

FORTY-SIX and a half millions of letters and postal cards were transmitted by the Canadian postal department during the year ending with June last.

JOHN T. FRASER & Co., the car spring firm of Halifax, have at last been discharged from the bankruptcy court after a long resistance from the creditors of the estate.

MR. NATHANIEL WEST, a wealthy West India merchant, died in Halifax last week, leaving a large fortune to his relatives, and also sundry handsome bequests to churches and charitable institutions.

THE New Brunswick Paper Company are sending from two to four tons of leather board per week to France. This company has orders for 7,000 reams of wrapping paper, and they are also making a good quality of printing paper, which finds a ready market in the Dominion.

P. C. DUMONTIER, of Levis, who has been in business upwards of twenty-five years, and considered one of the "solid men" of the place, is in trouble, and offering a compromise at ten shillings. Liabilities amount to about \$32,000; but he shows a good surplus, and with an extension hopes to pull through.

RATES of Exchange, 10th Feb., 1877: St. John; sterling, 6ods, $9\frac{1}{2}$; sight, do, $9\frac{3}{4}$; United States Gold & p. c.; Currency Cheques 41 dis.; Montreal 1 p. c.; Toronto 1 dis. Halifax; sterling, 6ods, 9; sight, do, 9§; United States Gold § p. c. ; Currency Cheques 4²/₄ dis. ; Montreal $\frac{1}{8}$ p. c.; Toronto $\frac{1}{8}$ p. c.

AT the annual meeting of the Canadian Rubber Co., held recently, the following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Sir Hugh Allan, President; Adolphe Roy, Vlce-President; Andrew Allan; James Benning; and Wm. Moodie; Francis Scholes, Manager; and J. O. considered satisfactory, and a dividend of ten per cent. for the year was declared. At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. W.

Valois & Co., of Montreal, shoe-manufacturers, it was decided to sell the assets of the estate by auction. Those interested in the dry-goods firm of F. & H. Guerin, lately insolvent in the same city, decided to adopt a like course with their effects. These are hopeful signs in the interests of trade, indicating that at last the custom of "compromising and going on again," is beginning to be departed from.

THE annual meeting of the Quebec Rubber Co., was held on the 31st ult. This company got into rather deep water more than a year ago through the inadequacy of their manager, and the business the past year has been conducted of late by Messrs. Withall & Ross who have turned out first-class goods, and done much to retrieve the repute of their manufactures. The directors elected for the ensuing year are Wm. Withall, Esq., President, Hon, P. Garneau Vice-President. Messrs. John Ross, J. Hamel, M. C. Mullarky, P. S. Murphy, J. H. Botterell, J. Louis, jr., and Frank Ross, directors.

A writ of attachment has been issued against F. X. Major, dry goods merchant of St. Joseph street, Montreal. Assets about \$40,000, liabilities stated at about \$30,000, and due mainly to one house. He has borne the reputation of doing the largest business in his district, but it must have been a losing one all along, for it is scarcely two years since he compromised at eighty-one and a quarter cents in the dollar.

A large deputation of the representatives of the different municipalities along the line of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway, waited upon the local Government a few days ago and pressed upon them the necessity of granting aid

Orangeville. It appears that the contract for building this section had been given out previous to the passing of the Railway Act, and that the contractor had failed, necessitating the re-letting of the road. Wherefore, the memorialists contend that it should come within the provisions of the Railway Aid Act. The Premier recognized the importance of the matter and promised it the early attention of the Government.

MESSRS. Henderson, Bostwick & Co. have taken the trouble to give in an evening paper an unqualified denial of our statements last week respecting that firm. Had it not been for this we would not have thought it necessary again to refer to the matter. They have explained to us that they had really been supporting their Belleville customer and on this ground excuse themselves for holding so much of her They also state that the Prespaper. cott milliner had continued to purchase goods up to the end of the year, but do not deny having taken from her the amount of accommodation paper we alleged. This is really the main point. With the exception of such little inaccuracies as these, the main features of our statement were reliable. During this week we have obtained additional facts, which, if published, would not improve the opinion generally entertained of the mode in which the firm have conducted their affairs of late.

-We learn that Mr. Davison who has been for many years manager of the Phoenix Insurance Co., of London, has been offered and has accepted an appointment as manager of the Canadian fire department of the Royal Canadian Insurance Company. Mr. Davison is one Grarel, Sec. Tres. The statement presented was to that portion of the line between Weston and of the oldest insurance men in Montreal and