

notes on native birds of the island, and the conclusion of Hon. A. B. Warburton's criticism of the school system. There is also an appreciative sketch of Robt. Ferguson, the Edinburgh poet, by H. V. Ross. The editor in one of his notes mentions the interesting fact that there are 145 John McDonald's in King's county, P.E.I., and wonders if another Sir John McDonald will spring from among this large family.

Max Jagelhuber, formerly editor of the Dry Goods Bulletin, has commenced the publication of a new monthly in New York, to be known as Dry Goods. He announces that it is to be "different from others." The initial number promises well.

PERSONAL.

Belcher & Irwin, corset manufacturers, Toronto, have been succeeded by Belcher & Snider.

Wm. McCausland, vice-president of the Continental Costume Co., Toronto, was presented with a Crown Derby dinner-set on the occasion of his marriage.

James Slessor, one of the directors of the W. R. Brock Co., wholesale dry goods, had a slight stroke of paralysis while in England. It is not considered serious.

Samuel Law, of Cleckheaton, England, head of the firm of Samuel Law & Co., manufacturers of card clothing, who give employment to 500 hands in their business, is on a visit to Canada. Mr. Law is largely interested in the Grand Trunk, and is a heavy investor in Toronto city bonds. He attended the manufacturers' meeting in Montreal.

THE WOOL MARKET.

Both quietness and activity have characterized the wool market of late, quietness in some centres and great activity at certain points in the United States, notably Boston, where, for the first week of November, the largest movement known in the history of that market is recorded. The sales in the United States for the week are estimated at 25,000,000 lbs. In fact four-fifths of this amount changed hands within two days. The bulk of this business was done in Boston, which is now probably the second largest wool market in the world, but Philadelphia contributed its share, although the bulk of the business was done by a few of the largest holders. The mills were the largest buyers, which probably means that they are full of orders. The demand still keeps up well. This activity does not necessarily mean stiffer prices. Probably on a few choice staple and fine clothing wools something of an advance may have been obtained, but for the most part sales reflected no upward movement in prices; on the contrary, a portion of the purchases were on terms favorable to buyers. Values generally are as at last quotations.

Advices from abroad indicate the continuance of a firm market, and that desirable stock, such as America uses, is scarce and high. Top prices are quoted from London and the sales in Melbourne. Advices from Antwerp, as well as from Buenos Ayres also indicate an actual advance of about a cent per pound in the price of wool. The Buenos Ayres clip will probably show an increase of 10 per cent. and the quality is reported good.

Latest advices from England state that there is a good chance for dealers to make money. Prices are on a safe basis, and an early advance is likely. Quotations are: Super Irish wethers, 6¼d.; selected, 5¾d.; Lincoln wethers are low, 5¼d.; Lincoln hogs, 7¾d. 40s tops can be bought at 7½d. and 60s; Botany tops at 19¼d.

In Montreal fine wools are very firm, although no ad-

vance has been made. They are selling freely at last week's quotations. Capes, from 13½ to 15c., according to quality and condition. Washed B.A. from 26 to 32½c.; scoured, 33 to 35c.; Australian greasy, 16½ to 20c.; Northwest, 13½ to 15c., with very small stock of all grades. Fine Cape and Australian tops, 42 to 44c.

In Toronto there is little or no movement in fleece. Dealers are not offering over 13c. for combing. Pulled wool, 15c., super; 19 to 20c. for extra.

In Winnipeg there is no wool offering.

On the whole the outlook is encouraging for the future. That the heavy purchases of late were accomplished without seeking concessions indicates that the mills are satisfied and promises that future operations may be productive of moderate gains. While the average is still low as compared with recent years, it is slightly better than the bottom point reached while the new clip was coming forward. There are two features of the United States market which directly concern holders of Ontario fleece, viz., that the increased demand has brought with it only a fractional advance, and that only in certain fine lines; and that the wools being sold are of the finer growth and not the same as our coarse wools.

The fact that most of the 1901 clips have passed out of growers' hands and are practically in the sight of buyers is one of the sources of weakness in the position of sellers. Another is the absence of uniform confidence in an ultimate advance which induces many holders to accept offers at old rates when they have been declined by their competitors.

WOOLEN CARDING.

A correspondent of the Wool and Cotton Reporter, in view of the fact that many young carders and spinners have entered the field in the past few years, reiterates some facts, old and new, which will be found helpful to those who have entered upon this line of business. A larger production and a better quality of yarn from a cheaper grade of stock are called for, and must be produced by the carder of the present day if he will retain his title to a skilled workman. At the present time we find that there are many calls for carders who are, as above stated, skilled workmen, to whom wages are being paid that surpass those of a few years ago. Wool, cotton and shoddy is the combination of at least seven-tenths of the goods at present manufactured. Those three commodities are presented in various percentages, with shoddy predominating. Perhaps the following would represent an average batch of stock as presented to the carder to be converted into yarn: Shoddy, 82 per cent.; wool, 10 per cent.; cotton, 8 per cent.; total, 100 per cent.

There are various grades of shoddies, wool and cotton, that in an article of this kind would be confusing to attempt to describe. Cheap would be the word best adapted to suit the description. This does not mean that the best grade of shoddy, wool and cotton enters into the cheapest goods manufactured, nor does it mean that the cheapest grades of shoddy, wool and cotton enter into the higher priced goods of this combination. It will be presumed to be understood that the price of stock largely determines the selling price of the manufactured goods. Therefore, the carder is in a position to increase or decrease the price of yarn, from any combination given him; first, by a thorough carding of the stock and making sound roping; second, by keeping the waste item to the lowest point; third, by the greatest possible production obtainable from a given combination of stock and size of yarn. Assuming that the carder has the fullest scope to manipulate the machinery in his charge, he will give his best endeavors to produce the desired result.