

## THE AUSTRALIAN TRADE.

The London *Commerce* of May 2 states that the *Mlowera* had arrived in the Tyne from Victoria, B. C., after making the distance of 14,500 miles in 60 days, and was being fitted out with refrigerating apparatus capable of dealing with 11,000 carcases of frozen mutton. Accommodation is being provided also for the storage of fruit and dairy products. The vessel is to leave for the Pacific in August. Continuing its remarks, the *Toronto Globe* observes: There is some food for thought in this statement, because it means business, and concerns the stock farmers, dairymen and fruit growers of Ontario. It means that Victoria, New Zealand and Tasmania are boldly making for our Western Canadian markets. Our fruit growers have been agitating for years for a better fruit service to Liverpool and London, and here comes the new Australian line, subsidized by us, with refrigerators to deliver fruit to Canadians! We are reaching out for a still greater share of the British markets for our cheese and butter, and the Dairy Commissioner of New Zealand writes as follows to the farmers of his country: "There is good possibility of trade with Canada in spite of the attention which the Dominion is now paying to the development of her dairy resources." Ontario carried off the highest prizes in sheep at the World's Fair, taking in nine classes \$7,541 in cash and six silver cups, against \$7,741 in cash and two silver cups for the entire United States in the same nine classes; and the Australians and New Zealanders propose to sell their mutton to Canadian markets. It is necessary for the Canadian farmers to be on the alert. The following census statement will be a surprise to many of our readers:

	No. of Sheep.	
	1881.	1891.
Ontario.....	1,359,178	993,748
Quebec.....	889,833	722,023
Nova Scotia.....	377,801	318,855
New Brunswick.....	221,163	181,110
Manitoba.....	6,013	35,816
British Columbia.....	27,738	50,406
Prince Edward Island.....	166,496	147,097
Territories.....	346	64,990
Total.....	3,048,678	2,513,977

## GIVING RECEIPTS.

A business man who carries open accounts with his customers should never receive money to apply on them without giving a receipt. We often hear emphasized the importance of taking receipts for money paid, and, of course, this is a most important thing to do, but in many respects the giving of a receipt is equally as important. If a merchant gives receipts when they are asked for, and does not give them unless requested, he leaves himself open to trouble later on, because there are sure to be disputes and claims made of money having been paid of which his books show no record. If John Jones owes an account and makes occasional payments thereon, one time getting a receipt and another time not getting any, he may some day claim that he has paid more than he is credited with. If asked to produce a receipt, he may say that none was given him, and if it has not been the rule of the merchant to give receipts at all times, it is

only one man's word against another's. If the invariable rule of the establishment is to give receipts, he can call attention to this fact, and stand on it with the consciousness that he is right. The best plan is to have a receipt book with stubs, and each stub and receipt numbered; then, while always following the rule himself, see that his employees who receive money on accounts do exactly the same thing, and never allow any customer to pay a bill or a portion of a bill without receiving a receipt for the amount. If the customer is in a hurry and will not wait, the receipt should be sent to him. A man's customers would soon learn under such circumstances that it is useless to claim having paid money, unless they could produce their receipts. Dealers who have had trouble in this matter in the past will find it to their advantage to adopt some such rule and never allow it to be violated in the least.

## ELECTRICITY IN THE HOUSE.

The horoscope of this wonderful power as applied to the residences of the future reads like a fairy tale. The elevators will be run and lighted by it. They will be like huge gilt bird cages in appearance. The shafts for them will be of plate glass set in bronze columns and protected by elaborate bronze grilles. The elevator doors will be opened and shut automatically by means of an electric device, and there will be no ropes or appliances visible except the cables which pull the cars. The pressing of a button will start or stop them, light the electric lights or extinguish them. There will be no direct artificial light in the halls or salons. The illumination will be dependent upon artificially concealed electric lamps, whose lights will be simply reflected or blended with single or combined tints, according to the situation and the hangings of the apartments. Thus to a room furnished in white a predominant tone of any given color can be imparted by the changing of the lamp shades, and the tints of colored rooms can be modified in the same way when desired. The cooking will be done by electricity, which will also keep the house warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

## EXPERIMENTS WITH A NEW RIFLE.

No more gruesome experiments probably have ever been made than those undertaken by the Surgeon-in-Chief of the Roumanian Army. Dr. Demosthenes, with a view to determining the character of the wounds inflicted by the new type of Mannlicher rifle, now being served out to the Roumanian troops. The experimenter, who has sent an account of the affair to the Paris Academy of Sciences, had a number of human corpses for the purpose, and these he placed in position in rows, like soldiers on the field of battle. At a range of 600 metres five bodies were placed fifty centimetres behind each other. It was found that a single bullet went through three bodies in succession when fired from that distance. Upon the soft part of the body it was found that the wounds were perhaps less serious than those caused by the old-fashioned rifles, the hole made by the

bullet being smaller and more even; but, on the whole, the injuries are far more terrible. The effects of the contact of the bullets with arteries or with bones are almost too shocking to contemplate. The range of the new rifle is from 3,400 to 4,000 metres, or about two and a half miles.—Auckland (New Zealand) *Weekly News*.

Diamonds occur in the United States in two regions.

In Japan the farmer who has more than ten acres of ground is considered a monopolist.

It is estimated that there are 10,000,000 bearing and non-bearing orange trees in Florida. California is credited with having 6,000,000 and Arizona about 1,000,000.

The Ontario elections will take place next Tuesday. The fight is likely to be a very mixed affair, four parties being in the field, no lines of cleavage being very marked.

Sir John Thompson has moved an amendment to the Criminal Code, making it an indictable offence for railway conductors to allow passengers to travel free or at a reduced rate.

The Japanese mail brought to R. P. Rithet & Co. a letter from Walsh, Hall & Co., in which it is stated that seals are very plentiful in Japanese waters but are very wild. The vessels are not doing as well as they were at this time last year.

In their report the British commissioners to the World's Fair are very severe in their comments on the lack of system in awarding prizes. They also think that the eyes of the Americans have been opened to the superior quality and lower prices of British goods.

The finance minister of Italy has signed a convention with an English syndicate, by which the syndicate agrees to pay the Government \$10,000,000 annually in exchange for the alcohol monopoly. The Government has been enabled thus to dispense with the project to reduce the interest on the bonds.

We have no fault to find with English people or English goods. There is no straighter man in the world than the Englishman to deal with and he is generally an agreeable individual to associate with, even if he does think that he holds the perpetual monopoly of grumbling and sometimes wears funny clothes. His goods, too, are generally to be relied upon as being what he represents them to be, and it is all very well to buy of him if you cannot get your order filled in Canada, for next to helping our own Dominion let us do our best towards helping the Empire along; but what on earth is the sense of going over to England to buy goods that you might just as well have bought in Canada? One big firm foremost in the dry goods trade, which now aspires to a universalist kind of a business, has just brought over a large consignment of English plate. It is bad enough, in all conscience, for the dry goods men to cut into the jewellers' business, but it is making the offence worse to go out of Canada to get your goods when you can get better at home, manufactured right in your own city.—*Jewellers' Guide*.