

stand, is being gradually remedied, and the machine bids fair to come into greater use.

Nothing is more striking in the samples of spring foot-wear than the number of decorations displayed. One house in the city has fifteen different patterns of toe tips.

The "Poland tie" is a very neat slipper for ladies' wear, made in black ooze to imitate broadcloth.

A style, taken from the American trade, which will probably have some little sale here, is the Juliet shoe. It is made in patent leather and in dongola. In shape it may be called a half Congress shoe, with the elastic tops running to the usual height. It is principally used in evening wear.

A new feature before the Canadian foot wear trade this season is the crinkled vamp. The crinkles are only placed on the shoe after a somewhat difficult process. The shoe is pressed in a machine made for the purpose, stiff cords being placed in each impression; they are then stitched and cemented on the under side. This of course is of no practical use, and may be described as a "craze of the times."

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Mr. J. D. Moore has recently forwarded from his warehouse at St. Mary's, fifteen carloads of prime Canadian cheese to Portland, Maine, for shipment to the Old Country markets.

Representatives of a St. John, N.B., firm have been in Guelph arranging for shipments of dressed beef to New Brunswick.

Word has been received of the burning of the British barque "Clan Grant," with a cargo of tea, said to weigh a million pounds, and valued at \$375,000. The "Clan Grant" was bound from Amoy to New York.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Dairy Association was held in Winnipeg on Wednesday, Jan. 17th.

The *Montreal Gazette* says that the beet-root sugar factory at Berthier is preparing for a big season this year. M. Lefebvre & Co., the vinegar manufacturers, its owners, have contracted with the farmers for over 3,000 acres of sugar beets.

A number of the leading grocers of South London have agreed to close their places of business each week evening except Saturday at 7 o'clock sharp.

Cheese shipments from Perth during 1893 amounted to over 28,805 boxes, and were valued at \$210,635.

The Licensed Victuallers of Montreal have elected the following officers: Hon. President, Mr. Henry Hogan; President, Mr. Joseph Riendeau; Vice-president, Mr. Geo. Carslake; Treasurer, Mr. Andrew J. Dawes; Secretary, Mr. Chas. Desmarreau; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Mederic Menard; Directors, C. Vallee, Jas. Guest, Theotime Lancot, Henry Dubois, J. O. Villeneuve, L. A. Lapointe.

The Kinnettles Creamery Association held a very successful meeting in Elora recently, when the report presented showed nearly \$22,000 of business done the past year.

It is said that a large dairy will be operated in Chilcotan, B.C., next season.

Latest estimates place the 1894-5 crop of Java coffee at 1,250,000 piculs, of which a large part is private growth. First receipts of new crop are looked for in April. The cultivation of Liberian coffee is on the increase in Java and on the Malabar coast.

A despatch from Halifax, dated January 16th, says: At the annual meeting of the Board of Trade this afternoon a resolution was passed, co-operating with the St. John Board of Trade in urging the Dominion Government to prevent the importation from the United States, under the name of molasses, of an inferior mixture of molasses, glucose and syrup. It was also resolved to memorialize the Dominion Government to raise the standard of free sugar from No. 14 to No. 16 Dutch standard.

The dairy school in connection with the Guelph Agricultural College opened on the 15th with 153 pupils in attendance.

A meeting of the Dominion Wholesale Grocers' Guild was held in Montreal on Thursday last. Mr. Hugh Blain, of Toronto, acted as chairman in the absence of the president, Mr. C. P. Hebert. Matters of general interest to the trade were considered, but no definite conclusions arrived at. Representatives were present from Toronto, Hamilton, London, Brantford, Berlin and other Ontario towns and cities.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

An excellent cartoon by Gribayedoff satirizes the unbecoming competitive rush for new business made by some of the big life assurance companies of the United States. The scene is a sort of modern Do-the-Boys Hall, in New York City; 1893 stands ladling out a pudding, entitled "New Business Pudding, 1893," while in the background a youth is entering the room bearing a dish labelled "New Business Pudding, 1894." Three lads, respectively designated McCurdy, Hyde and McCall, surround the table. The old master of the feast calls out: "Come, Hyde, it's time to quit, the 1893 pudding is all gone; " to which Hyde replies: "That's all right, but McCall over there got more of the 1893 pudding than I did, and I'm going to have more than McCall got if I've got to get some of that pudding that's coming in at the door." On this, McCurdy (whose plate is broken and whose face and form are spattered with the remains of something labelled "\$300,000,000") replies: "I say, Hyde, I'd advise you to quit. I tried to get more of that pudding than McCall did—and just look at me." The moral is obvious.

