

notes a day. The bank-notes are printed "two on" by a specially devised machine which perfects and delivers the two notes separated at the rate of 1,500 an hour.

An ingenious and really useful instrument of instruction and amusement is described by the London journal, *Stationery and Bookselling*. It consists of an attractively colored card, of large size, in the centre of which are two circular movable discs covered with figures. By means of an ingenious application of a set of metal pointers, which are worked scissors-like fashion, an endless number of calculations in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division is obtained by the mechanical operations of the points. It sells, box and all, for half a crown.

CHEERFUL FOR THE PROFESSOR.—"I am not exactly sure as to the pronunciation of 'Taj Mahal,' " soliloquized the Professor, as he wrote a letter of inquiry, signed it "Constant Reader," and mailed it to the *Weekly Thunderbolt*. "Professor," said the editor of *The Thunderbolt* a few days later, "I want a little information in order to satisfy an ignorant correspondent. What is the correct pronunciation of 'Taj Mahal?' "—*Chicago Tribune*.

"Recent Economic Changes, and their effect on the Production and Distribution of Wealth and the Well-being of Society." This book, by David A. Wells, President of the American Social Science Association, may well be termed one of the best to be found in any language. It is the most remarkable two dollars worth of fact and argument we have seen this year.

SHOE AND LEATHER NOTES.

John C. Kingston built a last factory in Buffalo, N.Y., last year four storeys high, and 120 feet front. He has placed orders for additional machines, and will soon have capacity for 700 pairs of lasts a day. He established the business in 1866.

As showing the uses to which leather is put, here is an extract from a haberdasher's price list, says the *Chicago Shoe & Leather Review*: Valises in grain leather, \$3.75 to \$15; bellows shape, russet leather, \$15.25. Ten to eighteen-inch grips in alligator leather, \$4 to \$12.75; in grain leather, \$1.25 to \$8.75. Cabin bags, alligator, \$11 to \$14.75; grain leather, \$6 to \$9. Sole leather dress suit cases, three sizes, \$6.25 to \$11.75. Telescope cases, leather-bound edges, \$1.50 to \$3; leather corners, 50c. to \$2; twelve to twenty-four inches. Leather dressing cases, fitted, 85c. to \$16; empty, 75c. to \$3.25.

The clerk who can measure the quantity and adapt the quality of his conventional talks to the needs and tastes of his various customers is really "the coming man" in the shoe store. While awaiting his arrival, it would be good policy for the fluent clerk to err on the side of taciturnity. A customer would often controvert a foolish statement about the accommodating nature of every shoe to "stretch a little, or to shrink a trifle after wearing," but it wears him.

—A good deal of dissatisfaction exists in the Eastern States among the woollen manufacturers against protectionist methods, and this has resulted in the formation in Boston of the Wool Consumers' Association, for the object of promoting a reduction or abrogation of the duties on wool, for the advantage alike of growers, manufacturers, and consumers. The organizers include some of the most conspicuous manufacturers of the Eastern States.

STEEL TO THE FRONT.

An interesting feature of the recently published statistical report of the American Iron & Steel Association is the increasing percentage of steel in the total production. About one-third of the bar "iron" now manufactured in the United States is steel, so is nearly half of the plate and sheet iron, and 40 per cent. of the cut nails and spikes. The rolled iron product, other than nails, increased only 7½ per cent. last year, while the rolled steel product, apart from rails, increased 32 per cent. It needs not to say that steel rails are now replacing those of iron on all the railroads which are efficiently managed. After that change is completed, what then? Will the next reform in order be wholesale substitution of aluminum for the ferric material, crowding that out of the way as the latter is displacing wood for many structural purposes? It is not improbable. Clay is much more plentiful than iron ore, and recent experiments at least indicate it as possible that the new metal will ere long be produced as cheaply per unit of volume, if not of weight, as its elder brother. Such a change would revolutionize not a few of our manufacturing processes, and perhaps some of the habits of the civilized human being.—*Metall-und-Eisen-Zeitung, Chicago*.

