

in earnest. A party of them entered the premises of Todhunter, Mitchell & Co., Adelaide street, on Sunday night, and blew open the safe. Fortunately, all the money had been placed in bank on Saturday, and the knights of the jimmy were rewarded with nothing for their trouble.

THE new Canadian lighthouse for Colchester reef at the west end of Lake Erie, which has been in course of construction at the C. S. R. dock for the past two months, was recently towed out and placed in position. The structure is sunk in 12½ feet of water, consisting of a huge caisson and a structure to surround it. The whole contract will be completed about October and, in the meantime, says the *Amherstburg Echo*, the workmen (about 20 in number) will board and lodge in their marine home.

THE St. Paul *Pioneer Press* announces that arrangements have been completed to establish daily market reports from fifty of the most important points along the line of the Northern Pacific R. R. This includes points in British Columbia, and embraces a territory of 5,000 miles. The reports are to show the prices of grain, produce, fruits, live stock, etc., and will be issued weekly. They will be posted on bulletin boards, put up in all the business houses, hotels, chambers of commerce and places where people congregate.

THE new bridge over the river at St. John, N. B., was tested last week, a train consisting of four locomotives and twenty loaded cars being run over and stationed at various points on the bridge. With the greatest strain under the weight of this train the greatest deflection at the centre of the span was four inches. When the train was run over the bridge at a speed of thirty miles an hour there was no perceptible vibration. The time set for the opening of the bridge for traffic is Aug. 19, when a train will be run through direct from Boston to Halifax.

WHAT is termed by the *Campbellford Herald* "one of the greatest aggregations of logs that ever greeted the eyes of lumbermen" came down the Trent River from the north about the close of July. It was the property of Messrs. Rathbun & Son, and Gilmour & Co., and comprised about 500,000 pieces. It consisted of a drive from the Otonabee via Peterborough, one from Beaver Creek by way of Marmora, another from Deer River, and a fourth from North River. The four drives all met at Crow Bay, were boomed there and came down in one body.

A GENERAL dealer at Isaac's Harbor, N. S., named Peter Sinclair, has assigned with liabilities of \$4,000. He has nominal assets amounting to double this sum. It appears that he was displeased with some of his western creditors for pressing him for payment, and has assigned, preferring those nearer home. However it is thought that all will be pretty nearly paid.—At Hebron, N. S., W. H. Redding, manufacturer of boots and shoes, has assigned, with liabilities of over \$2,000, and assets of a similar amount. The estate is not expected to pay more than half what it owes.

A GENERAL dealer in a small way at Windsor Mills, C. Bourget by name, whose standing and reputation has never been first-class is reported to have obtained an extension.—L. Lapointe, of Rigaud, whose failure we have already noted, has effected a settlement at 40 cents on the dollar.—Wood Bros., of Montreal, late wholesale dealers in watches, jewel cases, etc., which business was assumed by the Traders and Importers' Company, are in

embarrassed shape, with several suits and judgments against them, and they have called a general meeting of their creditors to consider their affairs.

MILLS & KISSOCK, confectioners, after being eighteen months in business in this city, have failed. A short time ago they claimed a surplus of \$2,000 but this must have been on paper, for creditors are now asking for tenders for their estate. It would appear that their business was done without profit.—The effects of a small watch dealer named G. F. Rice, whose musical waggon could be seen on the streets here almost every day, have been seized by a bailiff.—J. Scott, a grocer in this city, died some time ago. His wife has since continued the business, a few days ago she was reported to have left the city.

G. R. LIPPE, in a moderate way of trade at St. Jean de Matha, Que., is reported in difficulty, and creditors have sent out a party to investigate.—J. A. Ecrement, a notary of St. Gabriel de Brandon, who was also engaged in business, died a short time ago. His widow is now effecting a compromise of the business liabilities.—S. J. Burnstein, a cigar man in Montreal, has been attached for rent.—Chrysologue Bernier, doing a store and liquor business at Tring Station, Que., and who has always been reputed rather slow in payments, has assigned.—E. S. Aubertin, a small grocer at Longueuil, has assigned, owing about \$1,000.

THE death of Mr. P. D. Conger, coal merchant, was a very sudden and mournful one. In the city hall on Tuesday last, when property owners on the esplanade were concluding their remarks on the new street project, Mr. Conger being asked to speak, rose from his seat on a side bench and put his views on the question into a five minutes' address. As he took his seat he gave a moan and clutched at Mr. Whyte's shoulder and became unconscious. Dr. Canniff was quickly summoned, and endeavored to revive the patient, but Mr. Conger gradually sank and died at four o'clock from apoplexy. Several members of Mr. Conger's family are at present in Europe.

