

business.—J. W. Slaven, of Orillia, who was unfortunately burned out, finds his position a difficult one, as his insurance of \$9,000 leaves him a heavy loser.

A DISSOLUTION of partnership is announced by the long established Toronto house of John Robertson, Son & Co., wholesale dry goods. Mr. Hector Robertson retiring, and Mr. Alex. J. Robertson continuing the business under the old style.

NOTWITHSTANDING that the commercial man of the *Halifax Herald* humorously bemoans the absence of interesting failures of late days, there are some occurrences in Nova Scotia which do not look like unalloyed prosperity. For instance: Mr. J. E. Parker, at Springhill, general dealer, has obtained an extension, perhaps till such time as the N.P. shall restore all things. A Dartmouth firm of grocers &c., J. E. Lawlor & Co., have also got an extension. One of the many Sinclairs of the land of Goshen, Guysboro County; Joseph, to wit, has grown tired of the prospect and left, with unpaid liabilities. F. W. Everitt, a Digby trader, is attached; so likewise is Robert W. Wile of Lunenburg. An assignee is appointed for John P. Scott, of Liverpool, and one for Pomeroy & Ballantyne of Nictaux, Annapolis Co. Israel Rice of Annapolis meets his creditors; ditto John Bower, ship builder and general dealer at Shelburne. A Halifax dealer in dry goods, James McPherson, is seeking a compromise.

COAL IN MANITOBA.—Among the exhibits sent by Manitoba to the provincial fair at Ottawa, are specimens of coal from the Saskatchewan country, somewhat soft and imperfect in fossilization, say the reports, but still combustible coal. We are told by the *Emerson International* that parties at Bismarck in Dakota, are opening a coal mine about twenty five miles west of that place, where the vein is four feet thick, and expect to lay down coal in Bismarck at \$3.25 per ton. Very fine specimens of lignite from the Souris river, a stream flowing into the Assiniboine about 150 miles north-west of Emerson have led to the formation of a company to begin mining there next year. The country west of the Missouri River abounds in coal beds. A writer in the paper named, in making a trip across the country last fall, to the Yellowstone Valley, frequently observed beds of coal cropping out from the banks of the streams and the sides of ravines. These same formations extend north of the international boundary line. The Winnipeg press think that in a very few years time a railway running westward will tap these coal fields and lay down coal at that city at the figure quoted above. The Mennonites have, it appears, offered to grade, free of charge, a road, from Emerson westward through their reserve. May their liberality be rewarded, and may these important coal measures soon be explored and successfully worked.

—The Directors of the Mechanics' Bank, seeing that insolvency would be forced upon that institution, got a friend to take the initiative and serve a writ upon the Bank, which was placed in the hands of Mr. P. S. Stevenson.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.—Some account of the exhibits of this important fair—a Quebec and Ontario show it may be called, by reason of its location—has been crowded out of this issue. The display is very creditable, and the attendance large, 15,000 people on Thursday, say the telegrams. The Manitoba exhibit is perhaps the most interesting feature, and the idea, which has been carried out, of a separate building for the products of that province was a good one. A good number of American visitors are present, among them the Governors of Ohio, Vermont and Maine.

—Up to the present week the number of vessels arriving in the harbour of Montreal was as follows:—

	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1879.....	410	344,523
1878.....	373	292,561
Increase, 1879	37	51,662

This increase is taken as an earnest of a continuous improvement in the commerce of the river, and as betokening that after a long and tedious decline, the upward grade has again been reached.

—The annual meeting of the Mechanics' Institute Association was held on the 23rd inst. in Ottawa. Mr. James Young, M.P.P., in the chair, when the annual report was adopted. The receipts of the Association were \$2,430 and it has \$1,534 on hand. The proposal of Mr. Klotz, that the Ontario Government be urged to grant \$2,000 for an Institutes Building Fund was deferred for a year. Officers were then elected as follows for the ensuing year: President, Jas. Young, M.P.P., Vice-President, Mr. Otto Klotz, of Preston; Delegate to the Agricultural and Arts Association, Mr. McCrae, of Guelph; Secretary, Mr. Edwards; Executive Committee, Rev. V. Clementi, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Woods, and Mr. Hamilton.

—It is welcome news to Shefford, Bagot, and that part of the Eastern Townships, to learn that work at the Huntington copper mines is to be resumed on a large scale next spring and that between 200 and 300 hands are to be employed. The company have recently acquired another mine near Sutton and the ores of this and their other mines will be smelted together. This intermixing of the ores of different mines will, it is claimed, reduce the cost of smelting. It is stated that Glasgow gentlemen are supplying additional capital to conduct the enlarged operations.

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ALL COLORS & BLACK

In the three prices they have made
such an impression with
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ANNUAL AUTUMN SALE

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BUFFALO ROBES.

The above Sale will be held at the Robe Warehouse, No. 46 ST. PETER STREET, Montreal,

On Wednesday, 8th October,

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Conditions liberal.

The Robes will be on view, and Catalogues may be had two days before the sale, at the Company's Office, No. 5 St. Peter Street, or from the Auctioneer.

Sale at ELEVEN o'clock.

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Auctioneer.