

Canada or Great Britain, we would like to hear from you; it would be very much appreciated."

Sherbrooke and Galt parties are joining to form the Smart-Eby Machine Company, limited, to do business in Hamilton as iron founders, engine builders, tool makers, etc. Parties are, Wm. C. G. Smart and wife, of Sherbrooke, Que.; Mary F. Eby, spinster; Agnes A. Eby, and Robt. Ferrah, druggist, Galt; Wm. A. Logie, of Hamilton. There is formed in Peterboro the Kingan Hardware Company, limited, share capital, \$20,000, to do a general hardware business. Provisional directors, Robert Gordon Kingan, William Graham Ferguson, Robert Neill, Joshua Durham Collins and Edward Harry Douglas Hall.

The American Kinetoscope and Novelty Company has been incorporated by Dominion letters patent. The capital of the company is to be \$10,000, and the principal directors are J. E. Adams, G. A. Irwin, D. Von Cramer, J. F. Mackie, of Montreal, and F. Courtenay, of Brooklyn.

Mr. John S. Hogg, of Galt, is making preparation for his coming manufacture of peat for fuel purposes. He expects to get started about the middle of May and will have a hydraulic press with a capacity of fifteen tons a day put into operation at that time.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Dealers say that their supplies of whiting are limited.

There has been an advance in coil chain and quotations now rule as follows: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, \$6.90 per 100 lbs.; 5-16 inch, \$4.40; $\frac{3}{8}$ inch, \$4; 7-16 inch, \$3.80; $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, \$2.75; $\frac{5}{8}$ inch, \$3.55; $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, \$3.45.

The Pallascio Hardware Company, of Montreal, has been incorporated by Dominion letters patent with a capital of \$20,000. The applicants are, Alphonse Pallascio, J. E. Quintal, Henri Robin, F. M. Lavioe and J. E. A. Loyseau, all of Montreal.

The safe and lock manufacturers of the United States are about to form a combination, and it is said arrangements will be completed before mid-summer. There will be thirteen companies in the organization. The capital will be \$17,500,000, of which \$2,500,000 will be common stock.

According to yesterday's advices, copper shows signs of further advance in price, and tin continues very fair. An extreme scarcity of pig iron in Montreal is reported by our correspondent in that city, and high prices as a consequence, \$20 per ton having been paid for No. 1 Hamilton by a foundryman who was badly in want of it.

From the United States comes word of a great steel combination in new form, it being stated that the National Steel Company, the American Tin Plate Company and the new American Steel Hoop Company are to be consolidated. Another report included the Federal Steel Company, but this was denied officially at the offices of the latter company.

Barbed wire continues to be very firm and advances in price continue to take place. The quotation now stands at \$2.90 to \$3 f.o.b. Toronto, 2 per cent. ten days. The movement to country points, however, is not large at the present time.

The N. Y. Journal and Bulletin of Commerce, April 24th, says: The stock of tin afloat for this country, as "officially" recorded, is 2,500 tons on vessels unknown until the trade circulars arrive, 75 tons on the "Manhattan" from London and 10 tons of Banca on the "Spaarndam" from Rotterdam. In the London market no wide fluctuations have taken place, but values have been rather more feverish and the market is not wholly devoid of signs that it is becoming more difficult to prop values there. In this connection the following comparison is of interest:

	—April 21—	
	1899.	1898.
Tin, spot	£113 17s. 6d.	£64 16s. 3d.
Three months' futures	114 12s. 6d.	65 11s. 3d.

Griffith's Report, London, Eng., April 8th, says: "The stocks in Connal's stores are now 308,000 tons, having declined 8,000 tons since January. In 1883 over 1,000,000 tons of pig iron were held in store, and the average value that year was under 38s. a ton. In the three following years the stock was reduced to 500,000 tons, and three years later it was not much over a quarter of a million tons. For four years there had been

only a slight annual increase in the warrant stocks, and now they are about 60,000 tons less than in 1896."

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

A Germantown grocer, says The Philadelphia Record, has among his many out-of-town customers an eccentric couple residing in Pittsville, who send by mail their orders for articles wanted. It has been no uncommon occurrence for the accommodating grocer to go out of his way to fill their orders for goods not sold at stores of his kind. Recently they failed to send their requisition for goods, and Mr. Hutchinson was beginning to think that he had lost a good customer for some inexplicable reason, when he received the following letter, signed by the husband: "Dear Sir,—Please send me fore pounds of cofe and sum tee. My wife had a boy last night, also ten pounds cheese and a rat trap, he wayed 7½ pounds, and a hatchet and nails."

A letter from Smyrna says that the new crop of figs has been damaged, but by what or to what extent is not stated.

The Chicago Trade Bulletin estimates present promise of winter wheat crop at 327,000,000 bushels, or 55,000,000 less than last year. This is on the basis of only 50 per cent. condition between Ohio and Missouri rivers.

The catch of lobsters at most New Brunswick points is poor in comparison with former years.

The secretary of the Board of Trade has received an enquiry from J. B. Rachliff of Corunna, Maine, into the prospects of success of a condensed milk factory in this locality.—Amherst, N. S., Press.

The St. John market is entirely bare of pickled herring. In dry fish it is practically bare of pollock, and cod are scarce. Fresh halibut, cod and haddock are more plentiful than they were a few weeks ago. Smoked herring are a little higher. They have been selling better lately in the American market.—St. John Sun.

An article in The Cosmopolitan this month estimates the world's milling capacity at about 361,000,000 barrels. As the world's output of wheat is about 2,400,000,000 bushels, more or less, and practically all the wheat is converted into flour, it would take a total milling capacity, just to grind the wheat, of about 500,000,000 barrels, even at nearly 5 bushels per capita. As the grinding is done without running the mills at full time the aggregate capacity is probably much greater than 500,000,000 barrels.

Messrs. Connors Bros., the enterprising canners and sardine packers of Black's Harbor, in this county, says The St. Croix Courier, have about completed an addition to their factory, 37 x 40 feet in size. They propose to put in an oven for the preservation of the little fish, which will improve the quality of their pack.

The Chatham Banner interviewed several farmers in regard to the crop outlook, and the general opinion was that peach trees were badly injured. The like is the case in Essex also.

Dr. Kendall, M.P.P., for Cape Breton, in a speech at the recent session of the legislature in Halifax, is reported as having made the following remarks: "You are aware that during the last few years a system of cold storage has been established extending from the Rocky Mountains to England. Agricultural products from western Canada are by this means placed fresh on the Englishman's table. I see no reason why a similar system of cold storage should not also be applied to the fisheries throughout Nova Scotia. Those of you who are acquainted with the fishing business know that for many weeks in the summer, the fishermen cannot get a fare because of scarcity of bait. Such a state of affairs might be obviated if we had a number of refrigerators along the coast."

According to despatches from Portland recently the steamship "Lennox" cleared Washington for Oriental ports with the largest cargo of flour ever put afloat on the Pacific Coast. It consisted of 47,358 barrels. The "Lennox" is the third steamer to leave Portland within the past thirty days, and the combined Oriental flour shipments on the three steamers were 105,244 barrels, over three-fourths of which was for Hong Kong and the remainder for Japanese ports. There should be a good market in the East for Canadian flour products.