

of the new act for the distribution of insolvent estates in the province of Quebec.—V. Gauthier, who in May, 1883, opened a general store at Roxton Falls, Que., has been obliged to assign. He claimed a capital of \$2,000 to \$2,500, in December last, but for some months latterly had been very slow in payments.

THE National Telephone Exchange Association of the United States will hold its annual meeting this year on the 8th September.

THE Canadian Pacific Telegraph system, will, it is stated, be opened between Montreal and Winnipeg during the coming autumn.

It is stated by the Quebec *Chronicle* that Mr. MacEwen, cashier of the Union Bank of Lower Canada, has gone to England and will probably spend some months abroad. "Mr. Webb has been appointed acting-cashier of the bank. It is understood that Mr. MacEwen will not resume his duties at the Union."

WE learn that the resignation of Mr. L. H. Robertson, manager of the Toronto agency of the Molson's Bank, has been accepted. Mr. C. C. Pison, formerly accountant here, and later in charge of the Trenton agency for the past year, becomes manager at Toronto.

THE quarterly report of Mr. Squire, Commissioner of Public Works for New York City, shows that during the three months ended June 30, nine miles of underground telegraph and telephone wires were laid. At the close of the quarter 703 arc lamps were in use by the city.

THE total number of live stock shipped from Canadian ports to Great Britain, during the week ending July 25th, amounted to 3,073 cattle, and 4,571 sheep. The following steamers carrying live stock are advertised to sail this week:—"Scandinavian," "Lucerne," "Kehrweider," "Dominion," "Brooklyn," "Avlona," "Concordia," "Lake Huron," and "Lake Nepigon."

As an example of low water freight we learn that the propeller "California" is now en route from Chicago to Montreal with a cargo of 18,000 bushels of corn, at the exceptionally low rate of 4c. per bushel. This is the lowest through lake and river freight ever taken via the St. Lawrence route. The lowest rate previously recorded from Chicago to Montreal was 5c. per bushel on a propeller load of wheat.

REFERENCE is made by the *Electrical Review* to some of the complaints made by English inventors seeking patents. The English patent system is, however, improving. From the report of the Comptroller General, just issued, we learn that 17,110 applications for patents were received in 1884, a remarkable gain on 6,241 in 1882, or on 1,211 in 1852. Of these applications, 1,181 were sent in from the United States.

THE late Daniel McGie had been a prominent figure in commercial circles at Quebec for not less than fifty years. Coming to Canada in 1821, while a youth, he entered the service of the North-West Co., then doing an extensive fur trade. He was early a member of the city council and next a member of Trinity House. His kindness and uprightness were known to all in Quebec and his memory will be pleasantly cherished by many.

DREXEL, MORGAN & Co., the New York bankers, last Monday issued a circular to the first mortgage bondholders of the West Shore Railway, saying that the New York Central & Hudson River railway company has issued a contract with them, agreeing to take possession, upon its reorganization, of the New York, West Shore & Buffalo Railway Com-

pany, under a lease, and to guarantee the principal and interest of the bonds.

THE assignment of S. Robertson & Son, bankers at Harriston, is announced. It has been explained that the senior partner has not, for some time past, given that attention to the business which it required. Matters were found in such a shape that it was deemed advisable to assign before they became worse. A rough estimate shows the value of the real estate to be largely in excess of all liabilities. The firm, it is said, will not resume business.

A MANUFACTURING company is about being organized at Cobourg. Notice has been given that a charter will be applied for under the title and style of the Cobourg Woollen Company. It is proposed to make the capital stock \$150,000 in \$100 shares. The promoters of the company are Messrs. Wm. Rosamond, of Cobourg, John Routh, of Cobourg, James A. Cantlie and Alex. Ewan of Montreal, B. Rosamond of Almonte and T. Greenwood, of Port Hope.

A GENERAL meeting of the London Joint-Stock Bank (limited) was held on the 16th inst. A net profit was shown for the past half-year of £113,044, out of which a dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum was declared, and £544 carried forward. The guarantee fund account stands at £1,160,386. On the same day the Central Bank of London held its meeting and showed current and deposit accounts £1,392,735; reserve fund £92,500; discounts and loans to customers £827,912. A dividend of 10 per cent was recommended and £1,900 was carried forward.

THE sixpenny telegram scheme of the Gladstone administration having fallen through, Lord John Manners, the British Postmaster-General, now announces on behalf of the Conservative cabinet that they are prepared to reduce the present telegraph tariff from 25 to 18 cents for ten-word messages, the address to be free, and that in addition they desire to encourage the sending of smaller messages by charging but 12 cents for three-word messages and a cent for each extra word. The English people cannot get the telephone, because of the government monopoly, says the *Electric World*, and want cheap telegrams badly, but do not know how to get them either.

