

SOME capitalists are seeking incorporation as the National Oil Co., with a capital of \$150,000 and headquarters at Petrolia.

THE largest number of pieces of commercial travellers' baggage ever stored in the C.P.R. baggage room at Winnipeg was registered on Saturday last, upwards of 130 pieces having been placed under the care of the baggage-master during the week.

MRS. A. O'NEIL, wife of J. C. O'Neil, Paris, formerly kept the Windsor Hotel. This they sold and bought the liquor business of one Ryan nearly a year ago. In this trade she has met with but little success. Her effects are chattel mortgaged and she has assigned.

THE discovery has been made by Mr. G. W. Mingaye, after eight years in the drug business in this city, that he has not made any money, and about the end of last month he sold his stock to W. Murchison. Now he makes assignment to Harry Vigeon.—John Gibson, merchant, Toronto Junction, also assigns.

ON the 23rd inst. the first cargo of Canadian ice ever brought to Philadelphia was landed there by the brig "Harry Stewart," from St. John, N.B. It was, says the *Record*, a surprise to the ice dealers, who fear that more frozen British water may be imported to preserve humanity during the sweltering summer months. The cargo consisted of 430 tons. Under the McKinley bill ice now goes into the U. S. free.

A DEMAND of assignment has been made upon Dame Dorcas Gilbert, doing business in coal, grain, &c., at Montreal, under the style of D. Parent & Co. The liabilities are \$6,800.—J. J. McRae, a hotelkeeper, at Alexandria, who has been financially in weakly shape for some time, is reported as absent, and there is not much in the shape of assets to meet the claims of creditors.

QUITE a number of schooners are engaged in the coal trade between Parrsboro, and St. John, N.B., says the *Globe*. For quite a long time rates were such that it barely paid. Now a cut of five cents is reported to have taken place at Parrsboro. Schooner men say they cannot afford to carry coal at rates now offered, and a number of the captains intend to lay up their vessels.

THE general store firm of Joseph Ste. Marie & Co., at St. Urbain, Que., have assigned. The firm only dates from January, 1891, and Mr. Ste. Marie had been as a merchant previously unsuccessful.—F. A. Millette, a grocer at Windsor Mills, who only began business in

Nov., 1890, has had to assign. Over competition is assigned as the cause of his failure.

HIVE of industry is what the Fredericton, N.B., *Farmer* calls the business of Mr. Alex. Gibson. The total number of workmen now employed in his cotton and lumber branches reaches about 1,200. Of this number 500 are engaged in the cotton mill, 65 in the lath mill, 40 in the shingle mill, 90 in the saw mills, 30 in the brick yard, 380 on the lumber drives, 25 on the booms on the Nashwaak River, and some 30 or 40 at his Blackville mill. Mr. Gibson has been in Marysville for about thirty years, and in that time has manufactured something like six hundred million feet of lumber, all of which has been cut on the Nashwaak waters.

A CHANGE has taken place in the long-established St. George Agricultural Works conducted successfully for so many years by Messrs. B. Bell & Son. Owing to the death of the proprietors the concern has been purchased by the estate of the late Charles F. Bell, partner of the late firm, and Mr. F. K. Bell, his son, and will be continued under the style of the former firm of B. Bell & Son. Mr. F. K. Bell has been for years the acting representative of his father's estate and is therefore familiar with the business. It is to be hoped that the new firm will be as successful as the old one in carrying on this important concern.

THE *New York World* is giving some attention to the Keeley cure for drunkenness. That journal devotes a column or two of recent issues to a report upon the subject by Dr. A. W. Jackson, of New York, who, together with Dr. Graeme Hammond, son of the well-known Dr. W. A. Hammond, has been studying the pathological results of what has come to be known as Keeley's bi-chloride of gold solution as a cure for alcoholic drunkenness. Dr. Jackson has made a careful analysis of the fluid and declares it to contain atropine, a powerful poison, the active principle of belladonna; caffeine, the active principle of coffee; cocaine, a narcotic and stimulant from the Peruvian shrub *coca*; codeine, an alkaline substance obtained from opium, and strychnine, an alkaloid of the *nux vomica*. All these five powerful poisonous elements, but, he asserts, no bi-chloride of gold.

ONE of those pests to society, known as shoddy pedlars, has, says the *Monitor*, been getting in his work among some simple Mennonites, near Morden, Man. The individual's name is R. McRoberts, and he hands

around a portentous card bearing the name of "The Montreal Grange Supply Co." This person succeeded in selling goods to the amount of \$66 to four Mennonites, and as an inducement he promised his dupes that if they would make the purchase that they would become shareholders in the firm and have the privilege of ordering all goods in the future at cost price. In addition he promised that when travelling on the C.P.R. they would have the privilege of a deduction of one-third the price of their tickets. The goods were brought into Morden, and business men in the town gave it as their opinion that the goods were not worth \$10 or \$15 at most. All that glitters is not gold.

FROM the Tyldesley Diary, kept during the years 1712, 1713, 1714 by Thomas Tyldesley, a Lancashire gentleman of good social position and moderate estate, we get the following information about prices: A peck of peas cost a shilling; two salmon fish 6d.; to get a mare shod 1s. and 4d. On July 1st, Mr. Tyldesley, of Fox Hall, near Garstang, goes to Cockerham sale and buys a bull for £5 1s., a rather strange price for a bull, and he pays for building a 60-ton ship at the rate of £1 2s. per ton. But, as the editor of the diary remarks, "money, as experience proves, has only a relative value, and alters with the varying circumstances of society." For instance, in the fourteenth century a fat ox sold for 16s.; a sheep 1s. 2d.; a hog 3s. 4d.; a goose 2½d.; whilst ale was 1d. per gallon and shoes 4d. per pair. In the sixteenth century beef and mutton were one halfpenny per pound, veal and pork three farthings. Early in the nineteenth century, say 1828, beef was 7d. per pound and mutton 6d. In 1872, the price of beef was from 11d. to 1s. per lb.; mutton 11d.; and pork 9d.

LA BANQUE NATIONALE.—The transactions of this institution for the year ended with April resulted in a profit of \$73,641, which equals 6.137 per cent. upon the paid capital of \$1,200,000. After paying dividend \$1,641 was carried to Profit and Loss. Some of the directors have been visiting different parts of the country with the view of opening new branches, but no action has yet been taken in this direction. Addition has been made to the by-laws of the bank in a provision, agreed to at this meeting, that shareholders shall have one vote for each share of capital stock held for at least 30 days before the annual meeting.

Leading Wholesale Trade of Toronto.

J. F. EBY.

HUGH BLAIN.

SPRING ARRIVALS.

GROSSE & BLACKWELL'S

Soups,
Jams,
Pickles,
Olives,
Sardines,
Potted Meats,
Mustard,
Preserved Ginger

MORTON'S

Arrowroot,
Olives,
Pickles,
Herbs,
BLOATER PASTE,
Pickles

KIPPERED
HERRING

EBY, BLAIN & Co.,

Wholesale Grocers

Front and Scott Sts.,
Toronto, Ont.

Leading Wholesale Trade of Toronto.

Spring Stock
Renewed Weekly

Wyld, Grasett & Darling

Dry Goods
Woollens and
Men's
Furnishings

Leading Wholesale Trade of Toronto.

—THE—
BARBER & ELLIS CO.

43-49 Bay Street,
TORONTO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

* Special **BLANK BOOKS**

FOR
Merchants and Manufacturers,

ALSO **TRIAL BALANCE BOOKS.**