

ELBERT, the centre of the French woolen manufacture, is so well off that it has abolished nearly all its town taxes, and now petitions the Government for leave to do away with the octroi, the duty on provisions entering the town.

EDWARD E. STEWART, manufacturers' agent, 70 Bay St., Toronto, was arrested on Nov. 4th, on a charge of obtaining \$415 by fraud. He was the Toronto agent of J. Ward & Co., London, and had obtained notes from Geo. C. Rogers, hatter and furrier, Toronto, in excess of the amount due Ward & Co., by representing that he was unable to get the notes discounted which Mr. Rogers had already given him, and which he claimed he had destroyed.

A CASE of interest to wholesale houses occurred in Winnipeg a few days ago. E. Dumaresq, representative of Z Paquet, fur manufacturer, Quebec, delivered purchased goods to a customer from his samples, and was immediately charged by the police with violation of the transient traders' by-law, and was fined \$10 and costs for lacking a license. He protested that his action was general among travellers. This, however, did not exonerate him.

THREE prominent young men, W. C. Learoid, aged 27, member of the firm of dry goods merchants, Learoid Bros., Kingsville; W. McDonough, son of Rev. W. McDonough, and H. L. Drake, of St. Thomas, brother of the wife of A. D. Learoid, were arrested a short time ago at Detroit, charged with smuggling a valuable consignment of silks. When arrested they had \$60 worth of silk in their possession.

LINENS are distinguished by the number of threads given to a warp width of 37 inches, as sixteen hundreds linen, eighteen hundreds linen, and so on. The linen glass has a round hole in the brass piece that is 1-200 of 37 inches in diameter. Consequently the number of threads exposed to the magnifying glass multiplied by 200 gives the count of the linen. Thus, if eight threads are exposed,  $8 \times 200 = 1600$ , a sixteen hundred linen. This glass is technically known in Belfast as the "thirty-seven."

AN English correspondent says:—"There is every reason to believe that the coming season will be a good one for the fur trade. Sealskin jackets will be as much worn as they were last year, and there has already been a great run upon sable necklets, especially those dyed the new dark brown, the most successful imitation of the natural coloring of the rarest and most expensive skins that has yet been seen. So perfect is this dye that a sable which can be sold wholesale for thirty-five shillings can scarcely be distinguished from a natural colored one of the value of a dozen guineas. Sealskin is also cheaper than it was this time last year, though the tendency of price is decidedly upwards."

THIS method of preparing sheepskins with the wool on, is strongly recommended: Wash in a cold lather which has been made with hot water. Rinse till clean. Dissolve one pound each of salt and alum in two gallons of hot water, and put the skin into a tub sufficient to cover it. Let it soak for twelve hours, and then hang it over a pole to drain. When well drained stretch it carefully on a board to dry, stretching several times while drying. Before it is quite dry sprinkle on the flesh side one ounce each of finely pulverized alum and saltpetre, rubbing this mixture in. Try if the wool be firm on the skin; if not let it remain a day or two, turning over each day till quite dry. Scrape the flesh side with a blunt knife and rub with pumice or rotten stone.

THE ranchers in the west are looking toward the English market as the most profitable one for their sheep. It is to be hoped that the unfounded agitation to keep them out on the score that they are diseased, which the papers announced a short time ago, will amount to nothing. The experimental shipment of fat sheep sent to the British markets several weeks ago by ranchers in the Medicine Hat district, has "panned out" in a manner which has exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The sheep were landed in Glasgow in splendid condition and were offered for sale as "1,000 Canadian Weeders, fat or in full condition for early feeding." The lot was knocked down at 34s. 6d., or about \$8.40 per head, and will net the ranchers about \$4.75 a head, after freight and all the other expenses have been paid.

THE French Minister at Teheran reports two large firms established there for the manufacture of carpets. Within the last twenty years this trade has made enormous progress; in fact, there is no other place in Persia where it has been so prosperous.

THE total catch of the British Columbia sealing fleet for the past season is placed at 72,414 skins. Of this number, 9,258 skins were taken on the B.C. coast, 26,409 on the Siberian coast, and 36,747 in Behring Sea. The catch in 1894 was 94,474 skins.

JAMES CUDDY, dry goods merchant, 1317 Notre Dame street, has assigned at the instance of Thibaudreau Bros. & Co. H. B. Picken, representing Gault Bros., has been appointed provisional guardian. The assets consist of the stock in trade, etc., and two lots of land in St. James' Ward, three in St. Mary's Ward, and one at Cote Visitation. The liabilities will range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The chief creditors are: Thibaudreau Bros. & Co., \$854; Gault Bros. & Co., \$1,469; J. Johnston & Co., \$873; Liddell, Lesperance & Co., \$357; Brophy, Cairns & Co., \$241; Benning & Barsalou, \$278; L. J. Forget & Co., \$1,078, corporation of Montreal, \$3,000.

A NEW soluble soap has recently been patented in Germany. This is a compound product of sulphurated oil, alkali and alumina. The soap, it is said effects oiling and mordanting in a single operation, thus saving much time and labor without any interference with the quality of the color. The bleached goods, thoroughly washed, are padded, or in any other convenient manner impregnated with the solution, well squeezed, and then repeatedly run through a solution of ammonium-salt until they cease to smell of free ammonia. They are then well washed and ready for dyeing. Carbonate, phosphate, or chloride are most suitable, or a mixture of these salts may be employed. To 50 litres of water 15 kilos. of soap are required: the bath is kept on and made up from time to time. For printing purposes the soap solution is thickened with animal glue. Being strongly alkaline, this new soap may also serve otherwise in discharge or resist processes.

As mentioned some time ago, the Continental Twine and Cordage Company has decided to open a new factory either in Brantford or Hamilton. A member of the firm says that the new mill will be a 250-spindle mill, 200 spindles of which will be devoted to the manufacture of binder twine, and 50 spindles to the manufacture of cordage of different sizes, lath yarns, etc. About 200 hands will be employed. The company is anxious to secure a building already erected, so that work may commence at once. In Brantford negotiations are being carried on for the purchase of the winery mill, which has been idle for several years. The company also intend building a factory in Quebec for supplying the Maritime Provinces with cordage for the use of fishermen and vessel supplies.

LINEN threads used in the construction of dress goods for spring promise to be very popular, says the *Dry Goods Economist*. Their use produces a light fabric, which is specially desirable for summer wear, and introduces with it one of the features of mohair which is so popular this fall. For these reasons such goods are sure to be very desirable stock for next spring. Silk Striped Linen Batiste is one of the novelties in dress goods for next spring's business. It is a very light-weight fabric, cleanly shorn and transparent, with silk stripes of a contrasting color running the length of the fabric. It is composed of silk, linen and cotton threads. The silk and cotton threads are used entirely in the warps; the silk being used to produce the differently colored silk stripes, and the cotton in all the other warp threads where this silk stripe is not required. The filling threads are composed entirely of linen. The cotton and linen threads used are of a fine quality, and both are dyed in the yarn the same color. The silk is finely spun, and is dyed a different color to either the cotton or linen. The weave is as simple as that of a cheese cloth, and as the materials used are of fine count, and few picks proportionately are thrown in to the inch, the transparent effect of the fabric is a consequence. This transparency is further increased by the fabric being shorn of all stray fibres by being run across red-hot plates to singe them off, and after the fabric is thoroughly washed and dried it is ready for the market.