

**Grocery Trade Notes.**

Recent cables from Singapore report an excited and advancing market there on tapioca.

The new crop of Sultana raisins will likely be quite light, and prices are expected to rule high.

Malaga fruits are progressing very satisfactorily, and the crop will be larger than last year. The Valencia crop also is good.

The salmon pack of the entire Pacific coast will be fully 500,000 cases short of the pack of last year, according to the San Francisco Trade Journal's estimate. The total pack, it is predicted, will not be over 2,750,000 cases.

Cable advices from Smyrna report that old stocks of Sultana raisins are practically cleaned up and that prices are from 1½c to 2c higher than they are here. Estimates on the coming crop place the total at 21,000 tons, compared with 37,000 tons last year.

A stronger feeling has developed in the market for molasses, and prices for round lots have scored a further advance which is due to the fact that the stock on spot in first hands is very small for the season for which there is a fair demand. There is only one lot of Antigua held here in first hands for which 33½c has been bid for part, and refused, the holder asking 35c to 36c ex store. For Barbadoes to arrive 33½c has been bid, and turned down as holders are asking 39c and will only sell small lots at this figure. In a jobbing way prices are firm at 40c for car lots and at 41c for smaller quantities—Montreal Gazette.

A letter from Patras, Greece, of July 14, says on currants: "It is much too early to say anything about opening prices, though judging from the present disposition of our growers there seems to be no doubt that first shipments of new fruit will be paid at a high rate above 21s c. and f. New York, and very likely even above 23s. According to fresh reports the crops will turn out smaller than any previous estimate (30,000 to 40,000.) Moreover, our growers are not at all likely to give way, and in fact are sure to insist upon high prices, as some of them will barely gather 20 per cent of their average production and some none at all."

**Dry Goods Trade Notes.**

An advance in Canadian prices of velveteens is predicted.

It is being predicted that raw cotton prices, New York, will advance to 11½c before the end of the year.

Prices of German hosiery have been advanced by agents in Canada from 20 to 40 per cent over those of a year ago.

The untrimmed hat stock should be pretty low at this time, if not almost entirely cleaned out. Attention should be paid to the ready-to-wear hats, both in straw and fedora. The millinery departments in the big stores are putting all the untrimmed goods on the bargain counters, and the natty Alpine and golf straws are being held for good prices. It is time to clear the counters for fall styles, and it is a noticeable fact that the bright retailers are doing so. The systematic getting rid of the very last hat in the season's stock is most essential. They have got to go now if at all, and if not at one price then at another. In millinery, above all, there is a great satisfaction in clearing your shelves in order that you may start fresh in stocking up for the fall season. It is a poor plan to believe that everything you have in

stock is all right, and that it is always good and can be used at any time. Your jobber is very likely to give you this kind of talk, but don't let him fool you. Get rid of this summer's stock right off.—Minneapolis Commercial Bulletin.

Nine hundred employees of the Dominion Cotton Mills Company at Magog, Que., went on strike on Saturday last. Since then there has been considerable rioting on the part of these hands around the company's mills and the militia had to be called out to preserve order.

**THE HARDWARE TRADE.****UNITED STATES IRON AND STEEL PRICES.**

Iron and Steel, Chicago, July 27: "Bars have been the storm centre in iron and steel products in the west during the past week. Business has been active on a most extensive scale. It is said by business men who are in close touch with affairs that from 50,000 to 60,000 tons of material, mainly bars, have been sold at Chicago during the past few days and that there are inquiries outstanding for from 50,000 to 100,000 tons, one of these inquiries being for 40,000 tons for one of the largest Chicago implement works. Most of this buying has been in large lots. The rank and file of the trade has not yet become sufficiently interested in their future requirement to engage material so far into the future.

