

MINNEAPOLIS is still the milling centre of the United States. From January 1st to December 15th, 1890, that town shipped a total of 6,460,541 barrels of wheat flour, against 5,365,210 barrels in the corresponding time in 1889, and 6,575,960 barrels in 1888.

A HIGH tide has done damage on some portions of the coast of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. At St. John on Monday last the tide was the highest ever known there, reaching almost a foot above the mark of the noted Saxeby gale inundation. The damage to wharves and to the stocks in the stores thereon is very heavy. All the flour, grain, oil and West India warehouses were more or less damaged by water.

A MEETING of general passenger agents of railways was held on Tuesday last in New York, called to act on what is virtually a rate war between Buffalo and New York. One road, it is said, has 6,000 of the tickets outstanding at a price that enables the broker to make \$2 per ticket himself. It is promised that tariff rates shall be strictly maintained after February 1st. Between now and then all the irregular tickets must be redeemed at tariff rates.

BRINGING cotton to America would appear to be very much like carrying coals to Newcastle, says the *New York Times*, but it is being done just now, the largest shipment of the kind ever made having just reached New York. It came here on the steamer "Fitzroy," which arrived from Alexandria with 2,150 bales of Egyptian cotton on board. The cargo is valued at about \$350,000. It is for some of the big New England mills, which find that Egyptian cotton goods have a higher lustre and give softer fabrics.

THE *Coal Trade Journal* is informed that work on the Fan pit shaft at the Foord pit, in Nova Scotia, has been suspended for a time, but timbering is being actively pushed. In the new sinking, East slope, the bottom coal has thickened from four feet to seven feet, six inches. It is of excellent quality; in fact, it is said by those working in it to be the best coal they ever saw. This is a big boom for Spring Hill. The workmen who went to Lethbridge, N.W.T., from Nova Scotia are not all pleased with the wages made. In such out of the way places big wages are looked for. In a fair place a miner can make \$3 per day. The entries 7x7 are paid 90 cents per ton and two dollars per yard. Unless the coal is very hard a fair wage should be made at that figure.

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PEEBLES & BRADEN, butchers in Winnipeg, became involved, several writs were issued, a chattel mortgage was given, finally their stock was sold by the sheriff to A. Stewart at 60 per cent.—R. Kee, grocer in the same city, formerly of the firm of Kee & Hague, went to Brandon and opened business. Finding too much competition there he returned to Winnipeg and opened out his stock in June last. Now he makes an assignment, with assets and liabilities of about \$1,500 each.

SAYS the *Buffalo Milling World*: "This country has all kinds of millionaires. In Minneapolis flour-mill-ionaires; in Pittsburgh rolling-mill-ionaires; in Michigan sawmill-ionaires; in Louisiana cane-mill-ionaires; in South Carolina rice-mill-ionaires; in Maine and Wisconsin wood-pulp-mill-ionaires; among railroad companies stock-water-mill-ionaires; in Waybackville grist-mill-ionaires; in Boston hard-glove-mill-ionaires, and in every State and town gin-mill-ionaires by the score.

IN 1882 J. M. Campbell left Winnipeg and went to Prince Albert, Manitoba, where he began keeping a general store. He gradually worked up a good trade, but unfortunately did not give it the strict attention it deserved. Outside matters took too much of his time, and he got behind in his payments. Then he was obliged to ask for an extension, which was granted. But he was unable to carry out its terms and is now in trouble.—E. J. Ostrom, produce dealer, Peterboro, has assigned.

DISPOSING of his general store at Parry Sound in 1888, S. E. Oldfield became an agent for farm implements. He was too easy-going, however, and it is not surprising that he was compelled to assign.—An assignment has also been necessary for G. Dunbar & Son, who have been in business a number of years at Blytheswood without making substantial progress.—The firm of McKinnon & Co., which has carried on a general store in Priceville for past six years, has assigned to C. Langley, of this city. Liabilities about \$2,300, assets nominally the same.

PEOPLE of the anthracite coal trade in the United States have been discussing for some time past the feasibility of adopting a uniform mesh for each particular size of coal in the various regions, and doing away with the size known as "small" or "No. 2" Stove. Operators and railway companies are strongly in favor of the proposed change, says the *Coal Trade Journal*, and the only difficulty in the way of its adoption lies in the fact that a large number of operators are merely lessees

of the land which they mine, and in a number of cases, under the terms of the lease, the various sizes of coal are specifically provided for, with a royalty upon each, and any alteration in the mesh would be an infraction of the lease.

YESTERDAY a meeting of the creditors of J. A. Glass, tailor, Georgetown, was held. It appears that he owes \$2,000, and his assets are considerably less than this amount.—After being one year in the shoe business in London, I. C. Reeves advertises to sell his stock; indeed, an assignment is made to C. B. Armstrong.—On Saturday next, Ritz Bros., founders at New Hamburg, consult with their creditors as to their position.—J. A. Leach, dealer in shoes, Caledonia, finds that he owes \$1,100. To pay this he has stock and book debts amounting to only \$450. It is not surprising that he should assign.

At a recent meeting of the Sherbrooke town council a letter from counsel was read expressing the opinion that the clause in the municipal code enabling the council to exempt property from taxation for twenty years must be construed strictly. He thinks, therefore, that the proposed exemption of the Paton Woollen Mills for a further term would be illegal. The Jenokes Machine Company, of Sherbrooke, withdrew their application to the council for a loan of \$50,000, and a resolution was passed offering them exemption from taxation, and a bonus of \$10,000 payable in annual instalments spread over twenty years.

HAGERMAN & Co. succeeded Plews & Co. in the confectionery business in Cobourg some time in 1889. Now they find their affairs involved, and have asked creditors for a consultation on Monday next.—D. C. McFarlane failed in March, 1885, at McIntyre, Ont. Some time afterward his wife began business; now she in turn assigns.—Two years ago James Dunn, formerly a clerk, started a business at Nosbonsing, in the North, with less than \$1,000 capital. Lately he met heavy competition, consequently he was obliged to sell at close prices, and the result is an assignment.

A DOMINION detective has been hunting up the hiding-places of counterfeiters since the arrest of several of those gentry at Windsor, Ont. Two farms, belonging to Stinson and Stoddard respectively, were searched, and in the barnyard of the former were picked up several blocks of stovewood, each of which had been hollowed out and the opening plugged and covered over with manure. On drawing the

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