

W. J. GERALD, Esq.,

OTTAWA, February 19, 1904.

Deputy Minister of Inland Revenue.

SIR,—I beg to submit herewith a series of tabulated statements showing the results obtained in this laboratory in examining a number of samples of ground spices, collected in accordance with your instructions of August 11 last. They were collected in the months of August and September, 1903, and were obtained of different sorts, in various districts and in the numbers given in the following statement.—

	Black Pepper.	White Pepper.	Red Pepper.	All Spice.	Mixed Spices.	Cassia and Cinnamon.	Cloves.	Ginger.
Nova Scotia	6	4	0	3	3	0	2	2
P. E. Island	6	0	0	2	1	0	1	0
New Brunswick.....	6	1	0	3	0	3	2	4
Province of Quebec.....	10	8	0	2	0	2	1	0
Montreal district.....	8	11	0	0	0	0	2	0
Kingston district.....	4	10	0	0	0	3	1	0
Toronto district.....	8	9	0	2	0	2	2	1
London district.....	8	3	0	2	0	0	2	2
Manitoba district.....	5	5	3	1	0	1	2	0
Calgary district.....	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	1
British Columbia.....	11	1	0	3	0	0	0	0
	76	54	3	16	5	11	13	10

Based on the opinions of the analysts which are stated in the tables, the following recapitulation shows the extent to which adulteration prevailed among the 188 samples just enumerated:—

	Genuine.	Doubtful.	Adulterated.	Total.
Black	33	1	42	76
White	23	1	30	54
Red pe	0	1	2	3
All spice	13	2	1	16
Mixed spices.....	3	0	2	5
Cassia or Cinnamon	1	0	10	11
Cloves	9	2	2	13
Ginger	6	0	4	10
	88	7	93	188

From the foregoing it appears that only 46·8 per cent of these samples of ground spices were genuine, the remainder being doubtful or adulterated.

A memorandum by Mr. McGill, explaining the method adopted by him in examining the ground ginger is attached to this report.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

THOMAS MACFARLANE,
Chief Analyst.