

composing the stock were valued at \$19,000; the book debts, &c., could not be estimated, owing to the disorder in book-keeping. The inspector stated that Mr. Coy was unable to say what his estate might yield at present. After rather a laughable discussion of the merits of official assignees in Montreal and other parts, and an implied resolution to uphold the action of the larger creditors in the premises, the meeting separated in good humour.

—August, being a hot month, and coming between the business seasons, is naturally chosen for the time of civic holidays. Quite a number of towns and cities have indulged in a day's festivity thus far this month: Stratford on the 6th; Brampton and Whitby on the 7th and 9th, the excursions from both places visiting our Victoria Park; Chatham on the 12th. That of Guelph took place on the 14th. The civic holiday of Toronto was held on Monday last, the 12th inst.; but from the preparations that are making at that transpontine suburb of ours, Niagara, for a consolation rowing race on Saturday next, at which all the recent celebrities of the oar are to be present either as contestants or officials, a virtual civic holiday may almost be looked for then.

—At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the South Eastern Railway Company, held in Montreal last week, the following gentlemen were elected directors:—Hon. Bradley Barlow, James O'Halloran, Q.C., B. B. Smalley, A. B. Chaffee, C. W. Foster, A. B. Foster, S. W. Foster, J. G. Richardson, E. L. Chandler, N. Pettes. At a subsequent meeting of the directors the two first named gentleman were elected president and vice-president; Mr. Chaffee, secretary-treasurer; Mr. Foster, general manager, and C. W. Foster, general superintendent.

—Within the past week, the prospects of the Credit Valley Railway have become very much brighter. Mr. George Laidlaw is said to have been successful in his mission to England to raise money to complete the line. That gentleman telegraphs that Sanders Brothers have arranged credits and purchased 16,000 tons of steel rails with fastenings to finish the road to St. Thomas, Elora and Orangeville, and have also arranged for rolling stock. This is subject to the required bonuses and the exchange of debentures. There are four thousand tons of the rails ready for shipment, which can probably be laid this season.

—At a meeting of the directors of the Belleville and North Hastings Railway Company held in Belleville on the 9th inst., Mr. M. B. Bowell was elected President, with Mr. D'Arcy Boulton and Mr. Hugel as new directors.

—The Quebec Gas Company has declared a dividend of four per cent. for the current half year.

—The Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, in connection with the North and West Oxford Agricultural Association, have offered a large number of prizes varying from \$5 to \$50, for the best samples of cheese and butter. The exhibition will be opened at Ingersoll, on Monday, the 16th prox.

—Jacques Grenier, Esq., of Montreal, was admitted on the 13th inst., a member of the Board of La Banque du Peuple, to replace G. R. Fabre, resigned.

#### WIND AND LIGHTNING.

During the last ten days storms of wind, rain and hail have been numerous in Canada; scarcely any locality seems to have escaped. In addition to the damage done here by the hail storm of last week, our fire record states that a great many barns have been burned by lightning, or destroyed by wind. About Orillia and over to Norwood it was especially severe, about a dozen dwellings, barns, etc. were destroyed in each of these localities. The loss of these will in most instances fall heavily on the Mutual Insurance Companies. Indeed the storm continued in a south-easterly course until it reached Connecticut, where it seemed to vent its fury, damaging property and destroying some twenty-five lives. We give below a few instances of these accidents. The loss of cattle in the field by lightning stroke is probably unpreventable in many cases; but we still think, as we have often stated, that many of these lightning fires might be averted by proper precautions as to buildings.

Nottawa, Aug. 9.—A very severe storm of wind, lightning, hail and rain broke over this place, levelling fences, uprooting trees, breaking windows, &c. The farmers report great damage to all kinds of grain not harvested.—Mill Point, Aug. 9.—Another very destructive thunder storm passed over this place. The hail fell violently, destroying about one thousand panes of glass throughout the town, uprooting trees and destroying gardens.—Cherry Valley, Aug. 9.—Four head of cattle were killed by lightning this morning on the farm of Joseph Martin.—It is said that Jones' mill at Painsec Junction, N.B., was struck by lightning on Tuesday night and burned down. Some lumber was also destroyed.—Frankford, Aug. 9.—During a terrific thunder storm, about three o'clock this morning, a barn filled with hay, wheat and farm implements, belonging to Joshua Anderson, was struck by lightning and totally consumed. Loss covered in the Victoria Mutual of Hamilton.—Orillia, Aug. 9.—Nine buildings have been more or less damaged by hail storm to-day.

