

Efforts are being made to revive the Peterboro' Board of Trade.

The Quebec Fire Assurance company has declared a semi-annual dividend of five per cent.

English grocers who sell butterine for butter are heavily fined for the deception. Traders may sell anything that is not poisonous, but it must be under its true designation.

The quaint Josh Billings thinks that: "One man of genius in 97 thousand 4 hundred and 42 men of ordinary talent is just about the right proportion for actual business."

Notwithstanding the loss of time caused by trouble with the workmen the output of coal from Spring Hill collieries for the month of June, was 33,232 tons—the largest yet attained.

The New Brunswick Land and Lumber Company, shows no less than twenty varieties of woods at the Antwerp exhibition. These include poplar, maple, ash, butternut, spruce, elm, larch, pine, balsam, hemlock, &c.

The silver mine at New Island, Albert county, N. B. is being actively worked. Fifty tons of ore, some of which is said to be very fine, are ready for shipment. The shaft has been sunk fifteen feet and the mine grows better.

An English manufacturer of shoes has conceived the idea of placing the elastic spring of a shoe at the back instead of the sides, as usual. The side springs fray and are unsightly, and, it is claimed, have a tightening effect on the foot.

The amalgamation of the Royal and Edison electric light companies in Canada will necessitate the removal of Mr. Lawson, the Hamilton manager of the first-named company, to Montreal, which will be the more important point. Manufacturing will, however, still continue to be done in Hamilton.

Last week we printed a paragraph which reflected upon the credit of Messrs. W. T. Vale & Co., barrel manufacturers in this city. It would not have appeared had we then received a full explanation of the circumstances on which it was based. The firm is not, we are assured, embarrassed in any way.

One who claims to be posted thus estimates the actual cost of what are retailed as five cent cigars. Actual cost of tobacco, (namely, what the tobacco raiser gets for it) for 1,000 cigars, \$2; cigar boxes, \$1; wages for 1,000, \$8; packing, \$1; stripping, 50 cents; total cost of production, \$12.50, or 1½ cents a cigar.

Madame B. Laferrière, dealer in fancy goods at St. Hyacinthe, failed last fall. She compromised and resumed business, but only to assign again a few days ago. Liabilities small.—Carroll Ryan, of Ottawa, who, a little more than a year ago, started the *Sun* newspaper, is among the list of failures for the week just passed.

Canadians generally know of Col. Albert D. Shaw, the United States Consul General in Manchester, Eng. Upon his recent retirement from the office, he was presented by the merchants and others of that city with a testimonial and massive piece of silver. Col. Shaw's departure is universally regretted, he having, during his seven years' sojourn in Manchester, made many warm friends.

Summer freshets on the Upper St. John are causing much damage. The river rose sixteen feet at Van Buren. The new work on the Grand Falls Bridge is gone. The Halifax *Chronicle* tells us that bridges, houses and mills have been carried away, and the crops on hill-

side farms washed out. Saint Basil flats are flooded. Booms are broken, lumber lost, and serious damage has been done in all directions.

We learn from the *St. Thomas Journal* that Z. Darby, picture framer and dealer in notions, of that place, has made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. There is a chattel mortgage on the stock for \$330. His liabilities amount to nearly \$1,100. He has goods worth about \$1,000, but they would hardly bring more than 30 cents on the \$1.

De Sola Bros. & Ascher, wholesale cigar and fancy goods dealers, Montreal, have finally been enabled to effect a settlement at the rate of 25 cents on the dollar, secured.—Ward & Davison, manufacturers' agents, &c., of the same city, whose assignment we noticed last week, have made an offer of 25 cents on the dollar, which is under the consideration of creditors.

Duncan McCuaig, of Goderich, recently finished the shipment of the square timber that has been got out under his supervision during the past winter. It amounted to over 200,000 cubic feet, and required nearly 250 cars to haul it away. Mr. McCuaig states that ship timber is becoming scarcer year by year, and anticipates that a much smaller force of men than usual will be engaged next winter in getting out timber.

At Ormstown, Que., Wm. Johnston, who started a small grocery and stationary business about eighteen months ago, has not been able to find success, and has assigned. Liabilities are only \$880, assets deficient to the amount of about \$300.—Ira Scotland commenced a general business at Hemmingford, Que., in the fall of 1883, on capital presumed to have been advanced by his father. He has now assigned to James Johnston & Co., Montreal.

