \$44,197, less the re-insurance reserve, which is not shown.

DOMINION TELEGRAPH Co.—The special inspection of its claims ordered a year ago by the directors of this company has been begun, and so far as proceeded with it ascertains them to be in satisfactory condition. The report announces the regular payment by the lessees of the rental and interest on bonds at the stipulated periods. The directors were unanimously re-elected.

—The difficulty which has arisen between the boot and shoe hands of J. D. King & Co., in this city, and their employers brings up the question whether a manufacturer shall conduct his business as he thinks best, or whether his employees shall dictate its management. Messrs. King & Co., it appears, promoted a man who had been running a button-hole machine and put a lad of sixteen in his place. The men employed in the shop sent word on