Wallacetown, Aug. 6th.—A tornado demolished the barns of Archd Gow, Malcolm McIntyre and Mr. Bowland, about the same time the lightning struck Mr. Fletcher's barns, and destroyed two large barns and two sheds filled with fruits of a plentiful harvest, and about 400 bushels of last year's wheat, consuming the entire lot.

Aberfoyle, Ont., Aug. 5.—A young horse, owned by John Smith, of this place, was killed by lightning; insured.

Bobcaygeon, Aug. 5.—The barn of Wm. Kelso was struck by lightning, which consumed the barn, driving shed, stables, and most of his

hay crop. Loss over \$2,000; insured in the Agricultural of London for \$1,400.

Ottawa, Aug. 7.—A barn belonging to Egbert Matt, in the 7th concession of Thurlow, was struck by lightning and completely destroyed, the season's hay crop, a large quantity of grain, harness, waggon and farming implements. Loss \$600; insured for \$500.

Hibbert, Aug. 6.—Mr. William Oliver had two barns burnt by lightning. There were 10 acres of fall wheat, 10 acres of peas and 20 tons of hay and several implements in the barns, all of which were consumed. Loss over \$2,000; insured for \$1,000.

Marmora, Aug. 8.—The barn of John Monaghan was struck by lightning and destroyed.

Quebec, Aug. 8.—The house of Joseph Pouliot, situated on the Island of Orleans, was struck by lightning and considerably shattered.

Orford, Aug. 1.—The barn of M. E. Anstice was struck by lightning and burned to the ground, with contents, consisting of season's crop of hay, wheat and barley. Insured for \$600.

Norwich, Aug. 6.—Yesterday afternoon Wm. Kingwell, six miles west of here, had his barn, with all its contents, burnt by lightning. Loss considerable.

North Dunwich, Aug. 5th.—Robert Fletcher's barn with this season's crop, farming implements 300 bushels of old wheat was burned by lightning. Loss \$2,000, insured for 800. In the same storm Mr. Gough's barn was dashed to splinters.

Smithville, Aug. 6th.—During a heavy thunder storm Daniel Huntsman's house was struck by lightning, tearing off a portion of the roof, and one of the chimneys, thence passing down the eave spout damaging one end of the house considerably.

Wroxeter, Aug. 6.—The barn and contents, of Mrs. S. Walker were burned by lightning. They consisted of about 350 bushels of last year's wheat, together with 11 acres of fall wheat 27 loads of hay, a large quantity of barley and peas. It also killed a horse. Loss about \$2,000 insured for \$1,000 in Agricultural Insurance Company, of London.

Clifford, Aug. 6th.—A terrific storm destroyed three buildings which were struck by lightning.

Ridgeway, Ont., Aug. 6th.—The lightning struck a barn belonging to Mr. Athol, about a mile north of the village, entirely consuming it and contents. A dwelling house adjoining, occupied by James Teal, shared the same fate, but most of the contents were saved. No insurance on the buildings or contents.

Huntington, Aug. 6.—The house of John Sayers was struck by lightning and injured to the extent of \$150.

Wolfe Island, Aug. 9.—The barn of Mr. John Baker was struck with lightning and burned down. The barn and contents were valued at \$2,000; no insurance.

FIRE RECORD.—St. George, N. B., Aug. 10.—The Utopia, a screw steamer of 17 tons, was burned last night. Insured in the Western for \$4,000.

St. John, N. B., Aug. 12.—James Hamilton's house on Paradise Row, Portland, was badly damaged by fire this morning. Insured for \$3,000.

Port Dalhousie, Aug. 11.—A fire this a.m. destroyed three buildings on Front street, owned by Joseph Walkerley, John Young, and Thomas Lynch. The following parties were burnt out: Wood Bros., grocers, lost entire stock, insured for \$1,000 in the Queen's; John T. Young, general stock, partial loss; E. T. Dwyer, tobaccos and stationery, loss light; no insurance; Dom. Telegraph Co., light loss. John T. Young's building was insured in the Hartford for \$1,000; the other buildings partly insured.