

November, and this has probably been the case, although the position cannot as yet be accurately defined. The cotton market is again remarkably firm, and producers are in most cases endeavoring to enforce an advance. There has been a great increase this year in the principal consuming inlets for plain and figured ribbons, both all-silk and mixed goods. The inquiry for carpets has not been brisk of late, and many English manufacturers have difficulty in keeping looms fully employed. The worsted trade remains very steady. Bouclé wool novelties and brilliant plaids have been inquired for. Linen goods have fallen off somewhat as far as the American trade, but this is merely due to week by week fluctuations and is not indicative of depressed trade.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Charles Disston, brother of the late Henry Disston, of Philadelphia, died last week. The deceased was born at Nottingham, England, in 1823, and came to the States in 1849, when he learned the saw-making trade with his brother. He became associated with the Disston Saw Works at that time.

English metal markets during November were, on the whole, dull with prices easy. Copper has lost nearly £2 per ton during this month, and is now at the lowest point touched since early in last July, in spite of the fact that deliveries have latterly been heavy, and stocks decreasing. Tin also has lost ground steadily, being now about £2 lower than at the beginning of this month, but is steady at present, with rather an improving tendency.

The new buildings of the Maritime Nail Co., Ltd., recently incorporated at St. John, N.B., are being rapidly constructed. The firm expects to make wire and wire nails in February, and later have in view the manufacture of horse nails and other lines of goods. Mr. James Manchester is the president of the company; Mr. R. C. Elkin, vice-president. All the machinery for the new works is being bought in St. John from Messrs. Waring, White & Co., Stephenson, Myers and the Allan foundry at Carleton.

The Ontario Lead and Barb Wire Co., 46 Lombard street, Toronto, have added a new department to their extensive business. This company are now handling plumbers' supplies of all descriptions. Not only are they, as they have long been, manufacturers of lead pipe, traps and tanks, but they represent the best makers of various other plumbers' requirements. This feature of the company's trade should develop rapidly. Mr. C. F. Somerville is the careful manager of the plumbers' supply department, Mr. J. Malcolm representing the company on the road.

The annual meeting of the Metal and Hardware Association was held in Montreal a week ago, when the matter of freight rates was discussed, and a committee appointed to interview the railways. The classification of small articles, according to the tariff, was brought up, and it was decided to bring the matter before the Government, so that a more detailed and correct classification might be adopted. Mr. Jas. Crathern was re-elected president; Mr. Thomas J. Drummond, vice-president; and Mr. J. B. Lermont, treasurer. The directors elected were: Messrs. F. Fairman, James Phymister, A. C. Leslie and William McMaster.

A Birmingham, England, trade report, dated Nov. 25th, says:—With the exception of bedstead, axle, and steel tube manufacturers, none of our producers appear to have notified any change in prices, though in a few instances extreme discounts are discontinued, and there is less underselling than was the case a short time back. Metallic bedstead makers are fairly busy all round on orders booked at old prices, and the same remark applies to axle makers. The advance in seamless steel tubes is tending to increased importations from Germany. Some large colonial orders for rolled metal and tubes are also finding their way to the Continent owing to the lower prices quoted by French and German makers. Prices in iron trade remain without any change upon the week.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

Trade reports from England bear evidences of profitable trade with the colonies. Canadian business shows improvement, and the volume of movement is considered satisfactory by textile manufacturers. With the new year activity is expected.

The Leeds makers of chevots, diagonals, unions and hairlists, finding that their products have in measure been supplanted by novelties, are reducing the prices of these goods. Production of them is being curtailed, and in some instances stopped altogether.

The following buyers for Canadian dry goods houses have arrived in England, as reported by the *Draper's Record*, Nov. 30th:—W. R. Johnston (W. R. Johnston & Co., Toronto); J. D. Ivey (Toronto); Thos. Oliver (W. E. Sanford & Co., Hamilton, Ont.); Messrs. MacLamont (Quebec), and A. F. Turcotte (Montreal); Mr. A. Mackay (The

Toronto Dry Goods Co., Toronto); Mr. J. F. Hosegood (McIntosh & Hosegood, Lake Dauphin, Canada).

Patterns of serges, fancy coatings, tweeds and trouserings for the spring of 1896 have been sent to Canada from Leeds. The new shades of color show improvement, the result, it is said, of experiments at the Yorkshire Textile College. Prices are not in advance of last spring, and with the increase in quality manufacturers naturally are looking for increased orders. It is evident that the makers of domestic goods must keep moving if they would keep their hold on the Canadian market.

