

The visible supply of cotton on December 20th was 3,058,531 bales against 2,816,523 bales on the corresponding date last year, showing a decrease of 242,008 bales. As compared with the same date in 1882 there is an increase of 147,223 bales.

The new dry dock at St. John's, Nfid., built for the Provincial government, cost \$550,000. It is 600 feel long at the top and 558 feet at the bottom. Its greatest width at top is 132 feet, and 50 feet at the bottom. The contractors will run the dock for ten years, paying \$15,000 a year rent.

A PROJECT is on foot to construct a ship-canalfrom Lake St. Clair near the month of the Thannes to Lake Erie, a little cast of Rondeau. The present navigable distance via the Detroit River is 150 miles, the new route would be only 14 miles. The cost is estimated at two million dollars, which it is purposed shall be raised without any public assistance.

A WINNERG paper of recent date is responsible for the following :-To-day wheat is selling at 27 cents a bashel at St. Vincent; at Emerson at 57 cents per bashel. Minnesota and Dakota faumers are actually teaming their wheat to Emerson and Gretna, paying the daty of 15 cents per bashel upon it, and then realizing 15 cents more per bashel upon it that they could realize in their own markets.

A SCHOONER from Margaree, N.S., recently panded two car loads of fresh salmon at Port Mulgrave, which were promptly railed to Boston. These salmon were caught during the summer and preserved in tee by an American who for the past two summers has devoted his time to this business. He also preserves, in the same manner, poultry and rabbits, for which he finds a rendy and renumerative market in the Eastern States at this season.



It was anticipated that the reduced rate of postage in the United States would lessen the revenue to the extent of \$\$,000,000; the actual reduction in only \$6,000,000. The American Postmaster General is encouraged to advocate an increase of weight to one onnee for all letters, the reduction of local postage on letters by carriers to one cent, and a special rate ten cents, for city letters the writers may wish to have forwarded with special promptness.

It is reported in Ottawa that Ganadian merchants and manufacturers send their letters in large bundles by express to the nearest post office on the other side of the line, where they are mailed at the 2-cent letter rate, whereas they would have to pay 3 cents if mailed in Canada, thus effecting a saving 334 per cent. The correspondence world need to be very extensive to render such conduct profitable, apart from its moral aspect.

The Annual Convention of the Dairyman's Association of Western Outario will be held at the Town Hall, in Stratford, on the 14th, 15th and 16th of January next. Arrangements have been made with the Grand Trunk Railway for the usual reduction of fares on presentation of the certificate of membership required, which can be obtained from the president, L. R. Richardson, Strathroy; Thomas Ballantyne, Stratford; H. S. Lossee, Norwich; or, from the Secretary, in Ingersoll.

With the view of providing suitable residences with all modern comforts and improvements for persons of moderate incomes or salaries, a number of gentlemen in St. John, N.B., are about to erect a continuous block of 20 houses; each self-contained, which may rent for \$125 to \$150 a year. Many persons with incomes of \$500 to \$1,000 a year are driven into boarding houses because of the great lack of such a class of residences in our cities. As an investment they pay better than large houses.

The business of Dwane & Co., Sherbrooke Que., composed solely of Rachel Rodgers, wife of T. Dwane, carrying on a foundry in that city, as a prete nom for her husband, is again in trouble. The liabilities are estimated at \$5,000, and the assets consist of a few unfinished stores, &c. Some of the creditors are at a loss to account for the condition of the estate. Mr. Dwane failed before and paid 10 cents in the dollar in part of composition. The business as at present constituted dates from February last.

T. G. GARDNER, of Cayuga, Ont., referred to last week, has been closed up by his creditors, Lucas, Park & Co., Hamiton; Boyd Bros. & Co., Toronto, and others, and the stock is being sold off by one Husband. The hiabilities are about \$7,000; the assets nominally \$4,500. The two first chattel morigages were given by him to secure his mother and brother for money advanced to pay the notes of his former settlement—merely an extension next came three mortgages and then the assignment. Mr. Gardner as an old insurance agent should not want for employment.

MITCHELL & PLATT, of London, druggists, referred to last week, have effected a settlement at 50 cents in the dollar payable in 3, 6, 9 and 12 months, secured by the father of Platt, the sole proprietor, and who has held a judgment for about \$3,000 against the concern since the time of the former compromise, about two years ago, when he advanced the necessary funds. The linbilities outside this judgment is about \$2,500. An opinion prevails that it 18 high time young Platt gave a little more attention to the mortar and pestle even at the risk of allowing outside amusements to suffer rom his neglect.