

A few days ago we had a striking illustration of the difference to farmers in buying for cash or on credit. Those who paid cash get their goods on an average of twenty-five per cent., less than those who paid their bills once a year. And great as this difference is the sellers preferred the cash customer being the more profitable. Farmers should buy for cash; as a class they do not require credit.

THE sad experience of past years has taught the Haligonians, says the *Herald*, much more caution, and it may be observed that business is done on a somewhat safer plan just now than formerly. Credits are not so long, nor so numerous, nor for such large amounts. It is not enough now that a man "is honest and well meaning;" he must have something behind him more substantial than good intentions before he can get large credits. It is well that it is so, for with the very best intentions many a man has found himself wallowing in the sea of indebtedness, side by side with those who have launched their barks with no other intention than that of doing all they can, and "doing" all who trust them.

In the vicinity of London, Detective Smith has been enforcing the law respecting the sale of Paris Green. None but duly registered pharmacists are allowed to sell this poison. This fact is not, we think, generally understood by country traders who are in the habit of keeping it for the accommodation of their customers.

THE Montreal Telegraph Company's new line from Matane to Fox River, is likely to prove valuable to the public and to shipowners if not profitable to the shareholders. News was received last week of the incoming mail steamer, five hours earlier than would have been possible before the construction of the line, which is 175 miles long and forms another route to the Gaspé district. Offices have already been opened at Cape Chatte, St. Ann de Mont, Mont Louis and Magdalen River.

MR. H. L. HIME broker, of this city, has associated himself with Mr. F. W. C. Lovelace, lately employed in the Western Assurance Company's office, here, for the purpose of doing an agency business for the Citizens Insurance Company, Mr. A. T. McCord, jr., the former agent, having resigned.

WE had thought that our city fathers had exercised a great deal of ingenuity in levying taxes on all sorts of taxable property, but they have been outdone by the guardians of St. Louis, Mo. The following is a list of the various kinds of business which have to take out licenses in that city: Auctioneers, banks and bankers, billiards and ten-pin alleys, bill-posters, boarding-houses, dentists, doctors, engravers, flying horses, horse and cattle dealers, insurance companies, intelligence offices, junk shops, loan agents, lithographers, lumber measurers, lawyers, meat-shops, mercantile agents, merchandise brokers, merchants and manufacturers, commission merchants, dram-shops, midwives, non-resident traders, ordinaries, pawn-brokers, peddlers and hawkers, photographers, real es-

tate agents, runners, sale stables, shooting galleries, street railways, theaters and exhibitions, weighers and vehicles.

THE question as to "what will the harvest be," becomes daily of greater importance, as there are so many interests depending upon its result. With the exception of a few local storms the weather has been desirable. In some districts these have done considerable damage, about a half dozen lives have been destroyed by lightning, and a number of barns, houses etc., have been consumed by fire in consequence. The wind and rain that followed the lightning have blown down both hay and grain, and it is doubtful if the latter will ripen. A large yield of produce will do much to help our present condition. We cannot expect that prices will be quite up to the figures realized in former years and if the quality and quantity will make up this defect it will be a good thing for the country.

Messrs. Hy. McCormack & Son, a long established and highly respected firm in Ottawa, are in temporary embarrassment, and have called their creditors together, but show assets largely in excess of liabilities, and with a little indulgence will, it is thought, be able to pull through.

MR. DYKE, the Canadian Government agent at Liverpool reports that 5,211 head of cattle, 4,491 horses, 3,318 sheep and 838 pigs have been brought to Great Britain by the Canadian steamship lines during the six months ending 30th June. In consequence of the available space of these steamships being secured until September, 2,761 head of Canadian cattle, 963 sheep and 386 horses have been conveyed by steamers sailing from Boston and New York; also 38 head of cattle and 203 pigs by sailing vessels from Montreal, making a total of 4,010 cattle, 4,281 sheep, 1,041 pigs and 787 horses. The imports from Canada in the year 1876 were 2,767 cattle, 2,607 sheep and 332, horses, no pigs; 1877—7,412 cattle, 6,325 sheep and 373 pigs.

TORONTONIANS are not quite so sweet-toothed as the residents of some American cities, but we relish nice fruit, and under this head Oakville strawberries come. In a fortnight, beginning with June 17th, the quantity of strawberries shipped from Oakville was 5,345 cases, each containing 45 quarts. Nearly an equal quantity was sent by rail from Port Credit. The shipments by boat during the fortnight ending 5th inst. were 450 cases from Oakville, and 810 cases from Port Credit. In all it is estimated that about 620,000 quarts of this delicious fruit were despatched from the region of which these are the central points. An exchange calculates that this quantity weighed 5,000 tons. He is a cipher wrong somewhere, for we can't figure it up to over hundreds. At any rate the value of this sweet freight, if we place it six cents per quart, is over \$37,000.

SOME of our contractors and builders, who are to a great extent responsible for many of the accidents that occur to workmen under their supervision, complain bitterly if such a thing is

hinted, and if the press should censure them, they talk then of recovering damages etc. But did they live in France, they might find French justice much more exacting than public opinion as represented through the press: as an instance of this, only last winter an accident occurred in the Grand Hotel elevator at Paris, when the machine crashed through the roof and crushed three persons to death. The chief mechanic at the hotel, has recently been sentenced to a month's imprisonment and 200 francs fine as being partly responsible for the disaster, there being faults in the construction of the work.

THE tendency among shippers, especially west of this city, to send their produce to Britain by the way of New York, is partly owing to the fact that our American friends have taken more trouble to fully inform the public of their facility for carrying and handling goods. It should be better known that the Grand Trunk Railway has made special arrangements for the shipment of Butter and Cheese, and our steamship lines too are more careful in handling the packages, and delivering at the earliest possible moment after the arrival in port. Shippers, if they choose to pay the extra expense, can have their packages placed in a refrigerator car. A careful comparison of all the advantages and disadvantages will not, we think, be unfavorable to the St. Lawrence route.

A PARTY, not more than a year in the produce business in Montreal, recently advertised for 3,000 packages of butter. His practice is to have the consignor ship direct to his order; this he usually insists upon. He writes, as an inducement to parties to consign, that he is not very particular about inspection; that can be done in Britain, where he ships direct. This, to say the least, is very unbusiness-like, and while produce maintains its price, all will probably be well; but should there be a sudden fall in the market, somebody will be sure to lose; and possibly it will be the consignor who will find his drafts returned.

THE product of several large woollen mills was offered at auction in New York on Tuesday last. About six thousand bales of blankets were disposed of at the lowest price realized for many years. The agent of these different firms stated in his introductory remarks to the buyers:—"You will see by the declaration made in our advertisement of the sale that a majority of our mills have discontinued the manufacture of blankets. I speak of what I know when I tell you they will continue to discontinue until such time as the market is willing to pay as much for the manufactured article on a credit of four months from September 1st as the material costs in cash."

A PORTION of the unsigned \$10 bills which the Consolidated Bank had stolen about eighteen months ago, have made their appearance in New York. Pretorias & Co., bankers, of that city, were victimized a couple of days ago to the extent of \$100, and a man named Horace Huestis, has been arraigned to await the action of the Grand Jury for attempting to pass one of these bills. It is hoped that this may lead to the discovery of the thief who stole the notes.