

Kelso was elected president, John McDougall vice-president, and E. O. Bickford, managing director. After the meeting an informal discussion took place regarding the erection of an elevator. Messrs. Bickford, McDougall and Cowan stated, if half of the money required was raised in Belleville, the Company would supply the other half and then the question dropped.

Among the business changes of the week we notice that Mr. Jonathan Hodgson has retired from the firm of Hodgson & Boyd, wholesale fancy good dealers in this city, and the new style will be Boyd, Bros. & Co.—Geo. W. Warner leaves the wholesale hat and fur firm of Alex. A. Allan & Co. in this city, and the business will be continued by Alex. A. Allan.—Mr. J. L. Bronsdon retires from the paint and oil firm of Bronsdon & Stewart, in Toronto. Mr. Stewart continues the business, and Mr. Bronsdon begins a Manufacturers' Agency.—In Uxbridge Mr. Beal retires from the firm of Paterson & Beal tanners, and the business will be continued by the former.—Samuel Sugden leaves the woollen firm of Sugden, Waterhouse & Co., in the same place.—J. K. Kingsley has been admitted a partner in the wholesale grocery business of W. H. Lyon, in Winnipeg. Style now W. H. Lyon & Co.

An appreciative reader, "A Commercial Traveller," sends us the following. The letter is a capital one to inspire a despondent salesman: "During the last few months you have amused the business public by publishing extracts of letters from greenhorns in the country to wholesale houses in the city. As turn about is fair play, find below an absolutely correct copy of a letter addressed by a leading wholesale house in Canada, to one of their travellers, relative to the existing competition between various houses. Of course I take the liberty of suppressing names. I enclose my card." (Copy.) "DEAR BOY,—I have been very sick, but I am getting better. Your letter received from ——— regarding the cut in prices. My dear boy, you have the biggest thing in the world; the Dominion for your goods, and the great Irish house of ——— at your back. Don't let them get ahead of you, give them your backwash; remember the words of the great Irish general (Wellington.) 'Up guards and at them.' You are the guard, the other fellows are the French: Rout them! horse, foot and artillery!!" Yours sincerely, ———.

—Mr. W. D. Bently, who is, we understand, Consul for Brazil, is again heard from with respect to the line of steamers from Halifax to Rio Janeiro. A letter from Ottawa to the Montreal *Witness* states that that gentleman has written to Mr. McLeod Stuart, Vice-Consul, stating that he had succeeded in organizing a joint stock company, to run a line of steamers between Brazil and Halifax. It will be remembered that both the Canadian and Brazilian Governments granted a subsidy of \$50,000 for this service. It is understood the capital of the company is \$500,000.

—In the course of an address before the electors of Montreal on Monday last, Mr. H. A. Nelson, who has been nominated for the mayor-

alty of that city, after rendering conscientious and valuable service as Alderman, offered some information as to the finances of that city. He considers the present financial position to be very good, and explains that "there has been a great diminution of the debt of the city. As you understand, a large amount of money has been borrowed on thirty years' time, and is being paid for gradually in interest, and a sinking fund extinguishing it at the end of the thirty years. The interest required for the debt of the city is being diminished, not by paying off the debt, for the same amount annually is to be paid for twenty years, but certain bonds that are maturing from time to time, for instance, the Water Works bond of \$900,000 at six per cent. was renewed at 5 per cent. at par. This is a saving of \$9,000 a year to the city. In addition to this there are \$240,000 of 6 per cent. bonds maturing on the 1st of May next, to cover which new 5 per cent. bonds have been issued, and having been placed on the market at from 1½ to 4 per cent premium were promptly taken up by our own citizens."

—The trade of Ontario and Quebec with Manitoba has reached very considerable proportions, as the following figures, which we find in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, show statement of values of merchandise imported from the other Provinces, on which duty was paid or which were manufactured in Canada. Machinery, Hardware and Leather are the only items in the list which do not show increased values. The total increase for the month of January is \$21,268 or over thirteen per cent. Taking the figures for six months ending January, we find an increase in every named department, the total increase being 78 per cent as under:

	From 1st July 1880, to 31st Jan. 1881.	From 1st July 1879, to 31st Jan. 1880.
Machinery, ..	\$ 327,988	\$ 87,334
Groceries, ..	496,764	335,486
Hardware, ..	283,539	120,593
Dry Goods, ..	495,529	297,907
Leather,	135,918	76,701
Liquor,	29,892	21,487
Effects,	333,260	121,649
Not mentioned	264,667	271,256
Totals.	\$2,367,566	\$1,332,413

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