MERTING OF THE FRUIT GROWERS' ASSO-CIATION AT TORONTO.

(From the Toronto Leader.)

THE summer meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., in the Agricultural Hall, corner of Queen

16th inst., in the Agricultural Hall, corner of Queen and Yongo Streets, Toronto. There were about fifty gentlemen present interested in the improvement and production of fruit in this Province.

3ir. Mills, President of the Association, occupied the chair. The oriculare calling the meeting, requested members to bring specimens of fruit with them, but, unfortunately, this was neglected, and not much fruit was shown there being only two plates of cherries and thirteen plates of strawborries, and a fow resolvering.

much fruit was shown there only only two places of cherries and thirteen plates of strawborries, and a few raspberries.

Charles Arnold, of Paris, created a discussion relative to the best means of destroying the curculio, the inect that is so destructive to plums. He stated that, after trying various means, he took a quantity of lime and water, iresh and strong, and whitewashed the ground under each tree. When the lime dried, it caked the ground and kept the insect from coming up to attack the tree. He has therefore succeeded this year in raising a fine crop of plums. While the whitewash was soft, the insect came through it—lime being observed on its back, but as soon as the time became dry, the little destroyer was unable to force its way through, and consequently the fruit has been preserved. This process must be commenced as soon as the tree are in blossom.

This practical test was received very favorably by the meeting, which then adjourned.

INCREASE OF BUSINESS. (From the Commercial Bulletin.)

THERE is reason to believe that the prolonged period of business inactivity has almost, if it has period of business inactivity has almost, it it has not entirely, terminated, and that we may now look for a gradual improvement. It is not so much that we have commenced to ascend, as that the lowest depth has been reached, and that there must, consequently, soon be a better condition of affairs. While general busines is just now at a more than usual midsummer quiet, yet there are insignificant indications of a change that must soon expand into larger preportions.

sequently, soon be a better condition of affairs. While general busines is just now at a more than usual midsummer quiet, yet there are insignificant indications of a change that must soon expand into larger principus.

Polypy the most important feature of business affairs is the gradual departure from the extreme ease of the meney market. Money is in more active demand than it he seem for some months past, although still easy. The bank statements of New York, Boston and Philadelphia show that there is a drain of currency to the West for the movement of the crops. The demand for money for grain discounts is quite active, and caused an advance of one per cent, in the rates of interest last week. Currency is also going West on account of wool purchases and as a rule the Western banks are diminishing their Eastern reserve in order to meet the wants of their immediate customers.

These features constitute the most healthy features of business development that have occurred for some time. They are the first significant indications of the great movement of the country. The West and South are unusually bare of all kinds of goods, and they will soon have the means of obtaining supplies in exchange for their produce. The fall and winter trade, therefore, promises to be active, and the changes in the money market constitute the first demand for capital for legitimate business in places of speculative purposes that has occurred for some time.

The excitement and uncertainty of the approaching Presidential canvaes may check but cannot entirely retard the progress of business improvement. The issues raised re-pecting the National finances must operate to render capitalists extremely cautions. But these and other unfavorable aspects may be more than counteracted by the abundant harvests that promise such an immense increase in our National wealth, and which will set in motion innumerable springs of industry.

The manufacturers are generally active, with a good though limited demand for goods for tomediate consumption. The re

RECIPEOCAL TRADE.—There is an earnest desire among business men generally that immediate action should be taken by Congress to secure the renewal of reciprocal trade with British North America. A meeting of the Boston Board of Trade was held yesterday afternoon, and a committee, consisting of Ressrs. George W Bond, Charles Backus, S. G. Eowdlear, Edward Atkinson, and Edward Whitney, was appointed to consider the merits of Senator Lamsey's bill, recently presented to Congress, looking the board of the control of

THE EPIDEMIC AMONG THE SILKWORMS.

A LETTER from Italy to an English paper says:—

A "You are aware that of late years there has been a very large importation of silkworms' eggs from Japan to Italy, with a view to renairing the ravages of disease among the worms in this country. To a considerable extent the plan has proved successful, although the descendants of the Japanese by no means invariably eccape—at least in the second and third generation—the mysterious affliction which has long played such haveo with one of the most important and lucrative of Italian productions. Latterly complaints have been heard even of the eggs imported direct from Japan. To all appearance they were of good quality, but it seemed they were not proof against the prevailing epidemic. A circular that has just been addressed to the presidents of agricultural committees by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce accounts otherwise for the deterioration. A system of fraud has been detected. The Ministe, declares it to have come to his knowledge that a great number of cases containing empty papers of the kind in which the Japanese eggs are usually sent have been received by a Milan house. "These papers are duly stamped and inscribed in Japanese; they bear the Custom house mark usually put on them at Yeddo on their way to the Yokohama market. The minister declares it beyond a doubt that these papers were intended to receive Italian eggs, which would be sold to the public as genuina Japanese - they are the fusion and stamn of the Italian agents and consuls in Japan. The Minister promises great vigilance to defeat these frauds, for, he adds he has reason to believe that other persons are on the alert to follow the example of the Milan house above alluded to According to an official publication, in 1853 the total value of the coccones produced in the provinces which now compose the kingdom of Italy was upwards of four millions steriling. To obtain this there have been imported 56,122 kilogrammes of eggs, at a cost of twenty-four millions of francs, or nearly a million storli LETTER from Italy to an English paper says:-"You are aware that of late years there has been

No COTTON WORM THIS YEAR.—A St. Landry-(Ls.) cotton planter of great experience, expresses the opinion that there will be no caterpillars to attack the cotton this year. According to the Opelousa Journal, he bases his opinion mainly on the fact that every stalk of cotton is covered with myriads of black ants which devour instantly the eggs of any insect deposited upon its leaves, and which seem to be in-creasing, instead of diminishing, each day.

