

grapes, peaches, pears, apples and lemons. The shipment, owing to the great care with which it was packed, came over in a good state of preservation, and proves that Australia can supply the between-season demand, when California fruit is practically out of the market.

FOR DRY GOODS MEN.

The new Cuban tariff on cotton piece goods came into operation last week.

The journeymen tailors of Hamilton went out on strike this week, owing to a dispute as to classification of goods, involving a difference in wages.

In Philadelphia a better feeling pervades dry goods manufacturing circles, due chiefly to the receipt of larger and more numerous orders. Supply and demand are very close to one another just now.

Straw hat bands this season are to be a trifle narrower than last. Few fancy bands have so far been ordered, many manufacturers, in fact, eliminating them entirely from their line. Though plain black is the staple, some polka dots are favored; also so-called invisible stripes.

Moderate activity continues to be the feature in the Zurich silk goods market. The demand from America, which had been slow for some time, has at last improved, and orders have been received for ready delivery goods, while some business has also been done for that market in short delivery lots.

The ribbon business is a live one, says The Dry Goods Economist. There is plenty of demand and plenty of use for the fabrics. All kinds of wide goods find a continued sale. The appearance on all the fashionable hats of these broad ribbons has been a signal for a general disposition to introduce them into all millinery preparations.

I cannot tell if it is the same in England, but it is quite possible to tell the social position of any lady in Paris by her headgear. No lady wears an ugly hat or a hat out of season. nor one with a soiled feather, flower, etc., nor will it be a showy one, but rich in its modesty and discreet taste. It will fit round the head like a beautiful frame to a perfect picture, and give the note of charm and finish to the whole.—"Jeanne," in *Drapers' Record*.

Reports from St. John say that there is a probability of the William Parks Cotton Mills being soon placed on an operative basis again. Mr. Parks has a suggestion that the city guarantee a quarter of a million of dollars worth of bonds of the company. Of this amount \$130,000 would be utilized in paying off the mortgage on the mills which are being foreclosed by Mr. Simeon Jones and the Turnbull estate; \$50,000 would be applied to taking up unsecured debts and the balance, \$70,000 to be a working capital, principally to enable the company to purchase raw material at the cheapest prices. On the 1st inst. the city council voted in favor of giving exemption from taxation and water rates to parties who would operate the mills.

FINANCIAL ITEMS.

A bank in Milwaukee, in order to safeguard the institution against defalcations on the part of clerks, is reported to have made a rule to the effect that hereafter the tellers will be locked in their cages during business hours and will be released only by the cashier or other officials of the bank, in whose hands the keys for the various cages will be entrusted. The clerks were further informed that henceforth there will be no permission granted to leave their compartments to answer telephone calls unless very urgent, and then some official of the institution will respond to the employee's request to be liberated in order to step to the telephone. The visits of friends are also tabooed by the new order, unless under urgent circumstances.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERAL PRODUCTION.

The two chief items in the mineral production of Nova Scotia are coal and gold. For 1900 the coal sales of the province increased over the previous year by over 578,000 tons, the total amount reaching 2,997,546 tons, besides a colliery consumption of 209,082 tons. In gold, 30,399 ounces were

extracted in 1900 against 27,772 ounces during the year 1899, a gain of 2,627 ounces, an increase in value of the yield by \$49,913, taking the value per ounce at \$19. It is not only in gold and coal, however, that Nova Scotia possesses subterranean wealth, as the following table will show:

	Year ending Sept. 30, 1899.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1900.
Gold, oz.	27,772	30,399
Iron ore†, tons	16,169	15,507
Manganese ore†, tons	100	8
Coal raised†, tons	2,642,333	3,238,245
Coke made†, tons	55,484	62,000
Gypsum††	140,000	122,281
Grindstones, etc.	50,000	56,500
Limestone†, tons	32,000	50,000
Barytes	335	783
Tripoli and silica	893	1,100
Copper ore	400	600

*Not including imported ore.

†Ton of 2,240 lbs.

‡Amount exported.

| Value in dollars.

CANADIAN BUSINESS FAILURES.

The following table shows the number of business failures in Canada for the first quarter of the present year, as compared with the same period of 1900:

	No. of Failures.		—Assets—		—Liabilities—	
Provinces	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.
Ont. ...	153	161	717,933	445,656	1,522,278	1,259,409
Que. ...	153	155	563,150	420,340	1,567,375	1,104,819
N. B.	19	4	69,445	4,700	126,875	16,000
N. S.	38	14	99,318	25,800	155,956	45,300
P. E. I.	3	1	1,800	400	3,700	2,800
Man. ...	27	24	57,875	110,775	131,321	223,267
N. W. T. ...	5	5	26,400	7,825	53,984	21,400
B. C.	34	25	427,550	41,255	649,500	82,709
Total. .	432	389	1,963,471	1,056,751	4,210,989	2,775,704

From the following figures of the value of goods exported from Bradford, Eng., to Canada, it would not appear that the preferential tariff has made very much difference so far as that place is concerned:

	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£
Worsted tissues	571,000	548,000	564,000
Woolen tissues	220,000	305,000	362,000
Apparel and slops	314,000	260,000	254,000
Carpets	152,000	175,000	230,000
Silk manufactures	22,000	37,000	59,000

The *Drapers' Record* commenting on these statistics, explains that the probable reason for this backward showing is, that Bradford has always enjoyed such a large proportion of the Canadian trade in woollens and worsteds, that no very marked increase is possible, whatever may be the tariff.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, April 11th, 1901, compared with those of the previous week:

	CLEARINGS. April 11, 1901.	April 4, 1901.
Montreal.....	\$.....	\$.....
Toronto	9,686,351	12,859,596
Winnipeg	1,700,297	1,882,723
Halifax	1,393,889	1,514,822
Hamilton	885,899	850,727
St. John	672,866	426,055
Vancouver	816,385	709,094
Victoria.....	617,140	532,873

Aggregate balances, this week, \$.....; last week, \$.....