MONTREAL CLEARING-HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances for week ending 19th June, 1890, are as follows:

	Clearings.	Balances.
June 13.....	\$ 1,589,426	\$294,147
" 14.....	1,739,382	219,660
" 16.....	1,165,030	169,683
" 17.....	1,552,521	181,264
" 18.....	1,464,532	169,575
" 19.....	1,435,048	109,874
Total.....	\$8,945,939	\$1,144,203
Last week.....	\$10,876,783	\$1,573,184
Cor. week last year..	9,444,570	1,428,278

—The carnival at Galt on Thursday and Friday of last week was successful even beyond the expectation of its projectors. There were 14,000 or 15,000 people at Dickson's Park to witness the firemen's contest, at which the first prize for best drilled company went to Rescue Brigade, Niagara Falls South. The hook and ladder race was won by the Cataract Company, of the same place, time 50½ seconds; Caledonia second, Seaforth third, Berlin fourth, Richmond Hill fifth, Walkerton sixth. Out of eleven bands which entered the band competition, Baden won first, Barrie second, Walkerton third. The striking fireworks also gave great pleasure to the crowd. After paying all the expenses, which amount to about \$5,000, the surplus left in the hands of the promoters will not fall short of \$2,000. If the authorities have not decided what to do with their surplus, we suggest that they devote it to the further beautifying of an already pretty town by erecting a fountain, shaft, or statue, or by laying out a special square or garden.

—The wharf hands of several prominent Milltown, New Brunswick, lumber firms have struck for an advance of twenty-five cents a day in wages. Some of the hands employed by James Murchie & Sons have returned to work at an advance of ten cents per day, but a large number still hold out for the advance of twenty-five cents. All the lumber firms refuse an advance of more than ten cents. Above four hundred hands of one firm, H. F. Eaton & Sons, are on strike. The mills have been

obliged to shut down since the strike as the lumber cannot be stored. The strike, says a local correspondent, is a great misfortune at present to the entire business community, but it is hoped the outcome may be a benefit to all. The men claim that, counting the season during which they can get work and the "days off," their wages amount to only eighty cents a day, which they claim will not secure them the necessities of life. The lumber firms on the other hand claim that they cannot retain their trade and pay the amount demanded.

—We learn that Mr. E. S. Clouston, assistant general manager of the Bank of Montreal, has been associated with Mr. Buchanan in the general management of this important institution, the appointment dating from the 13th instant. Such a promotion as this, while it was expected by many, is deserved, Mr. Clouston being admirably equipped for it. He has made himself acquainted with his profession, by reading and study as well as by observation in his varied experience in all the grades of Canadian banking life. It is creditable to the training of the staff of our largest bank that so many and so good men have been found of late years in succession in its ranks fitted for the responsible and exacting duties of the post.

—An International shipbuilding syndicate is about to locate in Philadelphia with a capital of \$5,000,000. Philadelphia furnishes the site and subscribes two millions of the capital, New York, Boston, and London subscribing one million each. The Cramps, of the famous Kensington shipbuilding firm, are the nucleus of the syndicate, and they will probably transfer all their present works to the new site. It is to have a dry-dock capable of accommodating the largest vessels afloat. This, together with the obviously advantageous location, and the special facility which the depth of water at this point affords for shipbuilding, will, it is boasted, make this the shipyard of the United States.

—At the meeting of the Dominion Grey Cotton Association, held in Montreal on June 12th, two important steps were agreed upon. The cotton mills are to be shut down for six weeks before Sept. 1st; and an advance of two cents a pound is to be charged for all new goods manufactured. These steps were thought necessary on account of the rise in the price of raw cotton. Goods which are now marketable may be sold at the old prices if the sales are effected within a limited time. There is a strong feeling in favor of maintaining the organization named, notwithstanding the fact that a member was fined for cutting rates.

—Another great railroad consolidation has been consummated, says the *N. Y. Bulletin*, by which the Baltimore & Ohio, the Richmond Terminal system, and the Northern Pacific pass under one management, constituting a system of some 13,000 miles in extent and making an unbroken communication from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

—Wentworth County, according to her auditors, boasts a surplus of \$214,116.80. This may be deemed matter for congratulation by some, but to the initiated in municipal finance it will rather appear a matter for censure. There can be no possible excuse for a municipality drawing from her inhabitants so much in excess of her actual needs. We would venture the statement that at least