

### English vs American Clothing.

The last United States consular report contains a note from United States Consul Meeker, of Bradford, which refers to an experiment recently made to demonstrate the difference between the price of American and English ready-made clothing. Consul Meeker says that last fall a Bradford manufacturer visiting this country was so much pleased with certain styles of American ready-made clothing that he not only purchased an \$18 suit in a ready-made clothing store in New York city, but he also secured samples of children's suitings, which he took home with him for the purpose of determining whether they could not be sent to England and profitably disposed of. The result of this attempt was to prove that on the whole the prices of children's ready-made clothing, with the exception possibly of boys' knee pants, were slightly lower in England than in the United States. The difference was not great, but was probably enough to interfere with the establishment of a trade. On the other hand, it was conceded, even by the English themselves—and this concession will be promptly confirmed by all Americans who have had the opportunity to make a personal examination of the matter—that the American garments were much superior in style and workmanship to those produced by English clothiers, a fact which might lead to their sale in England even at higher prices, but at the same price would unquestionably give them the preference. Those who have had the personal experience we have referred to do not need to be told that there is no possibility whatsoever of English ready-made clothing coming into this market to compete with the outputs of our American wholesale manufacturers. The American purchaser would no more buy a suit of ready-made English clothing than he would buy an American suit of style of ten years ago. Where the English have an advantage over us in clothing is in the prices of their custom-made goods, which though ordinarily finished in a manner far inferior to American made garments, are none the less sold at a price that to many Americans travelling in England seems exceedingly attractive.—Boston Herald.

### Gold Past and Present

The following is taken from Chambers' Journal: "Just before the Californian discoveries, namely, in 1819, the world's annual output of gold was only about £2,000,000. Then came the American and Australian booms, raising the quantity produced in 1853 to the value of £30,000,000. After 1853 there was a gradual decline to less than £20,000,000 in 1883. This was the lowest period and then the DeKamp and other discoveries in Africa began to raise the total slowly again. Between 1833 and 1887 the El Callao mine in South America and the Mount Morgan in Australia helped greatly to enlarge the output, and then in 1887 the 'Rand' began to yield of its riches. The following are the estimates of a mining expert of the world's gold production during the five years 1893-91, namely: 1891, £23,700,000; 1891, £26,130,000; 1892, £29,260,000; 1893, £31,110,000; 1894, £36,000,000. In these estimates no distinction seems to have been made between mine valuations and mint valuations, but it will be observed that the estimate for 1891 corresponds with that of the United States mint authorities.

As to the future of the South African sources of supply, it is estimated by Messrs. Hatch & Chalmers, mining engineers, who have lately published an exhaustive work on the subject, that before the end of the present century the Witwatersrand mines alone will be yielding gold to the value of £20,000,000 annually, that early next century they will turn out £26,000,000 annually and that the

known resources of the district are equal to a total production within the next half century of £700,000,000, of which £200,000,000 will be clear profit over the cost of mining."

### Cold Storage for Butter Exports.

Arrangements have been concluded by the Dominion Dairy commissioner with Elder, Dempster & Co., to fit out three steamships of the New Dominion Line, sailing between Montreal and Avonmouth (Bristol); with mechanical refrigerators of the latest and best kind, to carry butter at a temperature of about 30 degrees Fahr., and cheese and fruit at a temperature of from 31 to 38 degrees Fahr. Each of the three steamships is to have a cold storage capacity of about 20,000 cubic feet or space sufficient to carry about 300 tons of cheese or butter per trip.

The steamship company will carry butter in the refrigerating chambers at a charge of ten shillings per ton, and cheese at a charge of five shillings per ten, in addition to the usual current charge for freight on butter and cheese. The company will also fit up two steamships with insulated compartments for the carriage of chilled butter. These two steamships will have a capacity of about 3,000 packages of butter each. They will be cooled by the use of ice in galvanized iron cylinders. The butter will be thoroughly chilled before it is put in them. For that carriage the extra freight charge is not to be more than five shillings per ton. In addition to the usual current charge for freight on butter and cheese.

Besides the assistance required for fitting the refrigerator plants and cold storage compartments, one half of the cost of operating the refrigerating plants is to be borne by the government, up to a sum not exceeding \$50 per trip per steamer. It is not expected that the additional consumption of coal will be large, and the ship's engineers with a bonus per trip, will be able to look after the refrigerating machinery to ensure the temperature as required.

The space available for cargo in cold storage shall be allotted to the different shippers about three days before the date of the sailing of each steamship, and in any case where the space for cargo in cold storage is inadequate for the quantity offered, the space shall be allotted to the several shippers on the basis pro rata of the average of previous shipments, and in all cases fresh-made creamery butter shall have the preference over other cargo.

### Mediterranean Fruit

The cargo of the second fruit steamer to arrive at Montreal with oranges and lemons was sold there on May 12. The attendance of buyers was good. About two-thirds of the cargo of lemons were sold for United States account. The cargo consisted of 5,000 boxes and 5,000 half-boxes of Messina oranges, 1,000 boxes and 7,610 half-boxes of Catania oranges, and 17,500 boxes Messina lemons, 6,000 Palermo, and 4,000 Catania. The following are the prices realized: Lemons, finest, \$2.70 to \$3.10 per box, choice at \$2.30 to \$2.50, and common at \$1.20 to \$2.10, and the oranges sold at \$1.95 to \$3.20 per box, and at 90c to \$2.40 per half boxes. The prices of lemons were about equal to those of the first sale, but oranges showed a decline of 30 to 50c per box.

T. L. Metcalf, solicitor for John S. Douglas, recently in the fur trade at Winnipeg, has issued a statement of claim at Montreal against L. F. Neadinger, Soles, of Montreal, and R. McLellan and D. Fraser of Winnipeg, for \$5,000 damages. The action arises out of the arrest of Douglas in Montreal a short time ago on a charge of obtaining goods with intent to defraud. The defendant was acquitted on a preliminary hearing.

### Binder Twine.

The Consumers' Cordage Company, of Montreal, the Kingston Cordage Company, of Kingston, Alex. Main & Son, of Hamilton, and the Continental Twine & Cordage Company, of Toronto and Brantford have entered into an agreement for the sale of binder twine this season. They offer a rebate of 8 per cent. on all purchases of cordage, etc., from 4,000 lbs. up to 20,000 lbs., and 5 per cent. on all purchases exceeding 20,000 lbs. This offer it is understood is good to parties only who buy exclusively from the concerns mentioned above.

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