



Atlantic coast, but in south west rains have checked on picking. Bank clearings for the week at New York now only 5.2 per cent. decrease from 1899, on account of the Dewey holidays last year, and 8.9 per cent. gain over 1898, and at the leading cities, outside of New York, there is 7 per cent. decrease from 1899 and 15.9 per cent. gain over 1898. Most manufacturing concerns are delaying extensive production until after the elections and are buying little raw material. Wheat is steady. For the week Atlantic exports were 3,252,994 bushels (flour included), against 3,562,082 in 1899. After the end of September there was a decline in the price of corn for the current month's delivery, but elevator prices remained firm, and receipts for the week were only 4,840,802 bushels, against 7,679,540 last year, while Atlantic exports were 2,144,610 bushels against 2,992,232 a year ago. Speculation in stocks has been active, with a sharp rise in prices, a large short interest covering. London has little to sell here, and a few large operators have control of fluctuations. Failures for the week were 208 in the United States, against 134 last year, and 23 in Canada, against 20 last year."

TWENTIETH CENTURY NUMBER.—We signalize the opening of the twentieth century by this number, which heralds at the same time the introduction of the spring season in shoes for 1901. We could not more appropriately mark the close of the old and the unfolding of the new than by presenting to our readers the portraits of the principal men identified with the shoe and leather trade in this year of grace. Ten years ago we sent out four plates containing the faces of those at that time connected with these trades, and those who have preserved these groups will find a comparison most interesting. The proportion who have passed on to the great majority, or who have otherwise dropped out, is strikingly large. In some of the plates fully one-third of those who figured in them have disappeared. We may in a future issue furnish our readers with reduced fac-similes of the old plates, which are now out of print, in order that a fuller comparison may be followed. We are indebted to the trade for their kindness in furnishing us so readily with the photos necessary to the production of these plates, and trust that the large expenditure involved in their completion will give as much satisfaction to our constituents to-day as they did to those of ten years ago. To those who may wish copies of the plates for framing, we may say that we have had a number struck off on larger and much heavier sheets, which may be obtained on payment of the sum of 25c. each.

ELECTIONS AND BUSINESS.—Very little commercial disturbance has been occasioned by the announcement of the Dominion elections which take place on November 7th. The general feeling is one of satisfaction that we are to have the English, Canadian and American elections, practically at one and the same time, thus bunching the evil for both continents. No matter what the issues there is sure to be a certain amount of uncertainty and unrest created by these periodical political upheavels that interfere with business relations. In Canada we are fortunate this time in having practically no occasion for turmoil. There is really no issue before the electorate this year. Both parties are pledged

to protection as a policy, and so the conflict has degenerated into a mere scramble for office on both sides. As far as the record goes there is very little choice in the parties in regard to administration. There has been the same extravagance and favoritism manifested by one as the other. The only feeling noticeable in commercial circles is a desire to have the coming fracas over as speedily as possible.

NOW FOR BUSINESS.—Now that the war in South Africa is at an end, and the sounds of martial ardour are dying away, we are settling down to more sober pursuits. If the war has done nothing more for us in this Canada it has stirred us up to a realization of our capabilities along many lines. One of the most encouraging features of our commerce of late has been its expansion in foreign parts. Canadians are discovering the possibilities of trade with the millions whose markets are accessible to her products. The development of export trade in leather and shoes is a matter for the utmost congratulation, and we feel sure that we are as yet only touching the outside edge of the future that lies before us in this direction.

NEW SHOE STORE.—Mr. Walter Zeigler has recently opened up in Berlin, Ont., with a full line of footwear.

A ROCHESTER MAN.—Shoe pattern making has its specializing like other branches of trade. Adam Bertsch, of Rochester, makes a specialty of making patterns for women's, children's and misses' shoes, and some of the largest Rochester manufacturers say he is an expert at it. He does good work at good prices and will not touch cheap, shoddy work.

REMOVAL.—W. L. Maley, late of Brockville, Ont., has removed to Kemptonville, and is establishing his business in that town as dealer in boots, shoes, rubbers and trunks. Mr. Maley is also jobber in sole and upper leather and shoemakers' supplies. We are confident that the business will prove as great a success in Kemptonville as it did in Brockville, especially so because of what Mr. Maley recently said in correspondence with us that he "would not think of running a shoe store without receiving THE CANADIAN SHOE AND LEATHER JOURNAL every month."

PANDORA'S BOX OF FATES.—Again the famous myth of Pandora's box of fates has been repeated under very modern conditions, only the Pandora to-day has brought before the world a commodity that cannot be recommended too highly. Business has been intensified in the leather trade by a lively competition, and in the box of fates was concealed business humanity struggling for leadership. Pandora's box of honest competition contained the leather man's ambition. Curiously she opened the bursting lid, and what came out? Why? Trostel's Phoenix Kid. Since Trostel's Phoenix Kid has been on the market it has deservedly been a leader in the leather trade, and it is now largely used by the leading manufacturers of high class shoes in both Europe and America. It is a superior leather; very attractive in appearance; it receives and holds a lasting polish nearly equal to any patent or enamel leather in the market. It does not crack or peel and deserves the great success of which its manufacturers should be justly proud.

IT SEEMS strange that even the smallest shoe is a foot long.

THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH,

"I'm doing quite well," the shoemaker said
In a manner most cheerful and gay,

"Though I'm not getting rapidly rich,
Still I am pegging away."