

An English brewery firm has been making enquiries in Winnipeg as to whether half a million bushels of barley can be had in this country. It thinks, says the *Free Press*, that it could afford to pay fifty cents per bushel in Winnipeg.

LETTERS patent have been issued incorporating the Brantford Vinegar, Broom and Brush Co., (limited) with a capital stock of \$20,000. The members are all Brantford men, viz:—Wm. T. Wickham, James B. Holt, Chas. Whitney, William Ismond, Stephen Smith, William Edwards and J. Henry Belfry.

It is said that the season's disbursements in the blueberry industry in New Brunswick will add \$10,000 to the receipts of the people engaged therein. One Boston dealer has taken as many as 100 crates a day. The market has ruled firm from the first, there being a brisk demand from the United States.

At an auction sale of debentures in St. John, N.B., city of Portland bonds, \$11,000 six per cent., due 1895, brought 107½, \$500 due 1896, 108½, \$500 five per cent. 1907, 101. St. John city bonds, \$1,700 6 per cent. 1890, brought 103½, and \$500 due 1897 brought 110½. Bank New Brunswick stock sold at 206½ and 210.

The railway wharf at Richmond, near Halifax, is to be rebuilt at a cost of \$50,000. Thos. C. Connor and R. C. Donald, of Moncton, are the successful tenderers. Richmond wharves are the *entrepot* for the heavy freight traffic of the Intercolonial and Windsor & Annapolis railways, and are now in a very dilapidated and decayed condition.

In contrast with good fruit crops in Ontario, the Annapolis, N.S., fruit growers now estimate the smallest crop of apples for many years, and some experts who have gone over the apple districts of Nova Scotia state that the crop will be about one fourth of what it was last year. Early in the season it was expected that a good export trade would gladden the hearts of the orchardists and storekeepers in the Annapolis valley, but all their bright anticipations have been dissipated by the canker worm and the drought.

MR. W. B. TORRANCE, the accountant in the Canadian Bank of Commerce, in this city, is going to become a Bluenose. This will be the gain of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, in which institution he takes a similar position in Halifax, and the loss of the Commerce. His genial smile and obliging manner will be missed by the numerous customers of the bank here, and that he has also occupied a warm place in the regard of his associates is evinced by the presentation made him some few days ago. With a handsome clock for his mantel and a gold ring on his finger, the thoughts of old times in Toronto will always be fresh in his memory.

MR. HERMAN SCHIENER is the "poet merchant" of Newark, and he has just returned from a short trip through Germany and France. An order which he sent to Joseph Vath the other day, says the *American Grocer*, read as follows:—

"Friend Joseph, if you please
Tell me all about French Peas,
If they'll be scarce or plenty,
Mayhap you can for twenty
Cents buy some Extra Fine,
If you can, do not say 'Nein,'
But buy and smile 'ein gut geschäft'
'Il est un froid jour quand je suis left.'
Quote fine, surfine and extra fine."

THE Chandler Electric Light Company, which has tendered successfully for the lighting of the Halifax streets, is composed of Messrs. J. W. Chandler, of Moncton; Charles Amand, W. B. McSweeney, Joseph Seeton and

John Dunn, of Halifax. The capital is \$50,000; in 5,000 shares of \$10 each. The Halifax Electric Light Co. held a meeting last Saturday to ratify the act of the directors in selling out to the gas company, when resolutions were passed confirming the sale and ordering a winding-up of the affairs of the company. The directors informed the shareholders that there would be \$30,000 to \$35,000 for distribution, which would repay from 50 to 55 per cent. of the capital stock, the balance having been lost in the working of the past three years.

THE total value of the exports of merchandise and produce from New York to foreign ports, for the week ending September 6, was \$126,086 in excess of the previous week. The total exports since January 1 are \$8,399,169 less than for the same period last year. The following table, says the *Shipping List*, gives comparisons for the past three years:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
For the week...	\$ 6,478,297	\$ 6,365,786	\$ 6,725,051
Prev. reported..	221,527,754	210,283,923	201,525,289
Since Jan. 1.....	\$227,966,051	\$216,649,509	\$208,250,340

