

Consul in Liverpool stated that "most of the furniture is made in Canada" and "two things are certain: First, that Canadian furniture manufacturers have a large and increasing market in England; second, that of American manufacturers is comparatively small. The explanation is simple. The Canadian manufacturers meet the peculiarities of the English trade and adopt English styles, according to working drawings furnished them by dealers here." The consul concludes by suggesting that the furniture manufacturers of the United States send representatives abroad, not to get orders for the American style of furniture, but to study the English styles and the peculiarities of the English market, and he adds that he is sure that by adopting the Canadian system of using English working designs they could secure a large trade in both "knockdown" and "set-up" furniture. By "knockdown" the consul means imported in the white and put together after its arrival. This allows of close packing and a consequent large saving of freight. When the finished article is sent, in the "set-up" state, it is very important that it should be polished, not varnished, and polishing in Great Britain is understood to mean the rubbing in of the color and spirit until the surface shines.

### BURGLARS AND SLANDERERS.

The whole business community are staggered at the success of the bank burglar in these latest days, and no wonder. The bold burglar goes to his nefarious work knowing that he risks liberty, and even life, in his hazardous business; for there is sure punishment if he is caught. This is one kind of rascal. But we have amongst us the slandering sneak, who whispers in the ear a false report respecting the financial reputation of a mercantile firm or perhaps a banking institution, and many in the community hasten to aid him in his fiendish work. What remedy is there for this sort of injury? One remedy is an action for damages against the slanderer or the retailer of slander. The Minister of Justice has, we are told, been approached with the view of providing a remedy by making such offence a misdemeanor, punishable by fine and imprisonment. Merchants, to whom credit is precious, and every banking institution in Canada is interested in this matter. We should think they will all endorse the request that the necessary legislation be enacted during the present session of Parliament.

### CHEESE BOARDS.

The cheese markets throughout the country are well attended. The offerings are not unusually heavy. At fifteen board meetings this week 16,012 boxes were offered, while in the corresponding week a year ago at fourteen boards, 18,175 boxes were offered. Values continue to rule very firm and quotations are in marked contrast to those of May, 1898. We give the range of prices for the last week in May the past three years:

| Year.     | Per lb.        |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1897..... | 8½ to 9 1-16c. |
| 1898..... | 6½ to 7¾c.     |
| 1899..... | 8½ to 9¾c.     |

We append our usual table of the week's transactions:

| Boards and<br>Date of meeting. | No. of<br>facto-<br>ries. | Cheese<br>boarded.<br>Boxes. | Cheese<br>sold.<br>Boxes. | Price<br>Per lb.<br>Cts. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kingston, May 18....           | ..                        | 1,200                        | ...                       | 9¼-¾                     |
| Brockville, May 18... ..       | ..                        | 3,760                        | 857                       | 9¾-½                     |
| Madoc, May 18.....             | ..                        | 655                          | 655                       | 9¾                       |
| Winchester, May 19.. ..        | ..                        | 479                          | ...                       | 9-9 5-16                 |
| Perth, May 19.....             | ..                        | 400                          | 400                       | 9¼-¾                     |
| Iroquois, May 19....           | ..                        | 787                          | 716                       | 9¾                       |
| Brantford, May 19... ..        | ..                        | 661                          | 381                       | 8¾-¾                     |
| Brighton, May 19....           | ..                        | 420                          | 340                       | 9¾                       |
| London, May 20.....            | 11                        | 607                          | 522                       | 8¾-13-16                 |
| South Finch, May 20. .         | ..                        | 1,070                        | 238                       | 9¾                       |
| Peterboro, May 23... ..        | ..                        | 2,100                        | 1,700                     | 8¾-¾                     |
| Ingersoll, May 23....          | ..                        | 1,443                        | ...                       | 8½-¾                     |
| Picton, May 24.....            | 15                        | 875                          | ...                       | 8½                       |
| Tweed, May 24.....             | ..                        | 535                          | 210                       | 9                        |
| Napanee, May 24....            | ..                        | 1,020                        | 1,020                     | 9                        |

### FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The French have been operating only six lobster factories and four codfishing stations on the Newfoundland treaty shore thus far this season, as against thirteen lobster factories and eleven cod-fishing stations operated last year.

The number of young salmon fry to be distributed this summer from the hatchery at Tadousac, Que., will be about two millions and a half. In addition to these, there are thirty thousand fertilized eggs in course of hatching, whose development will be watched with considerable interest.

The gaspereaux fishery this year has been rather a failure. It is estimated by a dealer that there are not more than 2,000 barrels of alewives in St. John at present. There may be a run of fish yet, but be that as large as it may, the stock will be very light. In former years 12,000 barrels of alewives have been regarded as the average quantity for export. Of course an immense quantity of gaspereaux was sold for use as bait.—St. John Sun.

The one notable feature of the week is the rupture in the understanding between the Grocers' Guild and the sugar refiners, which came to an end on Tuesday. A joint meeting was held on Monday afternoon, but apparently no mutually acceptable agreement could be arrived at. It is understood that the grocers held that the refiners did not do all they should have done to protect them against the American refined article, and the refiners, on their part held that they were asked to stand more than their fair share of the brunt of the battle. The special rebates, etc., are now all done away with, and sugars are being sold from the refinery at the old basis of net cash, 14 days.

James and John R. Montgomery & Co., New York, report the statistical position of tea for United States and Canada as follows:

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Total afloat to May 15, 1899..... | 264,877    |
| Receipts to May 15, 1899.....     | 81,460,452 |

|                                                     |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total shipment advised by mail.....                 | 81,725,329  |
| Leaving to be shipped.....                          | 730,125     |
| Estimated supply, seasons 1898 and 1899.....        | 82,455,454  |
| Supply, seasons 1897 and 1898.....                  | 87,711,780  |
| Supply, seasons 1896 and 1897.....                  | 93,551,353  |
| Supply, seasons 1895 and 1896.....                  | 105,300,581 |
| Afloat May 15, 1898.....                            | 1,582,886   |
| Receipts to May 15, 1898.....                       | 87,261,480  |
| Total shipments advised by mail to May 15, 1898.... | 88,844,366  |

It would seem that the Americans are making a bid for the British West Indies, and it almost seems that they will get them away from the British Empire unless Canada moves in the matter. A letter on another page of to-day's issue does something to bring out the importance of these islands to Canada—the opportunities for market, etc. No one but Americans wants to see the Americans absorb these islands. At present they are little good to England, and less to Canada—they are, in fact, called by one writer only dumping grounds for the over stocks of the United States and Germany. Confederation and a good protective tariff would secure them for Canadian products. Meanwhile the islands are suffering. An article on Jamaica in the current number of Chambers' Journal shows that the present trade of the island is not more than half of what it has been. Something should be done to secure the West Indian markets for Canadian products.

### IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

The hosiery mills are active and some of them are working night and day to overtake orders.

"He is often sold who buys much at the bargain counter," is the conclusion of a sage observer of New York and other dry goods shops.

The Claude Freres, Paris, silk card for fall, 1899, was issued May 12. The colors to which most prominence is given are purples and blues, reds and greens. There are evidences of favor being extended to brown and gray.

An appointment which will create interest among many members of the dry goods trade is that of Mr. George