The new railroad bridge over the St. John river at St. John, N.B., by which the Intercolonial and New Brunswick roads will be connected, has been completed. The opening of the bridge will allow of a much closer connection on the through run between Boston and Halifax, and also save several hours' time. By leaving Halifax at 4 p.m. passengers will arrive in Boston at 10 o'clock the next night, and the trip from Boston to Halifax can be made in 26 hours.

Richard Titus, a ship builder at Rothesay, N. B., has assigned.—In Canning, N. B., C. Eastbrook has also assigned.—H. W. Lydiard, a dealer in dry goods at Kemptville, N. S., has failed with liabilities of \$1,900 and nominal assets of \$3,000.—E. M. Esty, a druggist at Moncton, N. B., is endeavoring to compromise half of his liabilities. It is stated that a Montreal firm has been secured to the extent of \$2,000. The estate will probably not pay more than he has offered.

Huntingdon county, says the *St. Johns (Que.) News*, is the dairymen's earthly paradise. There are twenty-two cheese factories, five butter and one cheese and butter factories combined, making in all thirty-eight factories in connection with the dairy. Last season they turned out 50,000 boxes, or 3 million pounds of cheese, worth \$250,000 and representing at least \$30 per cow. Messrs. McFarlane & Macpherson own nineteen factories, and ten others belong to Messrs. Wilson & McGinnis.

The Kootenay Syndicate, Limited, is registered in London, Eng. with a capital of £10,000 in shares of £1. The company proposes to acquire land in British Columbia, or elsewhere in Canada or the United States, to redeem and irrigate the same, to erect saw and flour mills,

and engage in lumbering, and to undertake by steamers, boats, rafts, canoes, etc., the navigation of the Kootenay river and lakes, and of the Upper Columbia river. The subscribers all live in London. Mr. W. Bailie Graham is managing director.

It cost \$8,400 to remove the ice from the wharves in Montreal. Work was begun on 4th May with 500 men and 100 horses and carts, and by the 26th of the same month the removal was completed. From a rough calculation it is shown that about 292,500 tons of ice were lodged on the wharves, of which amount 135,000 tons were cleared away by artificial means. The greatest accumulation at any one place was at the Dominion Steamship Co's. berth, here the ice was piled to a height of forty feet above the level of the wharf.

There is no time when a business man learns so much as during a period of severe depression. When things are booming, prices high and profits large, hundreds of economies that might be practised are despised or neglected, the struggle being to produce or sell the greatest amount of goods in the shortest possible time. When reverses come, prices touch rock bottom and profit disappear, devices for reducing the cost of production and handling of goods are invented and resorted to, which before were never thought of.—*Providence (R. I.) Star*.

Speaking of the depression in the glass trade, a large importer told the *Chicago Journal of Commerce* that the cause is overproduction. The manufacturers began business this year with the expectation of turning out 3,600,000 boxes of glass in ten months. A box contains fifty square feet, and 180,000,000 feet of glass is more than the market can stand. The mills that began work represented a total of 942 pots. Of this number, factories representing 240 pots had already ceased work on the 1st of May, 92 pots having been closed in the month of April alone. Last year the importation trade diminished 50 per cent.

We learn from the *London Free Press* that important changes in the directorate and management of the Carling Brewing Company have been made. The resignations of Mr. John Beattie as president, and Mr. Geo. Macbeth as business manager, were accepted at a late board meeting. Mr. D. Macfie was appointed president and managing director and Mr. T. H. Carling will assume the general superintendence. It has been deemed necessary to make large reductions in the running expenses of the establishment in view of the falling off in business incident to the Scott Act.

M. Worth, the Parisian man-milliner, is president of a syndicate of French dressmakers. For their common protection he has issued a list of all the male and female customers who are "bad pay." It has of course created a pronounced sensation. There are three categories in the list. "Category A includes all *escrocs* and French foreign customers utterly *insolvable*. Category B includes all who out of pure vanity order dresses that they are unable to pay for. Category C includes those who, in spite of solid fortunes, tease and worry dressmakers by never paying their bills until they are compelled to do so by the costly machinery of the law."

Mr. Nolley, of Baltimore, said in his address before the Travellers' Protective Association, at Buffalo, the other day, that the commercial traveller's duty has a threefold character: On entering new territory he is a "prospector" for the city from which he hails and for the house he represents; when he submits his samples for inspection he is a sales-