

The following are the latest transatlantic arrivals, according to the *Drapery World* of 25th April: Mr. C. Cockburn, Toronto; Mr. J. M. Campbell, R. J. Whittle, Winnipeg; Mr. T. Eaton, Toronto; Mr. T. Brophy Cains, Montreal; Mr. A. B. Macpherson, Lonsdale, Reid & Co., Montreal, and Mr. A. C. Smith, Smith Bros., Halifax, N.S.

Agents for American woolen houses think that prices will be raised in the near future on many lines of goods, on account of the numerous woolen mills shutting down or running on part time, thereby reducing the production. Curtailment of production is the only rational method of again equalizing the balance between supply and demand.

Narrow trimmings are so numerous in material and design that they may be said to comprise every idea. So says the N. Y. *Dry Goods Economist* of French fashions. "Velvet, lace, chiffon, satin, gauze, shot silk, feathers, net, beads, spangles, tinsel threads, leather, Honiton braid, ribbon, silk embroidery and shells are all taken for the fashionable bands or galloons of the season."

Nottingham lace works were busier during the last week of April. Cotton millinery laces in active request. Valenciennes still retain their popularity, and large quantities of these goods are selling. Oriental laces are still inquired for, but not to the extent anticipated. The silk lace trade remains in a dull and lethargic condition; for silk Chantilly, guipure, and Bourdon laces and nets there was a limited enquiry.

No Scotchman or "blawsted Englishman" who parades the links can excel in fastidiousness of dress the Yankee who makes up his mind to go in for golf. We learn from our New York contemporary that the demand for golf and bicycle hose keeps up remarkably well, and will show by far the largest season on record. The enormous development of the use of the bicycle and of other athletic sports has been of great benefit to the American fancy knit goods and woolen hosiery business. Bicycle hose are to be had in cotton, wool and silk.

Writing from Paris, "Jeanne" says that parasols are totally different in shape and style from what they have been for many seasons. They are chiefly inspired by the pagoda of the Celestial Empire. Great pains are bestowed on the linings; they are in marked contrast as to color. They have magnificent flounces of lace or *entre-deux* of lace, and round the stick, which is very long, with handsome crystal handle encased in gold, is a large rosette. Thin shots are also employed with black lace. The great transformation, however, is in the handles. There are Dresden mounts or bird mounts. Chameleon glaze silks are often used.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Coffee prices in New York are steady.

Syrups are in improved demand in the New York market, with a firmer tone.

Bacon in Chicago on Tuesday showed slightly better prices for the July option.

News comes from the fruit districts of Asia Minor that frosts have done damage there as well as in California.

Chicago receipts of hogs last week, 189,897; shipments, 44,409; the former being in excess of estimates and the latter less than last year.

It is just as much a sin, says a New England sage, for clerks to give over-weight as under-weight; just as bad to cheat the grocer as the grocer's customers.

Sixty thousand boxes of fruit makes a very respectable pile. This is the quantity brought out from the Mediterranean by the steamer "Fremona," and exposed for sale in Montreal last Tuesday. An account of the sale is given elsewhere.

Cables from Japan report the tea market there as having opened considerably lower than last year, but higher rates for freight and exchange may tend to offset this to some extent. Some few parcels of early pickings are said to have been already shipped.

The German Reichstag Committee, by a vote of 12 to 9, passed the sugar tax bill, including a proviso that the sections dealing with the excise tax and export bounties expire July 13th, 1903, and that the tax on consumption then be reduced to 18 marks and the impost duty to 36 marks.

A new butter-making machine is announced, the invention of a Swedish engineer named Salenius. It makes butter in about one minute from sterilized milk, according to *Bradstreet's*, and is regarded as a great success in Sweden and Finland. The machine is called a "radiator."

The clerk approached the junior partner in the cigar store and said: "If Mr. Blank (the senior partner) does not take back what he said to me just now, I'm going to quit." The junior turned at the indignant tone: "Why, what did he say?" And the clerk answered: "That he didn't require my services any longer."

