

as to the entries for export of certain textile staples compiled by The Draper's Record, from Liverpool for the week ending August 4th:

	Cotton Yarn.	Linens.	Woollens, Worstedes and Blankets.	Silks.
	Lbs.	Yards.	£	£
United States.....	64,630	1,349,123	50,450	1,599
Canada and Newfoundland..	19,681	86,518	23,948	2,050

For the same week Canadian importations of plain cottons were 53,000 yards, and of dyed, bleached and colored 332,000 yards.

HARDWARE AND METAL NOTES.

Messrs. C. F. Hibbert and A. Woods, representing the Hardware and Merchants' Association of Montreal Board of Trade, interviewed the Minister of Customs on the 19th inst., in respect of what they asserted to be discrepancies in the customs valuation of hardware brought into Canada. The representatives of the Association held that the valuations at Montreal were unsatisfactory, in that they ruled higher than those made at other points. Hon. Mr. Paterson promised to look into the matter. The Minister of Customs says he insists upon his appraisers keeping in close touch with his Department, and while in one instance an inadequate value might be made, it is well nigh impossible for any series of errors to be made.

The directors of the Dominion Steel Company have recently held several meetings in Montreal. It is announced that already contracts for the entire plant for the mines are given out, and that work on the coke ovens, blasting furnaces, and the steel works will be pushed forward with all possible speed. In eighteen months' time it is hoped that the enterprise will be fully launched, and the manufacture of steel in Canada become an accomplished fact. The company owns about four hundred acres in the vicinity of Sydney town, and it is calculated that the works would spread over an area of a mile. The ovens would number about 400.

A contract has just been closed by the E. P. Allis Company, of Milwaukee, with the Glasgow Corporate Tramway Company, for six large engines for the operation of electric street railways in that city. Four of the engines are to be 4,000 horse power each, and two of 2,000 horse power each. The cost of the engines will be about \$500,000. There was the sharpest competition among builders for the contract, and the success of the Allis Company shows that American builders can compete successfully with English factories on the home ground of the latter.

Will a customs valuator, or a customs collector, agree to reduce valuation of merchandise when the market is shown to have fallen thirty or fifty per cent. since it was bought? Not he; but he will insist that the uttermost farthing must be paid according to the market value at time of purchase. Then, when another man shows the reverse condition, of goods having gone up 30 or 50 per cent. since he bought, will he be allowed to pay duty on the price the goods cost him? By no means. The Government insist on duty based upon the open market value at the time of entry. Will anyone show the fairness of this? No wonder that Montreal hardware importers are dissatisfied at the valuation of their invoices at prices which include the rise in the prices of iron and steel. In many cases contracts for future delivery were made six or nine months ago, when prices were about one-half the present rates. Many consignments on account of those contracts are only now arriving.

LIMITATIONS IN TRADE.

A Windsor friend in writing the other day about certain crops in Essex county, adds by way of postscript, "That was an interesting list you gave your readers last week, under the heading, 'Some Aristocratic Traders.' But I do not understand what is meant by the reference to the Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, having a license refused. I hope you were not joking about the lady. Some way or other, this article of yours brings to mind what Charles Dickens says about distinctions in manufactures in England. When Pip goes up to London, in the course of his great expectations, he is kindly

coached by a young friend, and has many things explained to him. Among the rest this: 'I don't know why it should be a crack thing to be a brewer; but it is indisputable that while you cannot possibly be genteel and bake, you may be perfectly genteel and brew—you see it every day.' Accordingly I note that there is no baker in your Monetary Times list, while there are three brewers in it."

Replying to our correspondent we would say that the incident about the Scotch authorities and her Royal Highness is quite authentic. Hard by the Gareloch in the Firth of Clyde, stands Inverary Castle, one of the seats of the house of Argyll, a beautiful spot whither the Marquis of Lorne and his spouse often repair. In the "policies," as they are called, there is an old tavern, which for clearness we shall call No. 1. The Princess, whose taste in art is recognized, designed for tavern purposes a new building, in another part of the grounds, let us call it tavern No. 2, which was built quite recently according to her plans, and it was thought would attract more tourists than the old hostelry. Application was then made for a license. But here appears Mrs. So-and-So, landlady of No. 1, and says to the commissioners: "If you license this new place you take the bread out of my mouth, besides destroying the value of a house that was a place of public resort for a hundred years and more." And the commissioners hearkened to the voice of Mrs. So-and-So, and refused to license No. 2, although it was the Princess' house.

As to the curious social distinctions by which, in England, a man of the best morals and intentions may be a country gentleman if he does *this*, but instantly loses caste if he attempts to do *that*, Richard Grant White in his delightful book, "England Without and Within," explains with some minuteness that the distinction between persons who are "in trade" and those who are not is insisted upon with constant vigilance. "In an aristocratic society, no less than in a barber-shop," says White, "a line must be drawn somewhere; and the England of to-day draws it at trade." Domestic servants in England, he found, are great sticklers for rank and precedence. In one case, where a hostess of rank desired to engage a certain house-maid, and said so to the housekeeper, the latter replied: "The girl is a nice girl, but she would not suit *me* at all, my lady; she has only lived at rich merchants' houses in town, and she knows nothing of the ways of great houses."

BOOK NOTICE.

The third edition of the Canadian Lawyer has recently been issued by the publishers, Messrs. Carswell and Company, Toronto. This well-known book contains a summary of law and legal forms which will be found of considerable service to all business men. Every man cannot be his own lawyer, but by studying this book he can the better transact business without legal complications, and become a more intelligent man if complications should arise. The book deals, among other matters, with contracts, assignments, chattel mortgages, bills of sale, deeds, mechanics liens, partnership and patents.

TEETOTALLERS AHEAD.

It is of interest to observe the favorable results exhibited last year in the Temperance Section of the United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution, whose fifty-eighth annual report has been made public. According to the report of the actuaries the mortality on whole life policies in this British company has been as follows:

	—Expected.—		—Actual.—	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
Temperance section	380	£100,414	247	£ 64,550
General section	411	106,686	373	101,240

Not regarding the number of claims, but considering only their aggregate, we find from these figures that where the company expected to lose £100 by deaths in the general section it has lost only £94 18s.; but in the temperance section, in which only are insured persons who drink no malt or spirituous liquors, the proportion of actual deaths is but 64.3 per cent. of the expectation. There is thus a difference of more than 30 per cent. in favor of the teetotalers.