

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

Imperial Institute, London, 9th July.—A Liverpool firm would correspond with Canadian shippers of tallow, hides and skins; also, mica and plumbago. A London paper agent would act as representative of Canadian paper mills. A firm making boot-blackening and furniture polish would like to develop trade in Canada.

Canadian Government Offices, 10th July.—A Sheffield firm making tools would correspond with a wholesale hardware dealer in Canada dealing in tools of engineers, ship-builders, etc. An English firm of cider-makers and bottlers wish to hear from Canadian exporters. An Ontario dry goods salesman would act as agent for some export house in Britain. An agent, experienced in the hardware trade in Canada, would like to represent some English makers of or dealers in hardware, cutlery, and engineers' supplies.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

R.S.M., Brandon.—There is abundant room for difference of opinion as to the route of the railway proposed through Northern Ontario. The average man is not at all well informed about the territory, and those who have traversed it are few. Your question about our remark in the article of 26th June, "Manitoba to the Sea Board," is natural enough. No wonder you were puzzled. The word "north" was used in error instead of "south," thereby reversing the meaning of the writer. The last sentences of the first paragraph on page 1753 should have read: "Opinions are not yet agreed as to whether the railway in question should pass to the north or to the south of Lake Abitibi. It is probable that most of the people who are informed about that part of Northern Ontario would prefer to go to the south; but from what we hear of the results of exploration as far north as Lake Mistassini in Quebec, there is much to justify these who advocate the more northerly route in preference."

Subscriber, Cornwall.—There are two places, if not more, in Canada named Lakefield; one in Peterboro County, Ontario; and one in Argenteuil County, Quebec, near Lachute. The former is the larger and the more likely.

A.B.N., Detroit.—Cannot say. The expression is not familiar to us. Carlyle has written something to the same effect, but in more and longer words. It was Voltaire who said: "Labor rids us of three great evils—irksomeness, vice, and poverty."

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Into the Union Stock Yards at Toronto Junction, stock has been pouring in large quantities during the last few days. United States dealers are taking advantage of the C.P.R. to ship in large quantities, in readiness for the forthcoming opening.

The Paisley, Ont., Pork Packing Company is the latest concern of that nature to go under. It had a capital of \$10,000 but its liabilities are so far not stated. The causes for the assignment are, no doubt, keen competition, the difficulty of getting live hogs, and the high prices which have had to be paid for them.

Messrs. Black Bros. & Co., Halifax, N.S., have been converted into a limited liability company, with a capital stock of \$150,000 and officers as follows: Messrs. G. J. Troop, president; G. S. Troop, vice-president and managing director; W. H. Troop, secretary; R. P. Butler, treasurer. It will make special efforts to develop the fishing side of its business, and will erect a plant at La Have for the manufacture of boneless and shredded fish. They also have a fishing ground in Labrador, which it is the intention to improve.

On July 10th, according to a report of that date recently to hand, Canadian butter was about 2s. per cwt. lower. Irish, French, Dutch and Russian butters were all in large supply and cheap, although a gradual diminution in the supply of milk, especially in France, was beginning to make itself felt. The quality of some of the Canadian butter coming forward

was exceptionally fine, especially that made from pasteurized milk or cream. Choicest brands fetched 92s. to 94s., and finest, 88s. to 90s. Against the above may be placed a remark, in the circular referred to, that choicest Russian was unquestionably the best value on the market, and another that it was surprising that it paid Siberian shippers to sell butter at the prices they did. Some large concerns were reported to be buying it at about 80s. per cwt. for storage purposes.

Rebuking the indiscretion of those who are predicting a seventy or eighty million bushel crop of wheat in Manitoba, the "Nor' West Farmer," of Winnipeg, says, at the conclusion of an article from which quotation is made elsewhere: "We may in conclusion point to the record of the winter wheat crop of the United States for this same year. On April 1st they had a showing of fully 97 per cent. In two months that splendid showing had to be cut down 21 per cent., and some critics allege that even that reduced estimate is still too high. The foreign nations that want cheap wheat from this continent prefer big crop reports. Our real friends are those who keep inside the truth."

The Canadian Government Agent in Jamaica, like others, is surprised at the supineness of Canadians in the matter of developing their dairy trade with the West Indies. He says: "What astonishes me, in consideration of the very appreciable output this market offers for both butter and cheese, especially the former, is that other butter and cheese sections throughout the Dominion do not make a determined bid for the trade notwithstanding the conditions existing in their favor as against imports from the United States and the United Kingdom. I do not hesitate to say that if Canadian factories can be got to pay some attention and show some interest in meeting the conditions of the demand, and dealers and exporters will reasonably co-operate in making an energetic effort to cultivate the Canadian demand, the time would not be far distant when the Canadian article would practically monopolize the best trade."

FOR DRY GOODS MEN.

The Alaska Feather and Down Company, of Montreal, Limited, draw our attention to the fact that they have not advanced the prices of quilts, cushions and cosies by 7½ to 10 per cent. as announced in recent issues. We regret the error. The only article which has been raised in price in their list is feather pillows, which have gone up 10 per cent.

The names of the representatives from Trinidad to the Chamber of Commerce meetings, to be held in Montreal next month, are: Hon. George Goodwill, member of the Legislative Council; Mr. Edward Tripp, Commercial Agent in Trinidad for the Dominion of Canada, and Mr. T. Geddes Grant of that island.

We note the formation of a Canadian company to manufacture linen. The parties are Christian Kloefer, Guelph; J. A. Kammerer, Hamilton; J. D. Shier, Bracebridge; J. H. Van Dusen, Reuben Millichamp, Ewen Mackenzie and Dr. Beattie Nesbitt, Toronto. Western Ontario is regarded as a good flax-growing country. A site for a factory is said to have been secured at Bracebridge.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures for Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, July 23, 1903, compared with those of the previous week.

CITIES	July 23, 1903	July 16, 1903
Montreal.....	\$21,538,948	\$23,442,607
Toronto	14,204,293
Winnipeg.....	4,503,489	4,515,570
Halifax.....	1,677,669	1,696,630
Hamilton.....	1,027,567	1,044,275
St. John	1,200,023	966,622
Vancouver	1,666,388	1,335,307
Victoria	502,194	543,025
Quebec	1,711,362	1,621,241
Ottawa.....	1,969,275	2,535,636
London	898,580	889,886
	\$50,899,788	\$.....