says the Weekly Statement. It is almost impossible to identify Chinese. They look too much alike. Besides, when a Chinaman becomes seriously ill he believes that his finish in this life is very near, and he persists in going home, perhaps to some perfectly inaccessible village in the interior, to die. Whether he really dies, or hires some one to come back and say so for him—in China you can hire a man to do any mortal manner of thing, even to the laying down of his life for you, with cheapness—it is impossible to ascertain. What a fine place for an assessment company. It could contest all the claims.

## THE SCOTTISH IRON MARKET.

A peculiar condition was exhibited by the pig iron warrant market in the third and fourth weeks of June, according to the report of James Watson & Co., which says: "The erratic price movements in the pig iron warrant market this week (closing 23rd), have been caused by the state of the account. Considerable uneasiness has been shown by those supposed to stand short in the market, and heavy backwardations have been exacted by the "bulls." Owing to the weaker trade advices all round makers' prices are distinctly easier, and buyers somewhat shy." Scotch pig fluctuated from 66s. 3d., on Monday, to 68s., on Wednesday, and 67s. 4d. on Friday of that week. The furnaces in blast in Scotland on 22nd June numbered 85, as compared with 83 at a like date last year; in Middlesbro they numbered 96, against 98, and in Cumberland 45, against 42. The stock of pig in Connal's stores on June 21st last was 115,601 tons, Scotch; 16,078 tons, Cleveland, as compared with 304,562 tons, Scotch, and 130,453 tons, Cleveland, a year ago—a very marked falling off this year.

## INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.

Colonial examinations of the Institute were held on April 20th to 24th at Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Wellington, Montreal and Toronto, with the following results: In Part I. twenty-nine candidates sent in their names, of whom twenty-six presented themselves, and fourteen passed as follows: Class I.—J. B. Hall and W. A. P. Wood, Toronto; W. M. Wilkinson, Sydney. Class II.—D. E. Kilgour, Toronto. Class III.—M. H. Bingeman J. H. R. Gillespie, E. C. Norsworthy, S. C. Norsworthy and W. H. Somerville, Toronto; A. W. Watt and P. L. Woolston, Montreal; A. Kirkham and G. E. Moore, Melbourne; A. G. Paton, Sydney.

In Part II., there were twenty-four candidates who sent in their names, eighteen presented themselves and five passed as follows: Class II.—E. S. Corbett and J. S. Wilson, Melbourne. Class III.—C. F. Adams and Isaac Burnley, Wellington; A. P. Earle, Toronto. Part III. (section A), two candidates sent in their names, both of whom presented themselves, and one passed as follows: Class III.—J. Sutherland, Melbourne. Part III. (section B), four candidates sent in their names, of whom three presented themselves, and one passed, namely: Class II.—J. Sutherland, Melbourne.

## TORONTO STOCK TRANSACTIONS.

Business on the Stock Exchange still continues dull, and transactions have been light, the chief feature of the week being the drop in Western Assurance from 138 to 130. Crow's Nest Coal shows an upward tendency, the price being 150 to 155, as against 146 last week. In C.P.R., 1,155 shares changed hands, the prices ranging from 87½ to 89½, as against 93½ to 94¾ last week.

Bank of Commerce, 215 at 147½-149; Dominion Bank, 134 at 233-255; Imperial Bank, 6 at 215; Ontario Bank, 10 at 126; Canada Northwest Land, 90 at 50; C.P.R., 1,155 at 87½-89½; Crow's Nest Coal, 500 at 150-155; Dominion Telegraph, 7 at 127; Toronto Railway, 50 at 97; Carter-Crume, 85 at 101¼-101½; Canada Permanent and Western Canada Mortgage, 274 at 112; reg. bonds, 1,000 at 101¾; Dominion Savings, 8 at 75; War Eagle, 800 at 147; Republic, 500 at 91; Golden Star, 10,000 at 9½-10½; Imperial Loan, 3 at 77; Western Assurance, 189 at 130-138; Toronto Electric Light, 2 at 132; Canadian General Electric, 10 at 160; Richelieu and Ontario, 25 at 101.