A BAILIFF is in possession of the premises of Charles Smith, jun., at Hamilton. He is a manufacturer of paper boxes in a small way, and a local firm has fore-closed its chattel mortgage.—The affairs of John Matheson, a marble dealer in London, are said to be in a very bad condition and no particulars of his assignment, just announced, can yet be had.—Just about a year ago, the Toronto Engineering and Supply Company began operations. It has evidently proved a profitless undertaking, for an assignment has now been made.—T. L. Nichols, a lumber dealer at Welland, has been absent from his business for several days and the sheriff has seized and is disposing of his stock. He never made any headway although in trade for some years.—About six years ago, John Clayton left this city to assume the shoe business formerly carried on in Barrie by Charlesworth & Co., of Toronto. The stock amounted in value to \$8,000, which he took over at 90 cents on the dollar. He has never been able to clear himself of this liability and a suit resulting from the Charlesworth failure has forced him to assign.—A firm of bakers in Mitchell is in financial trouble. Stark & Jewell is the name and the former having, it is said, cleared out with considerable of the funds, the remaining partner has assigned.—The offer of 40 cents on the dollar made by Tate & Barrigan, milliners, of Port Perry, some weeks ago, has evidently not been accepted, for they have now assigned.—E. McGarvey, a carriage maker at Strathroy, has also failed.—It is understood that the Clarry Wool Manufacturing Co., of this city, is about to ask for an extension of 4, 8 and 12 months.—J. H. Fyfe, a very respectable dry goods dealer in Toronto, has been closed by a leading city firm to which his indebtedness is large.—D. J. Bradley, another dry goods dealer in this city, has assigned to Donaldson & Milne. He owes about \$1800 and has assets of \$750. Creditors are likely to get but a very small dividend.

—The customs' revenue at Fredericton for August was \$4,240, an increase of \$964.99 over the corresponding month of last year. Some \$1,300 duty on machinery was paid by the agent of a London firm. The machinery is for the Marysville cotton mill. During the month Mr. Gibson received two large consignments of raw cotton for the mill, one, the value of which was, \$24,268 and the other \$15,288, which swelled the value of free goods to \$40,793 for the month.

MANUFACTURERS' NOTES.

Martinea & Smith's *Hardware Trade Journal* gives the following recipe for a good black varnish for iron work: "Take 8 lbs. of asphaltum and fuse it in an iron kettle, then add two gallons boiled linseed oil, 1 lb. of litharge, ½ lb. sulphate of zinc (add these slowly or it will fume over), and boil them for about three hours. Then add 1½ lbs. of dark gum amber and boil for two hours longer, or until the mass will become quite thick when cool. After this it should be thinned with turpentine to the proper consistency.

For tempering articles of steel, a temperature of 750 degs. will, says a Birmingham paper, produce a dark blue color on polished steel, 590 degs. a pale blue. Oil or grease of any kind will answer for drawing the temper of cutlery. The temper for lancets is obtained at 430 degs. Fahr., axes at 500 degs., swords and watch springs at 530 degs., small saws at 570 degs., and large saws at 590 degs. Copper colored spots are not produced by tempering, but they may be obtained on the polished surface of steel by immersing the article in a solution of sulphate of copper.

Glass plates have been substituted for copper in the sheathing of an Italian ship, the advantage claimed being exemption from oxidation and incrustation. The glass was cut in plates to fit the hull. A new process, which, it is said, promises to be of much use to iron and steel-masters, has just been brought out jointly by two chemists in the English Midlands. The invention, which is patent, consists in the employment of Thomas-Gilchrist basic slag, instead of sand, for the bottom of mill and other reheating furnaces. It possesses, it is claimed, many advantages over the sand and mine bottoms hitherto in general use, prominent among which are:—(1) A decrease in furnace waste of 2½ per cent. on the iron heated; (2) the production of a fine cinder, which forms an excellent filling for the puddling furnace, and which is in every way equal to the best ball top, in place of the ordinary fine cinders from sand bottoms; (3) improvement in the surface of bars, plates, sheets and other sections rolled from the bottom; and (4) reduced cost for repairing and fettling the bottom, owing to the small amount of ore required.

The new Master-Cutler of Sheffield is Mr. James Dixon, of Tylcote, Ranmoor, and his installation was to take place on 1st September, current, that being the evening of the cutlers' feast. Mr. Dixon is the grandson of the founder of Cornish Place, the well-known seat of the great firm of James Dixon & Sons, silversmiths and electro-platers. It is recorded of Mr. James Dixon, the founder, who lived at Page Hall, near Sheffield, that one day he said to Mr. Young, jun., member of a firm with which he was connected, "Mr. John, I have a thought in my mind that will make my fortune." This was the manufacture in Britannia metal of articles that had as yet been produced only in silver and silver plate. Brittle crockeryware was soon superseded by the more enduring metal, and that "thought in his head" made his fortune. Nickel or German silver was afterwards extensively used at these works, and Britannia metal was itself largely superseded by electro-plate. They have all along had a name for the superiority of their productions, and their business is so extensive in all markets that over 700 hands are always fully employed.

Some experiments made by the Cleveland Rolling Mill Company on an alloy of steel with