

A new building is to be erected in Perth for the office of the Bank of Montreal. The dimensions are to be 33 feet on Gore street, with a depth of 73 feet.

The firm of Messrs. Fisher & Fisher, dealers in mens' furnishings at wholesale in this city, has removed from Wellington street to 32 Front street west, where they have a more roomy warehouse.

The New Brunswick Cotton Mills are manufacturing the "Lansdowne Tweeds," which a St. John paper describes as "strong, durable, and handsome. For boys' wear they are unequalled."

It is stated by the Perth *Expositor* that Mr. Neil McLean, of Cornwall, has been appointed manager of the Bank of Montreal at Brockville, and Mr. B. Tassie takes Mr. McLean's place as agent at Cornwall.

The Montreal Loan and Mortgage company has taken out a warrant for the arrest of Geo. W. Craig, ex-Manager of the Company, for the embezzlement of \$1,600. The accused is at present a refugee in New York.

The retiring manager of the Ontario Bank in Winnipeg, Mr. James F. Field, was made the recipient of a presentation, at the hands of his friends, of an address and purse. The presentation was made at the Board of Trade rooms in that city.

Job Abbot, President of the Dominion Bridge Company, has awarded sub-contracts to Fleming and Sons, for the manufacture of all the material for the iron trestle along the wharves of the St. John bridge and railway extension. The erection of the main bridge will be commenced about the first of July.

The Canadian branch of the Edison Electric Light company, has now orders for dynamo lamps, etc., equal to 1,700 lights, for steamships, sugar refineries, factories, hotels, etc. Osborne, Killey & Co., late Killey & Co., are now running with nearly their full force on the work to get it out in time.

It is estimated that about 5,000,000 cubic feet of cottonwood, sycamore, basswood and elm have been cut this winter in Essex county, along the shore of Lake St. Clair, for manufacture into hoops and heading. It will all be rafted next summer and floated down the river to Detroit and Trenton mills.

At the Little Rock, Arkansas, Telephone Exchange lately a call came in from a residence for a feed store. "Hello!" "Hello! What is it?" "Mamma says send up a sack of oats and a bale of hay," in a child's voice. "Who is it for?" inquired the feed man. "Why, for the cow," drawled the youngster, and closed up.

The Hamilton Gas Light Company has held its annual meeting. A good year was reported and the report was unanimously adopted. At a special meeting held afterwards, the by-law framed for an increase in the capital stock was adopted. The members of the late board of directors were re-elected as follows:—James Cummings, John Eastwood, F. W. Fearman, F. W. Gates, D. Martin, John Proctor and John Riordon. Mr. Gates has been chosen president, and Mr. Cummings, vice-president.

At a Methodist conference held recently in Ohio the first subject discussed was life insurance. A clear-headed divine, Rev. Mr. Hammell, vigorously sat down on a plan for co-operative insurance, showing that "denominational enterprises are short-lived and lacked the strength necessary to inspire confidence," and that "the principles of life insurance, as formulated by recognized authorities, are such that unless they are acted upon, there can be no real insurance upon life."

A furniture dealer in Brockville, T. McEwan, late of Bell & McEwan, who failed several years ago, has suspended, owing \$5000 and having \$4000 assets. He was burnt out recently without insurance. — Another furniture concern, that of Long & Bailey, of Sherbrooke, is in difficulties, and is offering fifty cents on the dollar, payable in four and six months. They also were burned out lately and claim to have lost \$5,000, with only \$1,000 insurance.

By S. S. *Australia* which arrived at San Francisco on the 25th Feb., mails from N. S. Wales and New Zealand were received, which consisted of: 43,502 letters, 1,001 registered letters, 4,328 books, and 46,355 newspapers. These were contained in 201 bags from New Zealand and 157 bags from N. S. Wales, the weight of the whole being 4½ tons. These figures give some idea of the extent of the correspondence and the commerce of our antipodean brethren.

HARVEY A. GREEN, a grocer in a small way in Montreal, has assigned with limited local liabilities. — Edward Laferriere, a cigar and tobacco dealer of the same place, who recently sold his stock, was capiased by one of his creditors with whom he settled; a second *capias* however has now been issued, on which he is held. — The Misses Benjamin, doing a millinery business at St. Johns, Que. have failed, and are offering 25 cents on the dollar, which most of the creditors have accepted. Liabilities are about \$1,000. — A carriage maker at North Augusta, Ont., Solomon Manhard, has written to his creditors offering a compromise of 25 cents. Liabilities small.