## THE CHEESE BOARDS.

On the Brockville board cheese made quite a drop; the cable stood at 49s. for both white and colored, and buyers did not appear anxious, 9½c. being the highest offered. Several lots at this price were sold on the curb. Kingston board subscribed $50 to the Fair Association. At South Finch only one lot sold, the producers waiting for higher prices. On the Cornwall board white all sold on the board; of the colored, 49 were American.

| Boards and date of meeting. | No of factories. | Cheese boarded. Boxes. | Cheese sold Boxes. | Price per lb. Cts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Picton, July 4 ...... | 17 | 1,651 | 871 | 9-7-16 |
| Stirling, July 4 ...... | .. | 965 | 905 | $9\frac{3}{8}$ |
| Napanee, July 4 .... | .. | 1,540 | all | 9-5-16 |
| Woodstock, July 4 .. | 17 | 3,351 | 526 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Belleville, June 30.... | 20 | 1,615 | 725 | $9\frac{5}{8}$-9 11-16 |
| London, June 30 .... | 22 | 2,970 | 725 | $9\frac{1}{2}$-9 9-16 |
| Cornwall, June 30 .... | .. | 1,902 | all | 9 5-16-$9\frac{5}{8}$ |
| Winchester, June 29 .. | .. | 955 | 805 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Perth, June 29 ...... | .. | 1,800 | .... | $9\frac{1}{2}$-$9\frac{5}{8}$ |
| Brighton, June 29 .. | 13 | 926 | 370 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Chesterville, June 29.. | .. | 793 | .... | .. |
| Brantford, June 29.... | .. | 2,809 | 1,749 | $9\frac{1}{4}$-$9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Ottawa, June 29 .... | .. | 2,068 | 1,798 | $9\frac{1}{4}$-9 3-16 |
| Campbellford, June 29 | .. | 2,000 | 1,620 | $9\frac{3}{8}$-$9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Iroquois, June 29 .... | .. | 952 | 745 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Kemptville, June 29 . | .. | 1,000 | all | 9 9-16-$9\frac{3}{4}$ |
| South Finch, June 29. | 16 | 1,287 | .. | $9\frac{3}{8}$ |
| Madoc, June 28...... | .. | 1,220 | 920 | $9\frac{5}{8}$ |
| Brockville, June 28 .. | .. | 4,762 | 1,430 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Kingston, June 28.... | .. | 4 966 | about 1,000 | $9\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Tweed, June 28...... | .. | 685 | all | $9\frac{1}{4}$ |

—The Americans are not only supplying real ice to foreign countries, but making it for them. The Cuban-American Ice Co., at Cienfuegos, Cuba, has decided to build a second ice-making plant for that city; cold storage facilities will be added. Messrs. Maschwitz, Ray & Co., of Buenos Ayres, Argentina, have just placed an order for a coaling tower, having a capacity of 50,000 gallons of water per hour. This is for a large ice-making plant owned by the Buenos Ayres concern.

—The directory of Montreal, which is to be issued this week, contains 77,853 names (exclusive of Lachine, Laprairie, Longueuil, Montreal South, St. Lambert and St. Laurent). These figures multiplied by four represent a population of 331,402 for the city and outskirts. From this deduct 44,550 as the population of the outskirts, leaving 286,882 as the population of the city proper, an advance of nearly 30,000 over last year. The number of streets in the city and outskirts number some 750, and the returns give 3,331 unoccupied stores, houses and tenements, an average of four for each street.

—A Montreal despatch of 4th July states that the Provincial Bank of Canada, Montreal, having received the necessary permission from the Treasury Board at Ottawa, will open its doors for business on July 9th, the authorized capital being $1,000,000. It must, therefore, have complied with the provisions of the bank act.

## CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

**The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, July 5th, 1900, compared with those of the previous week:**

| Clearings. | July 5, 1900. | June 28, 1900. |
|---|---|---|
| Montreal...................... | $12,663,083 | $15,848,226 |
| Toronto...................... | 10,765,382 | 9,577,816 |
| Winnipeg .................. | 2,162,883 | 2,012,728 |
| Halifax .................... | 772,371 | 1,479,499 |
| Hamilton ...... ........... | 700,257 | 744,190 |
| St. John .................... | 1,486,660 | 537,817 |
| Vancouver .................. | 826,316 | 854,133 |
| Victoria .................... | 892,150 | 396,355 |
| | $30,269,102 | $31,450,764 |

**Aggregate balances, this week, $4,714,436; last week, $5,058,301**