Mr. T. A. Gale, inspector for the Mercantile Fire Insurance Company of Berlin, tells us that business is brisk with that company. During the year 1893 it increased nearly a third in volume.

The Metropolitan Plate Glass Insurance Company of Montreal will ask for an Act of incorporation.

Ottawa proposes to have a fire assurance company of its own, and parties will apply next session for an Act of incorporation.

The town council of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, received last week from a committee a report on a proposed fire-alarm system for the town, whereby the boxes are to be connected with the street car engine house, where steam is kept up constantly. The alarm will be given with a mammoth steam whistle to be provided for the purpose. The *St. John Sun* says: The council have plans completed and expect to have work commenced at once on boilers and steam pumps to be used in connection with a reservoir which will be built the coming summer to add to the efficiency of the water system.

In the course of a retrospective glance at the fire insurance field in the United States and an

attempted forecast of the present year, the *Investigator* comes to rather a doleful conclusion as to the possibility of profit in the business. There were last year, says that journal, 21 United States fire insurance companies failed—"most of which were Ohio and West Virginia 'undergrounders' and wild cats"—8 reinsured their risks, and 4 retired. To replace these thirty-three companies there are, it appears, only twelve organized, four in Virginia, the rest in Tennessee, Florida, Carolina and Minnesota, except one each in Boston and New York.

PATENT RECORD.

The following list of United States patents granted to Canadian inventors, January 2nd, 1894, is reported for THE MONETARY TIMES:

Joseph Bennett, Winnipeg, box or drawer.
Walter H. Avis, Toronto, wire covering machine.
Romaine Callender, Brantford, electric circuit controller.
Romaine Callender, Brantford, telephone exchange system.
Felix Decarie, Montreal, lead pipe coupling.
Edward M. Dennis, Walkerville, automatic hinge for school seats.
William O. Gotwals, Ottawa, letter and bill file.
Margaret Killen, Halifax, fire escape.
Woodburn Langmuir, Toronto, rubber tire.
Joseph Ladoux, Montreal, carriage axle.
George W. Mallory, Guilds, door check.
Daniel Mains, Toronto, machine for sewing looped fabrics.
William McDonald, North River, Cape North, anchor.
Harry Cooper, Toronto, wrench.
William B. Cowan, Guelph, triturating and emulsifying machine.
Total issue, 576.
The following list of United States patents granted to Canadian inventors bears date January 9, 1894:
Selden S. Casey, H. M. Kay, and H. A. Stringer, London, grip wire fence tool.
Isaac Lehman, Ashcroft, tire setter.
William Ross, Montreal, portable and variable shifting for drilling machine.
Terrence Brockville, Toronto, boiler covering.
George H. Waring and O. B. White, St. John, steam engine.
Total issue, 453.

—We learned from English sources at Christmas time that so great was the yield of grapes, and so glutted the wine growers in the south of France with their produce, that they offer wine at one penny per quart, but fail to obtain that price. The splendid vintage has made wine a drug in the market, and new casks cost more than the wine needed to fill them. A Paris correspondent of this journal, who has spent several months at the close of 1893 in travelling through the Cognac and Bordeaux districts, Charente and the Gironde, states that he found business much depressed since the McKinley Act was put in force by the United States; business of all kinds in the South of France has suffered.

—The statement of the Bank of Yarmouth for the year ended 30th December, 1893, has been issued. The profit and loss account shows the net profits of the year to have been \$22,043.93, which is at the rate of seven and a third per cent. on the capital of \$300,000 paid up. A dividend of six per cent. is declared,