That tobacco, as usually prepared by the manufacturers, is often sweetened with molasses, honey, licorice, etc., is not doubted, but few people know that a considerable percentage of sugar is a natural constituent of tobacco. Yet Prof. Atfield, F. R. S., finds that eight samples obtained from planters in different parts of Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina gave to 100 parts of leaf, from 5.57 to 9.60 parts of tobacco sugar, and from 8.23 to 12.80 parts of total saccharoid matter. In tobacco grown in unfavorable conditions, or without sufficient heat, the amount of sugar is often but a mere trace, while for light colored or bright Virginia leaf it will average about ten per cent.

A DEPUTATION of Kingston aldermen and citizens interviewed the Minister of Railways with reference to the Rideau canal, so as to open navigation to the westward to a chain of small lakes, Lake Devil, Knowlton, Mud, Canoe, and Birch. In support of the scheme, to cost say \$10,000, it was urged that 150 square miles of land would be increased in value, and that a large area now under water would be reclaimed. Some 500 miles of coast line would become accessible to navigation, and some 50,000 acres of land, well wooded, and rich in iron and phosphate, would be brought within the reach of the market. It was also stated that the waters of the canal are yearly becoming lower, and new feeders must soon be acquired.

DESPITE the quantities of whiskey produced by the great distilleries of Toronto, Windsor and elsewhere in Ontario, "crooked whiskey" continues to be made. The officers of the inland revenue department of Hamilton sent officers to Ancaster the other day, and in the house of M. T. Evans found Evans, David Davis, and W. Fox, with a handsome thirty gallon copper still, charged, and just fired up in the cellar, ready to make a particularly fiery brand of crooked whiskey. The three men were arrested and placed in gaol in Hamilton, charged with infraction of the revenue laws. The still was seized and brought to headquarters. Two barrels of whiskey were found and destroyed. A Toronto

saloon-keeper name Orpen is implicated, it appears.

The *Railroad Gazette* gives the following list of meetings and conventions of railroad associations and technical societies to be held: Western Association of General Passenger & Ticket Agents, at the Burnett House in Cincinnati, O., on Monday, March 17. National Association of General Passenger & Ticket Agents, regular annual meeting, at the Burnett House in Cincinnati, O., at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 18. Master Car-Builders' Club, regular monthly, on Thursday evening, March 20, at 8 o'clock. Subject for discussion: Car Wheels and Axles, including the Seating of Wheels to Gauge on Axles. Railway Car Accountants' Association, annual convention, in Richmond, Va., on Tuesday, May 20. Master Car-Builders' Association, annual convention, in Saratoga, N. Y., beginning on Tuesday, June 10. Master Mechanics' Association, annual convention in Long Branch, N. J., beginning on Tuesday, June 17.

ONE of the most unexpected failures that we have had to report for some time past, is that of E. Donahue & Co., general dealers at Farnham, Que. Their business was the leading one in that place, having been established years ago by Mr. William Donahue, now a wholesale merchant of Montreal. Mr. E. Donahue continued the business after his brother's departure, and has always been active in any enterprise calculated to advance the interests of the town. He was a promoter and director of the Farnham Beet-root Sugar Co., in which he may have risked too much capital, and it is feared that he may have been involved by the failure of Bradley Barlow, of the South Eastern Railway, in which road Mr. Donahue evinced a lively interest. Liabilities must be pretty large, though not yet stated definitely. An offer of forty cents on the dollar has been made to creditors. The standing of the firm was good to the very last moment, and it could have readily got large credits, immediately previous to the failure.

THAT Port Arthur is growing fast will readily appear from the following figures furnished by the Collector of Customs: The increase of population at Port Arthur during last season was about 1,000, and about 200 new buildings were erected. Four large docks are being built by private enterprise. The works being carried on by the railway company are giving great satisfaction to the citizens. Some of the stores have done a business of over \$100,000 per month. One butcher's bill for meat supplied to contractors on the Canadian Pacific Railway construction amounted to \$100,000 for one month. The value of goods entered at the port during 1888, \$1,079,920; duty collected, 115,321. Other revenues collected, \$2,130. Goods exported, \$61,878. The number of Canadian vessels entered was 485; tonnage, 217,608; weight of cargoes, 81,124. Total of American vessels, 188; tonnage, 85,291; weight, 115,498. The crown timber agent, is now engaged in examining the timber limits of the district, to arrive at estimate of its extent. Districts said to contain 300,000,000 feet of timber have already been examined. Considerable quantities of these logs are being taken out this winter for manufacture during the coming season. The mining interests, west and south, on the line of the proposed Thunder Bay and Duluth railroad, are promising. Immense deposits of iron ore have recently been discovered on the line of this road and distant about 39 miles from Port Arthur. This ore is said to be equal to the renowned Vermillion Lake iron mine in Minnesota. The ore is supposed to contain about 68 per cent. of metallic iron. A new discovery of silver ore has been made adjacent to the Rabbit Mountain mine.