Twice each year the Chambre Syndicale des Fleurs et Plumes de Paris issues a card containing the colors for the coming season. The card for the spring and summer season of 1896 has just been issued and contains eighteen shades that were not seen last year. First in prominence are the new orange-red colors already known to the modiste. The list begins with a golden yellow and closes with shades of decidedly reddish hue. China greens, of the bluish-green tint seen on chinaware, are next in prominence. Pink shades are good form. Browns for the spring are the same as those now in vogue, while blues are apparently neglected. The card of the Chambre Syndicale de la Confection et de la Couture gives to coral-pink shades first prominence, followed in order by China green, greens, browns and grays. The season, to judge from these cards, is to be very bright in color.

WITH THE GROCERS.

Halifax bakers have for months carried on a war of prices, and the struggle seemingly shows no signs of an amicable conclusion.

A project is on foot to establish a gin distillery in Canada. The promoters are anxious, before proceeding with the erection of their factory, to secure permission to sell without being subjected to the 2-years' bonding regulation. They claim that imported gin is sold in this country without regard to age, and that if obliged to warehouse for two years they will be placed at a disadvantage in competition with foreign distillers. Gin is usually distilled from rye and flavored with juniper berries. There was a gin distillery in Norfolk county, Ontario, some years ago; but the product being none too good, the venture proved a failure.

The smelt fishermen of Buctouche, the greatest smelt fishing centre in the world, says the *Moncton Times*, have been reaping a rich harvest since the season opened, on the 2nd inst. This little fish, which is so much demanded by Americans as well as Canadians, is very plentiful this year, and the catches at different points have been very large. On Monday the large buyers, the Messrs. Loggie and Irving, paid out \$3,500 at Buctouche. About 60 tons have so far been shipped over the Moncton & Buctouche Railway for the American market. A. G. Tripp, representing a New York firm, the Messrs. Loggie & Irving, are the principal buyers.

Yokohama mails are to November 15th, Smith, Baker & Co., and report upon tea as follows: Our markets have remained without any distinctive feature of interest, with a comparative small business doing at the two ports, operations having been curtailed by the poorer assortment of teas on offer, as well as by the firm attitude of sellers. Comparison of tea export:

	From Yokohama and Hiogo.	Current season.	1894-95.	1893-94.
To United States and Canada....	42,819,359	39,417,111	38,488,185	
" San Francisco	3,720,082	3,185,287	3,531,806	
" England	291,376			
Total	46,829,815	42,602,398	42,019,991	

—N. Y. *Journal and Bulletin of Commerce*.

The larger supplies of Indian and Ceylon teas that have been coming forward from year to year have had the effect of lowering prices, as will be seen from the following table, compiled by Messrs. Gow, Wilson & Stanton, and taken from the London market:

INDIAN.		1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
DUST.—Fair ordinary, dark liquor	4½d.	4½d.	5d.	4½d.	
FANNINGS.—Red to brown, strong rough liquor	4½d.	5d.	5½d.	5½d.	
BROKEN TEA.—Brownish to blackish, strong liquor	6d.	7d.	6½d.	7½d.	
PEKOE SOUG.—Blackish grayish, useful liquor	6½d.	7½d.	6½d.	7½d.	
PEKOE.—Grayish to blackish, some tip, useful liquor	7½d.	8½d.	8d.	8½d.	
PEKOE SOUG.—Blackish grayish, inferior liquor	5½d.	6d.	5½d.	6½d.	
PEKOE.—Blackish, grayish, some tip, inferior liquor	5½d.	6½d.	6½d.	7½d.	
CEYLON.		1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
PEDOE SOUG.—Ordinary leaf; fair liquor	6½d.	7½d.	6½d.	8d.	
PEKOE.—Ordinary leaf, little twist; fair liquor	7½d.	9d.	8d.	9½d.	
PEKOE SOUG.—Rather bold leaf; indifferent liquor	5½d.	6½d.	5½d.	7d.	
PEKOE.—Somewhat bold leaf; indifferent liquor	6d.	7d.	6½d.	7½d.	

The regular meeting of the Toronto Retail Grocers' Association was held in St. George's Hall, on Monday night, a large number being