

In a paragraph last week about New Brunswick Underwriting we said the loss to companies by the Indiantown fire in 1899 was \$225,000. We should have said \$125,000.

Out of four tenders received by the city council for insuring the lives of the Toronto Contingent for South Africa, that of the British Empire Mutual Life was the lowest. That company will issue policies for say \$138,000 on 138 men.

The commercial and strategic map of the British Empire is the title under which the Manufacturers' Life sends to its friends and customers a map of the world on Mercator's Projection, to which is attached a 1900 calendar. It is an excellent map, and of particular interest at the present time. The British possessions are colored red, and British naval stations and fortified points in black; and one who is not used to it is amazed at the extensive splashes of red on every continent, and red dots on every sea, with black dots all round the globe. The Manufacturers' struck a good theme for a Christmas-box when they thought of this map.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

Printed flannel effects are going to be a large element in the American market next fall.

The price of ingrain carpets has been advanced 2½ cents per yard by Philadelphia manufacturers.

Now that you have taken account of stock, do what you can to clear old stock out of the shop.

Business in staple prints in New York is active at firm prices, and gingham while not moving very freely are decidedly firm.

Bargains for cash one day in the week is a taking card with the department stores in the cities. How would it do for you to try it?

In Eastern American markets denims are scarce and the feeling higher. In checks, stripes, tickings, cottonades, etc., the market is well under the control of sellers.

There is advertised to be held on January 24th, 25th and 26th, in Chicago, for account of the Western Salvage Wrecking Agency, a peremptory auction sale of a wholesale stock of staple and domestic dry goods, valued at \$600,000, in nearly perfect condition, with the exception of some goods that show slight water mark.

American knitted goods manufacturers and merchants have held a meeting to protest against the proposed U. S. treaty with France, which lowers their goods some 20 per cent. The New England Shoe and Leather Association have also passed a resolution urging Congress to insist that the treaty be amended so that our leather and manufactures thereof shall be admitted to France on payment of as low duties as the most favored nation.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS.

While currants and Sultana raisins are easy, Valencia raisins are scarce and dear.

New eel beds at Montague, P.E.I., are yielding immense numbers; some men getting from 500 to 700 per day.

The Price-Marshall Company, of Norton, N.B., are applying for incorporation with the purpose of manufacturing candy.

The Gallagher-Hull Meat and Packing Company, Ltd., of Edmonton, has been incorporated with a total capital stock of \$75,000, in shares of \$10.

John Agnew's meat canning establishment at Alberton, P.E.I., has put up about 3,000 carcasses of beef and mutton since the first of October, 1899.

The total value of the fishery catch at Grand Manan for 1899 is estimated at \$200,000. The total value of the fishery material and fixtures used in the fisheries is about \$300,000.

Meats in Chicago were more active the latter part of last week, and prices were advancing rapidly, as packers don't offer either green or cured at all freely, as they are accumulating stock, of which they are generally sold up.

British Columbia canners of salmon met last week to combine in opposition to a combination of Puget Sound canners

that threatens to cut them out of the British market. Local differences came up and the meeting adjourned without accomplishing anything.

The Brazil markets for coffee continue firm at steadily advancing prices, and the European markets also were stronger; but the advance in the latter was disappointing to some of the trade in New York, says *The Bulletin*; they not showing the rise expected.

Two thousand farmers attended the opening of the Harristown Pork Packing House on Wednesday. The plant is said to be complete and up-to-date in every respect. Mr. Walker is manager of the company. Mayor Meiklejohn, vice-president, and Mr. McLellan, secretary.

During 1899, says the Port Arthur Evening Chronicle, the Dominion Fish Co. purchased at this point 528,680 pounds of trout, 175,225 pounds of whitefish, 36,830 pounds of dory, 1,980 pounds of sturgeon, 106,970 pounds of herring and 41,710 pounds of salt trout, for which the sum of \$30,000 was distributed among the fishermen.

There has been rather more enquiry for future canned goods the past few days, but buyers and sellers seem to find it a difficult matter to come together on the question of prices. The former hold that packers are not justified in making prices so much above last year's figures, but the latter contend that the difference is more than warranted by the increased cost, which they figure out to be not less than 15c. per dozen on two-pound goods. In the case of corn the arguments of the State packers in support of their contention that they must get 15c. per dozen more than they did last year or lose money, is weakened somewhat by the fact that some at least of the Maine packers who have made contracts recently have been satisfied with an advance of about half of what the New York men have been holding out for.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

—James O'Day, of Montreal, was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for harboring deserters from the British steamship "Assyrian." In an appeal defendant's counsel argued that the registry of the vessel was a fundamental point, as its British registry brought it under the operation of the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act, which provided fine but no imprisonment for the offence. Mr. Justice Wurtele thought he must go on the record as it was laid before him, but took the matter "en delibere."

At a meeting of the directors of the Bank of Yarmouth, held on Monday, Augustus Cann was called to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the death of Hon. L. E. Baker.

—The Exchange Bank of Yarmouth held a meeting the other day, when Mr. Harris H. Crosby, of Hebron, was elected to fill the vacancy in the directorate caused by the death of Nathan B. Lewis.

—The People's Bank of Fredericton has declared a four per cent. dividend.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Jan. 18th, 1900, compared with those of the previous week :

CLEARINGS.	Jan. 18, 1900.	Jan. 11, 1900.
Montreal.....	\$14,570,616	\$16,774,555
Toronto.....	10,558,957	11,374,382
Winnipeg	2,806,848	2,588,500
Halifax	1,456,753	1,860,852
Hamilton	822,580	938,300
St. John	651,814	674,162
Vancouver	647,804	798,359
Victoria	693,873	764,551
	\$32,209,245	\$35,743,661

Aggregate balances, this week, \$5,096,384 ; last week, \$5,960,968.