

The California raisin crop for 1886 has been estimated at 550,000 boxes. Should this prove correct, it would be about 80,000 boxes larger than last year.

An American exchange says that it is well to remember when buying Malaga raisins of 1886 crop that they are put up twenty pounds net per box and not twenty-two pounds as heretofore.

The Canada Co-operative Supply Association, of Montreal, has finally decided to go out of business, and the stock has been disposed of *en bloc* to Messrs. Boisseau Bros., a firm of retail dry goods dealers.

A new industry will soon be started in Brantford, in the shape of a factory for the manufacture of twine and cordage. The factory will be situated at West Brantford, will give employment to some fifty hands, and is to cost about \$40,000.

SHIPMENTS of apples from the Annapolis Valley are going on briskly from the port of Halifax. Some ten thousand barrels are now being shipped in one steamer of the Furness line and the same boat takes over ten thousand cases of canned lobsters.

DYNAMITE has recently been used at Doaktown, New Brunswick, to blow up a railway bridge. It seems two rival lines of railway are being constructed on the Miramichi River and some partisan freebooters are showing their preferences by blowing up the bridge with explosives.

HALIFAX is favored (?) with a branch of a Montreal stock gambling concern which is reported to be doing a thriving business. It is said that the Halifaxians take as readily to speculating in oil, wheat and pork as do the citizens of large towns, and with about the same result.

The Delhi correspondent of the *Simcoe British Canadian* says that there are no less than seven groceries and general stores in that village, which, the writer thinks, is entirely too many for the business done. What is needed is a good hardware store, there being none within 12 miles of Delhi.

An American gentleman is understood to have offered to have the glass work at Napanee operated provided the town give a bonus of \$10,000 and the government raise the duty to the figure imposed by the United States on Canadian glass. The matter will be considered by the council.

CONSUL TANNER, of Chemnitz, reports to the United States Secretary of State, that the beer production of Germany in 1885 was 1,100,000,000 gallons—"enough to form a lake more than a mile square and six and a half feet deep, or it would make a running stream as large as some of our rivers."

The building of a dry dock is being agitated in Montreal. According to a statement furnished the Board of Trade by Mr. W. C. Munderloh, upwards of fifty vessels have received damage in coming to that port since 1880. All these would have been docked at Montreal had there been a dock to receive them.

A NUMBER of the inhabitants of Richibucto, N.B., are turning their attention to the prosecution of the fisheries, which, in former years, were so successfully carried on by the settlers living in the northern part of New Brunswick. With this end in view, says a Maritime exchange, they have decided during the coming winter to fit out several schooners which it is their intention to employ in the mackerel fishing next season.

In a Winnipeg paper there is to be seen the advertisement of Count de Simencourt who "begs to inform the citizens that he has, in connection with his well-known Lisbyville Ranch at Shoal Lake, opened up a meat stall in the city market, where he will have always on hand for sale the choicest meats and game of all kinds at lowest prices."

A PITTSBURG paper tells of a man in Marquette, Mich., who mined for iron, and, failing to find it, thought that at a proper depth he could find gold and silver; this proving a miscalculation, he went deeper yet in search of iridium, and, being unable to reach any, he is now digging for tin. If he finds no tin, he will strike some experience, which ought to be valuable.

SOME days ago a London firm despatched a team with plate glass for a store in Waterford. It was also loaded with some 70 kegs of gun powder which were delivered at Aylmer, Corinth, Tilsonburgh, Delhi and Waterford. The railway rates on powder being about \$5 per keg, a saving of \$350 in freight on the powder alone was effected, and upwards of \$16 on the glass.

THE sudden departure from this city of Harry Winfield, a well-known fruit dealer on Yonge street, has excited no little surprise amongst his creditors and friends. It has been said that he will return, which it is to be hoped he will do at an early date, as his affairs can, no doubt, better be adjusted with, than without, his presence. The liabilities foot up to a respectable sum.

A MOVEMENT is being inaugurated in Halifax to provide a covered market place for the hundreds of small farmers, negroes, Indians and Acadians, who block up the business streets around the parliament house, custom house and post office on market days. It is expected that the military authorities will lease a portion, at least, of a large square in the centre of the city now used as a fuel yard.

