

AMERICAN capitalists have been prospecting for phosphate and making purchases in the rear of the County of Frontenac, Out. Their action has stimulated speculation amongst some of the residents.

BARLEY harvesting has been commenced in the vicinity of Belleville, Ont. The grain is generally bright and plump. Wheat, both Winter and Spring, is free of rust and weevil; the latter is generally a fair crop, but the former was considerably injured by the early Spring frost.

The By-law granting a bonus of \$5,000 to the Kingston Cotton Company was defeated in Kingston last Monday by a majority of 312 votes against it, but it appears that only a fraction of the whole number of voters went to the polls.

ASA M. WHITFIELD, general storekeeper, Holbrooke, Ont., has been sold out by the sheriff, with little or no dividend remaining for the shareholders. Whitfield was at one time nanager of a co-operative store in the place but fuiled about two years ago, and paid the creditors 75 per cent. of their claims. He resumed business in his own name, but not succeeding confessed judgment a few days ago to a Hamilton creditor, with the result above stated.

THE Montreal Cotton Co. paid their second quarterly dividend of 5 per cent, on the 5th inst, and the V. Hudon Cotton Co. pay their half-yearly dividend of 5 per cent, to-day, the 15th inst. The Stormont Cotton Co. of Cornwall also pay a semi-nunual dividend of 5 per cent. to-day.

A GENERAL court of the Hudson Bay Company was held in London on the 28th ult., when the report which was adopted shewed



that there had been a considerable increase in the profits from the fur trade. The outfit of 1879 had amounted to  $\pounds$ 84,000, as compared with  $\pounds$ 55,000 for the outfit of the previous year. There was a further profit of  $\pounds$ 6,300 from the realization of the returns of the outfit of 61,879 over the estimated value.

THE estate of H. Turnbull, general dealer, Russell, Ont., whose embarrassment was referred to in a recent issue, has been sold to his brother for \$1,200 cash. The privileged claims, for which executions have been issued, amount to some \$350, and the balance of \$850 is to be divided amongst the creditors. The liabilities amount to \$3,000. Turnbull is not suspected of fraud, but is believed to be devoid of the qualifications of a business man; he should have called a meeting of creditors sooner, instead of allowing executions to be issued against him, to the detriment and loss of the general body of creditors. He seems to have been too sanguine, and no doubt thought that by extending the business, and of necessity his credits, he would tide over the pressure. The estate is not expected to pay over 25c on the dollar.

D. MCKINNON, recently of Mount Forest, Ont., where he carried on a general store in his wife's name, and whose business career was sketched in the columns of the JOURNAL a few weeks ago, has turned up again in a new role. After disposing of his stock at 69c on the dolhar and settling with some of his creditors at 50c on the dollar, he decamped for Duluth with the balance of the proceeds of the sale in his pocket. Messrs. McMahon, Boultbee, Dickson & Jeffrey, of London, Ont., on behalf of some Montreal creditors, caused his apprehension at Southampton just as he was leaving the Province, and brought him to Owen Sound; on being arraigned before the Police Magistrate there, he compromised by paying the full amount due the creditors for whom the abovenamed firm were acting. McKinnon probably regrets now his attempt to "beat" some of his creditors. Probably the best mode of awaking dishonest debtors to a sense of justice, in the absence of an Insolvent Law, is to show them the prison vaults.

Who has not been shocked by the flagrant violations of the first rules of grammar, especially bad si elling and punctuation, by sign painters; but the following note, inscribed on the back of a St. James street painter's card and sent to leading wholesale merchants in the city, is so rich and rare that we reproduce it as a curiosity to all acquainted with the finglish language :--

"Having 2 months hence; met with a fatal accident by falling through a hatchway of 20 feet in depth I am yet unable to go in the street, therefore your orders are hereby respectfully solicited. Yours L. C."

AT THE meeting of creditors last Friday of H. Vineburg, general storekeeper, Lancaster, Out., referred to in our last issue, an assignment was made to the largest creditor, in this city, but forcible possession of the store and its contents was at once taken by the sheriff, under. execution procured by another creditor who h d obtained a prior judgment, uncontested, for \$1,-300. An adjourned meeting was held in this city on Monday last, when a cash offer of 45c on the dollar of the liabilities with all expenses paid, was made by a brother of the insolvent, and has since been accepted. The total of liabilities is \$13,868, and the assets, including stock, fixtures and book-debts, amount to only \$9,397.83, from which must be deducted the claim for \$1,300. The stock would probably bring 65c on the dollar by tender, and the outside estimate of its value is \$7,000. Vineburg has been