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1874 SPRING SEASON. 1874

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1000 DOZ. SHIRTS

1000 DOZ. BOWS and SCARFS,

2500 DOZ. HOSIERY

700 DOZ. BRACES.

750 DOZ. CORSETS.

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the pilots are already on the Lower St. Lawrence stations, and that there are several vessels in the Gulf inward-bound.

We understand that the bill introduced into the New York Legislature to admit Canadian insurance companies to do business in that State has passed, and now only awaits the Governor's signature.

At the annual meeting of the Quebec Board of Trade, officers were elected as follows:—R. R. Dobell, President; A. Fraser, Vice-President; H. W. Welch, Treasurer. Council—Henry Fry, B. Bennett, H. S. Scott, A. Joseph, A. Woods, T. LeDroit, John Roche, Geo. Hall, Joseph Shehyn, and Weston Hunt. Mr. T. H. Grant remains Secretary.

The British Government have effectually disposed of the vexed question, how the sugar duties should be assessed by repealing them altogether. This will be a popular act both with the trade, and the general public who are consumers. The duties have been several times halved so that this new step is but a recognition of the same line of policy which has been pursued by successive cabinets composed of both political parties.

The assignment last week of Mr. Felix Hooper, Kingston, is announced. This gentleman, together with Edward Spellman, formerly a distiller in Montreal, and of some notoriety in that city, carried on for a year or two, the old Morton Distillery in Kingston, which they, or one of them, bought from the Dominion Government on easy terms. Mr. Hooper found out after a few months partnership, that his associate was not what he desired. He consequently dissolved the firm, and kept Spellman for a time as employee. Twice during 1873 the con-

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cern came into collision with the Revenue Department, but whether the officers found out any actual transgression to justify their suspicions we do not know. Of late, the object of Mr. Hooper seems to have been to malt on a large scale for brewers, &c., in other cities. He did not succeed in this, however, and the lack of means to carry on the large premises to a paying point, probably brought about his stoppage.

ATTENTION was forcibly directed some weeks ago by a communication in these columns, accompanied with our comments, to the serious and constant losses suffered by merchant tailors from bad debts. It was shown that the tailor was always the last creditor paid; and that the credit system was the bane of the business. The natural remedy for this would be the cash plan; but that is a difficult reform to carry into effect. As the next best thing, it has been determined to organize, and keep a list of those who do not pay, in order to thwart the game hitherto so skilfully and successfully played by the race of dead-beats and swell-rogues. Hence, we learn with satisfaction that "The Merchant Tailor's Club of Ontario," has just been organized, with the following officers: Joseph Stovel, President; R. C. Taylor, 1st Vice-President; N. McEachren, 2nd Vice-President; B. Saunders, Secretary and Treasurer; Executive Committee—J. H. Jackman, John Riddell, D. Prentice. A constitution and by-laws have been adopted and printed. The membership fee has been fixed at \$10 per annum. It is contemplated to extend the organization to other cities and towns of Ontario. The movement ought to be a success, since its chief object is the protection of the trade, by terminating that state of things whereby the honest man was practically compelled to pay

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1874.

MARCH.

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for his own clothing, and that also of his impetuous or perhaps roguish neighbor.

WHILE some of the alterations of the new tariff have taken many by surprise, in the grocery trade the nature, if not the extent, of the changes had in some cases been very accurately anticipated. One prominent grocery house that moved into large and handsome premises in Toronto during the past winter showed very fortunate foresight in bringing forward a large lot of teas from New York. The house in question have for some months past been having frequent shipments arriving at New York from Shanghai and Yokohama. These were put into store at New York and a portion sold for the New York and Canada markets—the balance still remaining unsold and held there waiting an improvement in the market. The owners, however, took the alarm on the Saturday at noon preceding the changes in the tariff, and by a liberal use of the telegraph wires managed to stir up their New York friends and had the satisfaction of receiving advices of the arrival of their goods at the frontier and of passing their entries by noon on Wednesday. The teas came by New York and the Great Western Railway and the despatch in this case is most creditable to the Company, besides effecting a large saving to the owners of the teas. The same firm were also fortunate in anticipating the advance in the sugar duties and cleared their whole stock, but had the chagrin to receive advices on the morning of the 15th of the despatch of a cargo of sugar from Barbadoes to New York on their account. Several other houses have also been very fortunate. We can therefore unhesitatingly assure the country trade that the present seems a good time to make purchases before stocks feel the change of tariff.