

in Canada for West Indian salt? An English firm of iron and steel merchants want names of good firms in Canada, who import old rails, ship plates, angle iron, etc. A London soft goods dealer asks about business connections in Canada. A municipal engineer applies for samples of different Canadian woods, in blocks 9' by 5 by 3 inches. How would a small wool-combing plant succeed in Canada, and where could it be placed to advantage? A person proposing to establish himself in Canada next year is endeavoring to obtain some British agencies in addition to those already secured.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

A London report dated December 4th, stated that the demand for Canadian cheese had been better. A large amount of business was being done in small sales.

It is roughly estimated that at least 150,000 turkeys have been, or are being shipped to Old Country markets, in readiness for the Christmas season. This, however, is not a noticeably heavier consignment than usual at this period of the year.

We hear that the output of sugar at the Berlin, Ont., sugar factory was so large this season, amounting to between six and seven million pounds, that the resources of that city for storage were exhausted, and the aid of other places, such as Hamilton and Toronto, was called in.

Our Montreal correspondent advises us of something new in the shape of a direct shipment of dates from Bussorah to that city, via London. These goods, a 2,000 case lot, have just reached Montreal, where they are to be sold by auction on December 21st. Up to the present time it has been customary to buy dates through New York houses. The present arrival has had the effect of reducing the price.

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE.

John Ryan, of St. Boniface, Man.; H. T. Goodland, of Winnipeg, and others, are organizing a company to establish a factory in the former place to manufacture all kinds of woolen and cotton yarns, cloths, blankets, underwear, etc.

The Canada Handle Company has received a Dominion charter to engage in the manufacture of handles and other articles made of wood. Among the provisional directors are: Chillion Jones, of Brockville, and Dr. R. E. Webster, of Ottawa.

The Electro-Manganese Company, of Shawinigan Falls, Que., has started operations, the ore being brought from the Maritime Provinces. The product, known as ferro-manganese, resembles bronze in appearance, and is used in the manufacture of steel rails. Hitherto, it has been manufactured in blast furnace from ore found in conjunction with rock, but with the development of electrical reduction, a process has been perfected whereby certain bog ores, found in some parts of Canada, can be successfully treated and a high grade of ferro-manganese obtained.

Mr. Brooks, of Minneapolis, is trying to complete arrangements for his proposed power dam scheme, at Koochiching Falls, Rainy River. The intention is to build a dam across the river from the United States to the Canadian side, put in the necessary wheels and flumes, and lease at a stated price the power required up to a certain amount for manufacturing purposes on the Canadian side, the balance being reserved for the company's own use. The dam will be constructed in such a manner as to make it available for an international traffic bridge. The promoters have in contemplation the establishment of a large pulp mill, a saw mill, and woodenware industries on the United States side, while on the Canadian side a mammoth flour mill is one of the enterprises projected.

The progress of manufacturing in the West is interesting to note. For instance, we read in the Winnipeg press that recently the Manitoba Iron Works, in that city, turned out two of the largest boilers ever built west of Toronto. They were made, we learn, for a Milwaukee brewing and malting company.

FOR DRY GOODS DEALERS.

Some of the Quebec shoe factories are now in partial operation, the manufacturers having decided to refer the difficulty to a board of arbitration.

Recent reports to hand from Montreal do not speak optimistically of the prospects for a successful issue to the negotiations for a union of the chief cotton manufacturing interests there.

It is said that at the next session of the British Parliament, an Imperial grant in aid of cotton growing in British West Africa will be proposed. The vast importance of having a supply of raw cotton independent of the Southern States, is becoming increasingly realized.

Following the example of all the local cotton mills, as noted last week, the Montmorenci Cotton Co. has advised the trade of an advance on all their products, which are mainly gray cottons, and cotton blankets. Most of the large Montreal manufacturers of shirts, blouses, ladies' whitewear, etc., have notified wholesale buyers that they cannot entertain any orders at old prices.

On the 14th inst., a reduction in wages averaging 10 per cent., and involving six thousand operatives was made in the cotton mills at Adams and North Adams, Mass., and Norwich, Conn. The mills reducing to-day are the last of those in southern New England, western Massachusetts and scattering towns elsewhere to adopt a lower schedule, following the lead of the Fall River mills in November, and in all about 88,000 hands have had their pay reduced.

The great bugbear of storekeepers and others these chilly months of winter is the accumulation of frost upon their show windows. A preparation has been discovered which, it is said, will prevent this. It consists of a mixture of 55 drams of glycerine dissolved in a little over a quart of 62 per cent. alcohol, containing, to improve the odor, some oil of amber. As soon as the mixture clarifies, it is rubbed over the inner surface of the glass.

The death took place last week of John Christopher Wilmerding, formerly of Wilmerding, Houget & Co., for over fifty years a dry goods auctioneer in New York. Many Canadians, who have frequented the New York market, will remember him, how quick he was, and what a memory he had. It was said of him that on meeting merchants and buyers singly he would not be able to recall their names, but when he had a crowd of bidders around him in the auction room he never failed to recognize each one instantly. Without a moment's hesitation he would roll out name after name, knocking down five cases here and ten cases there with lightning speed.

A new method of shoplifting was brought to light this week, says the Dry Goods Economist, by the arrest of one of the fraternity who was accompanied by a child of tender years. The shoplifter's plan was to covertly push an article from the counter to the floor, where it was picked up by the little one and quickly stowed away in a pocket provided for the purpose. By the way, the number of shoplifters discovered in the average big department store in New York would surprise those not "in the know," 45,000 cases having been detected in one New York store during the last six years, an average of three a day.

The principal feature of the Belfast linen market during last week was the sharp advance in the prices of Continental flax. The quiet improvement in business noted for past weeks has been rather more than maintained, though demand cannot fairly be described as active. Prices are tending towards increases. The demand for yarns has greatly improved, towels being specially in request. Rates are going up, but the prices of raw material have advanced so much and so rapidly that spinners do not care to take fresh contracts, unless at substantial increases. Continental spinners have issued very advanced quotations. All the flax offered in the home markets was quickly bought up at good prices. Brown cloth has been in good, regular demand. Power-loom linens for bleaching are selling steadily at full rates. The demand for cloth for dyeing and hollands has considerably improved. Unions are in better request, and