The development of cattle-raising and cattle shipping in the Canadian North-West goes on apace. One day last week Mr. Wallace left Cartwright, Man., for the English market with a train load of fat cattle, and on the next day, May 2nd, Chalmers Bros. & Bethune shipped from Pilot Mound a train load of cattle to the old country.

Of the New York sugar market the *Journal of Commerce* of Wednesday last, says: "As to the statistical position there is nothing new to report. The London market is somewhat easier on cane, with beet unchanged, although there was very little business under way, according to reports by private cables. The market closed steady to firm on the old basis."

Fairbank's world's supply of lard, dated Chicago, 5th May, shows 173,500 tcs in Europe, against 189,500 last month; afloat for Europe, 40,000, against 45,000 tcs; American stocks, 220,000, against 184,000 last month, making a total world's increase of 15,000 tcs, which was less than expected, and shows a falling off except at Chicago, where the only increase occurs.

On May Day a by-law for the early closing of stores was put into force in Montreal. Some opposed it. The majority of the up-town and down-town stores were indifferent, but the smaller establishments "kicked" from the first. The Grocers' Association has been discussing the question. While the members were willing to obey the law, they consider that storekeepers who sold fruit, candy or cigars should also be made to close.

The packers of canned fruits and vegetables, manufacturers of preserves and pickles in Pennsylvania, have been invited to hold a conference at Pittsburg, when the State law relating to adulterated food products will be explained by the Pure Food Commissioner, who called the meeting. The P.F.C. wants to instruct the makers what to use and what not to use. He has found much fault with some brands of preserved fruits and vegetables.

Respecting the damage to California fruit by frost, to which we gave some space last week, the Cutting Fruit Company tells the *San Francisco Grocer*, of May 1st, the following: "We are forced to state as an honest conclusion, that the crop as a whole has been damaged to the extent of fully forty per cent. We do not say by this that there will be 60 per cent. of an average crop, but rather that the crop of the present year has been damaged in that proportion; this damage applies in a general way to all fruit localities in the State."

There is trouble between the salmon-fishers and the salmon-canners on the Columbia River, Oregon. The fishermen demand 5 cents a pound, the canners offer 4 cents. When the fishing season was to open, instead of going to work the fishermen tied up their boats, which number 2,000, and 5,000. The Columbia River Packing Association unanimously passed a resolution that 4 cents is all they can afford to pay in the present condition of trade. Per contra, the fishermen have resolved that no man shall take and sell fish for less than 5 cents.

A dairy competition of a novel kind is being set on foot by the Quebec Government. Mr. Gigault, who is assistant commissioner of agriculture for the province, is engaged with some others in establishing a new departure in the way of a dairy competition. Word will be sent to the cheese and butter makers only two or three days before the opening of the competition, and exhibits will have to be sent forthwith. The cheese and butter will be purchased by the Provincial Government, which will also pay the freight charges. Prizes will be awarded by three judges nominated by the Government and the Dairymen's Association.

SHOE AND LEATHER ITEMS.

A prominent shoe house in Montreal is said to have made within the last few days a purchase of a ten thousand side lot of manufacturer's sole leather; figure private.

The New York hemlock sole market is steady by Tuesday's advices, but no large transactions being made for either home or foreign account. Manufacturers are averse to buying ahead.

A boot and shoe factory is to be started in Stratford. The capital stock of the company is \$3,000. The following are the provisional directors: R. M. Ballantyne, John Welsh, A. C. Mowat, James Gow and Wm. Gillard.

Last Monday's *Commercial Bulletin* advices from New York were that green salted city hides were firm for the April take-off, 6½ to 7c. being paid for No. 1 native steers, 60 lbs. and upwards; branded steers quoted 6c., firm, with a disposition to hold for higher figures. The calfskin market is firmer, according to the *Review*, quotations being 77½c. to \$1.25 as to weight.

An old country exchange, in discussing attempted private arrangements, doubts whether any debtor has ever gone so far as a certain Dublin boot retailer, who is trying to persuade his creditors to accept 10s. in the £. He owes £34. He has £55 worth of stock and furniture, from which he deducts £20 as the cost of carrying out the arrangement,