A MERCHANT sends us the following as illustrative of the dodges resorted to by Canadian makers of cotton goods, to evade the compact which some of the mills have made not to sell below certain prices. The order of a certain house was sought by a mill. Its agent was very anxious to make a sale but could not capture his man, who appeared to believe in lower prices. "I'll tell you what, Mr.——" said the ingenious (but not ingenuous) manufacturer's agent, "we cannot cut the price, our agreement to that effect is sacred, but if you will take this lot at the price named I will see that two pieces extra are put into each case, gratis, this will give you a 'pull.'"

A NUMBER of gentlemen interested in the sugar importing and refining business interviewed Mr. Howell, Minister of Customs, in Halifax last week. Among them were Hon. A. G. Jones, James Thompson, G. E. Franklyn, T. E. Kenny, Allison Smith, and G. G. Duntan. Their grievance says the *Recorder* was understood to be that Montreal for all sugar purposes had an advantage over Halifax, inasmuch as the regulations at the former port were much less strict than here. At Montreal sugar is weighed by city weighers, and there is a chance of the weighing being done not so thoroughly as here by the Customs weighers. A complaint against exactness would not be in order; but if there is not exactness at Montreal, the Halifaxians may fairly ask to have the defect supplied.

WINNIPEG is to have a new telephone company, at least she is trying to get one. On Monday of last week a meeting of the Manitoba Telephone Company was held, and provisional directors elected as under: Duncan MacArthur, L. M. Jones, J. H. Ashdown, H. S. Wesbrook, Alderman Carruthers, W. Watson, Kenneth McKenzie, Alderman Crowe and H. S. Millar. The board of directors met later and chose as follows: President, Duncan MacArthur; Vice-President, L. M. Jones; Treasurer; L. M. Jones; Secretary, Henry Miller. It was decided to ask for a charter immediately. "An offer was received from the east to take from a quarter to half of the stock.

AMONG retail dealers in Winnipeg there are not many important changes to notice. R. S. Bradley & Co., dealers in tobacco, etc., obtained an extension of time from creditors. On this has since been paid 45 per cent. amount due. They now propose a compromise, asking for a discharge upon paying 25 per cent more.—G. W. Biggar, formerly a shoemaker in Winnipeg, opened a fruit store and has since got into trouble. Before a judgment could be obtained against him he transferred his effects to his brother.—D. C. McGregor, grocer, is offering to compromise.—The furniture stock of Thos. Scott, and the wall paper stock and book accounts of W. H. Saunders are offered for sale.

It is rarely that a great fire rages in Paris. The dwellings there are so substantially built of brick, stone and mortar, that the flames have little chance to get headway in them. Many of the houses are fireproof. Moreover the residents are so sparing of fire, never having any to warm themselves by if they can get along without it, that a conflagration hardly could find a starting place. But at last there is an exception to the rule. Five blocks have been burned in the Batignolles quarter. They were covered with workshops, especially of carpenters, and the flames had a remarkably good chance to break away from the inefficient fire department which they seem to have made the most of.

THE annual meeting of the New Brunswick Railway Company was held last week at the head offices in St. John. The old board of directors was re-elected, the vacancy in the board caused by the death of Hon. Isaac Burpee being filled by the election of Mr. C. W. Weldon, M.P. The board as at present constituted is as follows:—Samuel Thorne, E. R. Burpee, John S. Kennedy, J. Kennedy Tod, Right Hon. Lord Elphinstone, Alex. Baring, Hon. Donald A. Smith, George Stephen, H. O. Northcote, C. W. Weldon, M.P., E. Willis James. Mr. Samuel Thorne was re-elected president, and Mr. J. Kennedy Tod, vice-president. Mr. F. W. Cram was re-appointed general manager, and Mr. Alfred Seely secretary treasurer.

THE St. Clair Flats ship canal cut through the shallows of Lake St. Clair, is used by nearly 40,000 vessels a year, carrying nearly 20,000,000 tons. It is proposed to widen and deepen the channel. It is also recommended by Lieut.-Col. Poe, having in charge the improvements of rivers and harbors in Michigan, that the channel at the Lime Kiln Crossing, Detroit River, be made 400 feet wide instead of 300 as at first contemplated. In the Saginaw River it is proposed to deepen the channel. Hay Lake channel, in the Sault Ste. Marie River, Col. Poe says, should be deepened to twenty feet. A large appropriation is recommended for the improvement of St. Mary's Falls channel and the river between Lakes