

and the Colored Cotton Company makes further advances in denims and cottonades. Campbellford flannels are put up 2c. a yard, and the Penman Company has put up all grades of woolen underwear 50c. a dozen, and Balbriggan goods 25c. per dozen.

#### FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The Boston Fish Bureau reports the shore catch of salt mackerel to date as 19,964 bbls., against 13,709 last year; and imports 15,327 bbls., against 10,440 bbls.

An official return gives the quantity of olive oil produced in Italy during the year 1898-99 at 51,750,000 gallons, as against 36,000,000 gallons in the preceding twelve months, and 42,820,000 gallons in 1896-97.

The world's production of cocoa in 1897 was 75,680 tons, of which Ecuador produced 22,000 tons, and this year it is expected to yield 30,000. Ecuador is claimed to be the most suitable country on earth for this culture.

It is now reported that the much talked-of New York State cannery combination will become a fact before December 1st, at which date a number of canners' options will expire. It is proposed to call the corporation the Empire State Canneries Company.

The quantity of grapes used this year by the Niagara Falls Wine Company was, we are told, 1,203,738 pounds, which is more than 600 tons. This quantity should make, we presume, somewhere about 120,000 gallons. Evidently the Canadian domestic wine trade is growing.

Exports of Canadian cheese across the Atlantic continue to be this year ahead of last, so far. The total quantity shipped up to Saturday last was 1,646,568 boxes as compared with 1,587,033 boxes up to like date last year. Of butter the shipments abroad for the past week were light, totalling only 17,924 packages.

Advice was received this week by the Brantford firm of J. S. Hamilton & Co. of the recent death of Mr. Fernande de Ayala, the London partner of the well known champagne firm, Messrs. Ayala & Co., of Chateau D'ay, France. Major Hamilton's firm have been the Canadian representatives of Ayala & Co., for some years.

The firm of G. H. Voss Company was recently incorporated at Columbus, Ohio, to conduct a wholesale and retail grocery business after the manner of many Ohio concerns. The capital stock is \$100,000, and this company now has thirty-three different stores and business houses in Ohio, five of them being located at Hamilton.—Chicago Wholesale Grocer.

One of the features of the Canadian grocery market just now is the firmness shown in dried fruits. California dried fruits have all advanced to high prices, and Valencia raisins are held from 10 to 15 per cent. higher. Any new Denia goods coming in next month will probably yield a good profit. Canadian canned goods, too, whether vegetables or fruit, are considered good stock.

#### INSURANCE MATTERS.

The Nova Scotia town of Liverpool has a satisfactory water system now, according to a correspondent of The Halifax Chronicle. A first test of the hydrants last week showed that the pressure was sufficient to throw a stream to the top of nearly every building in the place. The town is plentifully supplied with hydrants, and is reasonably protected from fire. Extensions at the north end and south end of the town, and also the Bristol section, are now under way.

The Chicago Underwriters' Association has promulgated a new grain elevator schedule fixing \$1.75 the minimum rate for standard grain elevator. The grain rate is 25 cents less than building. A credit of thirty per cent. is allowed for sprinklers.

Although some agents, and even managers, seem to think that after a fair struggle between a bad life and a good doctor, the office should accept the decision and pay. We don't agree with this, says The London Review. Fraud vitiates everything. "But even if a life office for reasons of policy may elect to pay in a particular case, which we do not accept as a proposition, the existence of organized conspiracy demands only one course

of action. And whether it is Alfred John Monson, our friends at Willenhall, Captain Jack of New Orleans, or the Montevidean gentlemen now in jail, civilized society has but one reply."

Union managers in the United States report that while the fire agents are not getting into line as fast as was hoped for, they are already getting back some of the preferred business which was lost while they were restricted to 15 per cent. commissions. They believe, says The Register, that the agents will in due time come into line. Time is required for them to get their business transferred so that they will lose as little as possible by dropping their non-union companies. When that is done, and the daily reports show that it is being accomplished, delays will be over.

A few days ago The Insurance Herald, of Nashville, became the sole property of Mr. Louis N. Geldert, who for five years has been its business manager, and will hereafter be published by the Insurance Herald Publishing Company, a corporation of the State of Kentucky, with Mr. Geldert as president and manager. It is about twelve years since The Herald was established by Col. Young E. Allison, and the Courier-Journal Printing Co. Mr. Allison is a breezy and instructive writer, and we trust he does not leave insurance editorship.

The extra war risk on the lives of officers going to South Africa is variously appraised by the life offices as from five to seven guineas per cent. There is at present no suggestion in some cases as to a return of the premium if there is no war. It appears to us that five per cent. is a fairly high premium, because the "red jacket" knows a great deal more about Boer fighting than he did, and if one officer in fifty is hit, not to say one in twenty, we shall be very much astonished.

—We are advised from Montreal of the reopening yesterday of La Banque Jacques Cartier, which closed its doors on 31st July last. It is stated that ten of the twelve branches have been disposed of, and the bank will confine its business to the head office and two branches, both in Montreal. Depositors representing \$1,500,000 have, it appears, signed an agreement not to withdraw their accounts for at least a year.

#### ONTARIO CHEESE BOARDS.

For so late in the season the offerings of cheese are fairly large. At ten meetings the past week, 22,005 boxes were boarded. The number of sales reported forms a very small proportion of the total offerings. Salesmen have refused to accept the prices offered by buyers on a number of the boards. Prices show little change from a week ago. We append our usual table:

Boards and Date of meeting.	No. of factor- ries.	Cheese boarded. Boxes.	Cheese sold. Boxes.	Price Per lb. Cts.
Brantford, Oct. 20 .. ..	..	711	446	11½-8
Iroquois, Oct. 20 ....	..	45	730	11-11½
Kemptville, Oct. 20 .. ..	..	1300	1300	11½
Belleville, Oct. 21 .. ..	..	100	..	11
Campbellford, Oct. 24 ..	..	1600	..	11-3-16
Ingersoll, Oct. 24 ....	..	2510	..	11
Napanee, Oct. 25 ....	..	885	..	11-11 1-16
Peterboro, Oct. 25 .. ..	..	7000	5950	11½-7-16
Picton, Oct. 25 ..... 10	..	610	..	11 3-16
Woodstock, Oct. 25 .. 21	..	6544	..	11

#### CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, October 26th, 1899, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Oct. 26, 1899.	Oct. 19, 1899.
Montreal.....	\$ .....	\$14,081,207
Toronto.....	11,302,501	9,000,096
Winnipeg .....	3,209,674	2,302,396
Halifax .....	1,582,075	1,189,087
Hamilton .....	836,591	654,693
St. John .....	718,293	520,086
Vancouver .....	1,005,856	919,414
Victoria .....	.....	690,323
	\$ .....	\$29,857,302

Aggregate balances, this week, \$.....; last week, \$.....