HONRY MARKET.

WE have no change to note in the condition of the money market, the general duliness of business precluding any activity in the demand for discounts. Sterling Exchange is unchanged; transactions are light, and at our quotations. In New York, the premium of to t per cent. paid for double exgles for shipment has caused an advance to 110) for first-class 60 days' drafts on London. Gold Drafts on New York are less wanted, and transactions reported have been at | per cent. discount.

Gold in New York has bad an upward tendency during the week, 1434 being the highest point touched. The closing rate is 1434, but a further advance is confidently looked for, owing to the excess of shipments over receipts from California and all other sources.

SILVER.-The agreement between Toronto merchants not to take small American silver except at ninely cents on the dollar, has caused considerable shipments from that city to this market, and taking the place to some extent of halves and quarters, the discount on them has advanced, and brokers now charge 41 per cent. discount, selling at 41.

The following are the latest quotations of Sterling Exchange, &c:-

Bank on London, 60 days sight......110} to 110} sight...111 60 days sight.... None. Private. Bank in New York, 60 days sight 1101 Gold Drafts on New York..... dis. Gold in New York......143} Silver 41 to 41 dis

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Baldwin, C. H., & Co.
Chapman, Fracer & Tyloc,
Chapman H., & Co.
Child, George, & Co.
Converse, Colson & Lamb.
Franck, J. C., & Co.
Gillospie, Monatt & Co.
Jeffery, Brothers & Co.
Kingan & Kinloch.

Mathewson, J. A.
Mitchell, James.
Robertson & Beattle.
Robertson, David.
Timn, Bros.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David. & Co.
West, Rros.
Winning, Hill & Ware.

THE business of the past week has shown a come-I what more healthy feeling, especially as regard. stspics. Still, at this time of the year, transactions are of course extremely limited, and the irade generally gives way for want of brisk demand. Business is now mainly confined to the local channels, but

dealers in anticipation of a demand from the West have supplied themselves more freely than for some time past

TRAS-Of all kinds have experienced better enquiry. In Japans more especially the feeling is for holding in preference to selling at present rates, which, however, are those quoted for last week. The stock of really good high grade and mediums is small, and arrivals at present time only adequate for ordinary wants. In all high grades of green the demand has been good, and such transactions as have taken place have been at full rates, while, at the same time, holders are now unwilling to part with their goods unless at improved prices. Twankays are somewhat less enquired for, though very scarce, and prices are fully maintained. Blacks are somewhat better enquired for.

COFFEE-Has some little demand but is unchanged. The enquiry is principally for Plantation Ceylon.

Suc_n-Is in fair demand for this season, Porto Rico having the principal enquiry, and for bright samples bringing full rates, though ordinary is somewhat easier. Barbadoes and Cubas are in less request. The market generally has given way from jo. to jo. from last week's quotations, the stock here being an average one, while the supply in the New York market is unusually heavy.

Molasses-Is in good demand, lots at present arriving being of good quality, and prices fully main-tained. Good clayed is now held fo. 350 to 350.; Muscovado, 37jc. to 42jc. Stocks are light, and bolders very firm.

FRUIT-Is in much improved demand, especially for Layer Raisins, which are now becoming very scarce, our ordinary local demand having absorbed nearly all the stock which remained in first hands; and although we cannot charge our quotations, holders are extremely firm. The same remarks apply also to Valencias, which are perhaps still more scarce. Lots, if obtainable, would fully command 8]c to 8]c. Nuts of all kinds remain as before.

RICH-Has been in good demand, especially for the better grades of Arracan and Rangoon, for which holders are asking full figures. The former may be quoted for round lots at \$4.50 to \$4.60, and the latter at \$4 45 to \$4.55. The lots of Siam and Sargon Rice mentioned in a previous issue, have now come to hand, and are held at about same rates as Patns, quotations for which will be found in our prices current. The style is different, but still a fine merchantable article.

SALT-During the past week has shown some fluctuations. At the commencement, it was easily obtainable at 65c. for coarse, ex wharf. Later on, holders advanced their prices to 671c., but it is now obtainable at 660. Ex store, holders are firm at 70c. Fine has had little enquiry, and is quotable at 85c. to 874c. in round lots.

SPICES .- Nutmegs and Carsia continue in very good demand, the former of good quality being scarce, and held for a slight advance on our previous quotations. Ordinary camples are in better supply, and can be bought at old figures, according to grades. Cassia is low in stock, and really good samples in chests cannot be bought lower than 40c. to 42ja., some holders asking as high as 450. Cloves are somewhat improved, the asking price 10c. Black Pepper unchanged, but firm, really good sifted samples being scarce. White Pepper held for full rates, as also Allspice.

THE EARDWARE TRADE.

Crathern & Caverhill. Evans & Evans, Evans, John Henry, Hall, Kay & Oo, Ireland, W. H.

Morland, Walson & Co. Mulholland, & Baker. Robertson, Jas. Reund, John & Sons, Waddell & Pearce.

DUSINESS generally is without animation, there being little doing, except some transactions in Pig Iron. Of this all arriving is picked up at once for the West, and although inland freights are stiffening. the wants of Buffalo, Chicago, &c., have to be supplied. Sales have been at our quotations, and in some cases a little under. The American demand is taking nearly all we can import of all brands during the present season, but bolders of stock imported last year now in yard, and of which there is an abundant supply, are unwilling to accept present market rates. Cut nails are not in very active demand, an inferior article offering at about 10c. below our quotations, with few sales, while the tronmasters are firm at our figures. Other goods are plentiful, and market favours buyers in almost everything.