A DEPUTATION of the board of directors of the Brantford, Waterloo & Lake Erie Railway Co. waited upon Mr. Van Horne, vice-president of the C. P. R., on Monday last, and urged the desirability of having their line extended to the C. P. R. main line at Galt. Mr. Van Horne assured the deputation that he was in favor of the scheme, which would receive due consideration.

THERE is nothing, says the *Chicago Grocer*, that will injure the trade of a grocery store quicker than loafers. It creates a feeling amongst the customers that there must be something wrong about the proprietor who will allow such pests around. Ladies are particularly apt to become disgusted with a tradesman who will allow them to be subjected to the annoyance, and as they can do no possible good, and are a serious damage, get rid of them at once.

THE ceremony of laying the last stone of the Levis (Que.) graving dock was witnessed by upwards of 5,000 persons on Wednesday the 23rd inst. According to the original plans and specifications the structure was to have been 552 feet long, but owing to miscalculations on the part of the English engineers, who located the outer works in a bed of running sand 60 feet deep, the length is only 495 feet. The dock will, nevertheless, accommodate the largest steamers trading to the St. Lawrence. It is 100 feet broad at the surface and 60 feet at the bottom, with a depth of 32½ feet from coping to sill, the latter being 8½ feet below low water mark. The circular head and walls are described by the *Witness* as being of massive and splendid masonry, the first stone of which was laid by the Marquis of Lorne, as

Governor-General, on the 7th of May, 1880. All the other appointments, gates, engine house, pumping machinery, &c., are of the same solid and superior character.

FREIGHT business on the Michigan Central Railroad the past week showed, according to the *St. Thomas Times*, a decrease, as did also that on other roads. This is attributed to the weakening of the heavy movement of grain which had been coming in from the west for several weeks past. The heavy decline in the prices of grain has induced the farmers to hold on to their stuff in the hope that they will obtain much better prices in the future. The M. C. R. carried 6,404 tons of the east bound shipments from Chicago or 22 per cent., the Lake Shore securing 22 per cent.

THOS. WHITMORE, a small grocer at Durham, is offering to compromise at 50 cents, payable within a year without interest. The last two payments are to be secured. His debts are not large.—The sheriff is in possession of the effects of Ross Brothers, Miller & Co., oil dealers, London, on some old claims, in consequence of this, it is probable that the firm will dissolve.—Steele & McLagan, carriage makers, called a meeting of creditors some weeks ago, and have now assigned to the sheriff.

It is supposed that in devices to increase trade, the American merchants excel those of other countries, and from the novelty and variety of the gifts offered purchasers, both wholesale and retail, in many lines of trade, the opinion would seem to be well founded. The *London Grocer*, however, refers to an enterprise recently originated by a grocer at Leicester, Eng., which certainly takes the palm for originality. "On the 16th inst., Mr. R. B. Tilley, grocer, of Upper Conduit street, Leicester, in accordance with a promise given at the commencement of the present year, presented the whole of his customers who could produce checks showing a purchase of £5 worth of groceries or provisions within the period named, with a free excursion ticket to Blackpool and back by a specially chartered train. There was also a stipulation contained in the promise that patrons to the extent of 50s. would receive the ticket upon payment of 2s. 6d. We learn that about 250 qualified for the excursion under these conditions."

AMONGST the business reverses of the week we find that J. A. Tryon, grocer, Priceville is reported to have left without giving notice. One Toronto house and another at Hamilton will be the principal sufferers.—In Toronto, G. H. Moody, who has been in the boot and shoe business for about ten years, is now in trouble. He owes over \$5,000. His stock and book debts are valued at about half that sum. There is in addition to this some real estate.—John and Sarah Turner, who were well-known in this city as the proprietors of the Turner ferry line of steamers running between Toronto and Hanlan's point, have assigned to E. R. C. Clarkson. At a meeting held on Wednesday the statement submitted showed the liabilities to be \$19,950, against nominal assets of about \$20,150. The claims of secured creditors will foot up \$14,313. Another meeting has been called for the 11th.—A city jeweller, named J. Urwitz, took his departure about a week ago leaving but little for creditors whose claims amount to \$10,000. His friends are anxious to effect an arrangement that will wipe out two-thirds of the amount of his liabilities.—Jos. Gonee, a fruit dealer, also of this city, met with an accident that rendered him unfit to attend to business, and he has assigned. His creditors meet on the 11th inst.