THE Bell Telephone Company is pushing on with its new lines in Ontario at the rate of about thirty miles a day, and has completed the line from Trenton to Picton, taking in also Bloomfield, Wellington, and West Point. Welland has been connected with Thorold and St. Catharines, and the line is now being rapidly finished to Hamilton, Port Colborne, Niagara Falls. Other connections in that neighborhood will also be completed in a few weeks. Montreal will be in communication with Kingston and all towns on the way next month, and by Christmas a line is expected to be built from Ottawa to Brockville via Almonte, Carleton Place, Smith's Falls and Perth.

THE British metals market is thus reported by the *Iron Trades Exchange* of 18th instant:—London, Friday, 17th.—Copper; Chili bars, g.o.b.'s, cash, £44 to £44 7s. 6d.; ditto, three months, £44 10s. to £44 17s. 6d.; English tough, £47 10s. to £48 10f.; ditto, best selected, £48 10s. to £49 10s.; ditto, strong sheets, £56. Tin; fine foreign cash, Straits, £94 10s. to £95; Australian, £94 10s. to £95; ditto, three months, Straits, £92 15s. to £93 5s.; English tough, £97. The Glasgow iron market, which was steady on 13th and 14th became firmer on the 15th, with transactions in pig iron warrants at 41s. cash. On the 16th

the market was easier, with sales at 40s. 11d., closing buyers 40s. 11d., sellers ½d. more.

SHALL we ever hear the last of the old cry to tanners to lessen their production? says the *Shoe and Leather Review*. It should always be borne in mind that tanneries are not like iron, cotton, woollen or paper mills. These latter, in case of emergency, can be closed for a time and with little injury to the machinery. Let the emergency cease, the strike be settled, business revive, and in an hour again are heard the whir of machinery, and the buzz and noise from a myriad revolving wheels and busy hands. But let a tannery remain closed for even a few days, and damp and decay will soon make their baleful presence manifest everywhere. Unused pits will shrivel up with dry rot, and shrink until they leak at every inch; the liquors in vats and leeches will soon decompose; and the machinery, no longer continuously saturated, rusts, rots, and falls to pieces.

THE sheriff has seized and will sell the stock of dry goods belonging to L. N. Johnston of Dresden. Johnston's present difficulty is due to his inability to meet all the payments of his compromise of six months ago. Trade in Dresden is said to be greatly overdone and to this drawback must be added Johnston's lack of energy. He will probably succeed better as a dry goods clerk, in which capacity he will most likely seek employment.—J. C. Butler, a general storekeeper in Glencoe, made an assignment about two weeks ago. His liabilities amount to \$12,000 and assets about the same, but covered by a chattel mortgage. The creditors are trying to arrange a settlement at 25 cents on the dollar. If the estate is brought to the hammer little, if anything will, it is thought, be realized.—John E. Campbell, the proprietor of a small tailoring business at Walkerton, has given up the fight after a half-year's trial.

P. T. BARNUM made millions by persistent advertising. "One thing I wish to say to you," he remarked, "you do not any of you advertise enough. You ought to invoke the printer's ink every day. You are sleepy and want your business to run itself. Standing advertisements in a paper command confidence. The man who for a year resides in a community, and leads a respectable life, even though he be of moderate ability, will grow in the confidence and esteem of his fellows. On the same principle, a newspaper advertisement becomes familiar to the eyes of the reader. It may seldom be read, still it impresses the name and business of a man on the public mind, as the sun does a man's portrait on a chemically-prepared plate of glass, and its presence in the columns of a paper inspires confidence in the stability of the enterprise."

MONCTON, which is one of the most stirring places in the maritime provinces, has claims to a consular agency of the United States, seeing that her trade with that country is growing so fast. No less than 95 vessels cleared for U. S. ports in 1884 against 57 in 1883, and the value of exports was \$90,125 as compared with \$49,594. Among the exports are the following:

	1883.	1884.
Railway ties to U.S.	73,873	147,700
Cords of hemlock bark	3,808	4,466
M. Laths for	906	5,795
M. Scantling	—	15
M. Boards	210	650

Other articles exported are bone-black, green hides, cord wood, square timber, ship's knees, &c. The amount of duties collected at the Moncton Custom House was \$295,009 in 1884 and \$237,155 in 1883. It appears that there is no American Consular agency in either West-