Of course, there is an especial reason for this unwonted activity in bars. It is attributed in large measure to the keen competition among producers, a competition which has hastened the downward course of values and lent charms to the quotations made to large users. Iron bars are still selling for early delivery quite freely at 1.40c, Chicago, and steel bars on practically the same basis, but in lots of from 5,000 to 10,000 tons for shipments during the next six or twelve months, buyers say they have been able to close contracts at 1.20c to 1.25c, Chicago. This is about half the quotation of only three months ago. The conviction has apparently reached large consumers that the lowest prices attainable have been reached, and hence this most notable buying. With heavy orders now on their books, the situation looks different to the sellers and there is not the anxiety to close that existed a week ago. It is even said that reaction is already on its way and that some makers have advanced quotations."

**THE METAL MARKET.**

The most interesting feature in the metal market this week has been the steady advance in the price of tin. During the past eight days spot tin in London has advanced £2 the ton, while futures have gone up £2 15s in London, and £2 10s at Singapore in the same interval. In New York straits has advanced 75c per 100 lbs. Naturally, this rise on the outside markets has affected prices here, and the price is 2c per lb. higher than it was two weeks ago at 37c, and the market is strong at the rise. Lead also has shown an upward tendency abroad, though there has been no change on spot. A week ago it was quoted in London at £17 10s but today it is firm at £17 15s. Copper also has advanced from £73 to £73 7s 6d in the same interval, and spelter also manifests a firmer tone. There has been no material change in crude iron material, but there have been further reductions in some of the fin-

ished lines. Tacks, for instance, have been reduced in price from 5 to 10 per cent, and bolts and rivets from 10 to 15 per cent. Bar iron also is lower with round lots offering at \$2.25. Demand for all lines is improving however, and the impression is becoming more general with buyers, that the readjustment in values that has been going on this summer is about over, and that values have reached bottom or nearly so.—Montreal Gazette.

**Lumber Trade Notes.**

The Hoquiam (Wash.) Independent says that the Northwestern Lumber Company of that town recently sawed the longest log ever sawed on Grays Harbor. It measured 110 feet long, and two sticks 16x24 were obtained. The log was seventy-four inches at the butt end. Measured in the middle, and averaging the log, it contained 20,296 feet, board measure. Last week the same mill sawed the largest stick ever sawed on Grays Harbor; this was forty-two inches square and sixty feet long. This big stick will be shipped to Pennsylvania.

**British Live Stock Markets.**

London, July 30.—The market for cattle was weak and prices since this day week show a decline of ½c to 1½c. Choice States sold at 12½c; Canadians at 12c, and ranchers at 11c. There was a firmer tone to the market for sheep, and Canadian stock sold at 12c.

Liverpool, July 30.—This market was also weaker for Canadian cattle and prices show a decline of ½c since this day week, choice selling at 12c. Sheep sold at 11½c.

**Railway Receiverships.**

According to the Interstate Commerce Commission report, the number of United States railways in the hands of receivers on June 30, 1899, was 71, there being a net decrease of 23 as compared with the corresponding date of the previous year. The number of railways placed in charge of receivers during the year was 16, and the number removed from their management was 39. The operated mileage of the roads under receivers on June 30, 1899, was 9,853.13 miles, of which 7,225.62 miles were owned by them. Of the roads in the hands of receivers on the date named, 10 had an operated mileage in excess of 300 miles, 10 between 100 and 300 miles and 40 less than 100 miles. Complete returns for roads in the custody of the courts are not always available, but it appears that the capital stock represented by railways under receiverships on June 30, 1899, was about \$220,210,688; funded debt \$306,486,740, and current liabilities \$59,180,823. These figures show a decrease of \$43,926,703 in capital stock represented as compared with the previous year, and of \$16,405,951 in funded debt.

An implement and vehicle congress is to be held at St. Louis on October 3, 4 and 5. All the associations throughout the United States will be represented.

The Union Stockyards Company, Chicago, is now sending out some interesting literature regarding the International Live Stock Exposition, which is to be held at the great yards December 1 to 8, 1900. The prize list which has been recently mailed, make an imposing show, and the money promised (about \$60,000) is worthy of Chicago.