

At St. Stephen, N.B., the imports last month were of the value of \$37,312. The duty collected amounted to \$5,302, as against \$7,031 in April, 1885.

ONE of Montreal's oldest citizens died on the 4th inst. in the person of Mr. John A. Converse who had reached the age of 83. He was the proprietor of the Canada Cordage Works for quite a number of years.

PHILADELPHIA Record: It has been evident for some time that the New England fishermen desire no settlement that will not give them undue advantages; but the peace of the country and fair play toward neighbors deserve more consideration than their unjust demands.

THE business of G. B. Cross & Co., a wholesale fruit and provision firm in Winnipeg, has been, it is alleged, recklessly managed and the capital impaired to such an extent as to warrant the sheriff's interference. He has sold the stock, the proceeds of which will not pay much of a dividend to creditors.

THE *Emerson Times* says: "Jas. Watson contractor, to-day left for the Rockies, where he has a contract for getting out timber for use in the construction of the C. P. R. snow sheds." These sheds, in the Selkirk Range and the Rockies, will be some twelve miles in length and will contain 14,000,000 feet of timber.

THE American Paper Manufacturers' Association embraces all the factories in the country, numbering probably 1,000 representing a capital of \$75,000,000, employing between 40,000 and 50,000 hands, at a cost of \$12,000,000 annually. These factories pay \$50,000,000 per annum for raw material along, and they can turn out 1,200,000 tons of manufactured product.

THE returns of inland revenue collected at Toronto last month appear but small compared with some previous months, as for example, \$111,838 in the previous April and \$489,985 in March last. But it is well to remember that the enormous collections in March were in anticipation of Tariff changes, (which were not made) and the revenue of April suffers in consequence.

AN irate creditor calls on his insolvent debtor. "Mr. Jones, how much do you expect to pay on the dollar?" Jones scratches his head, and after a moment's deliberation, answers: "Well, Mr. Smith, I think I can pay about 50 cents, cash." "W-w-hat! 50c. cash? Why, sir, your estate only shows 25c. on the dollar, where, tell me, are you going to get the other 25 cents?" "Oh!" replies the far-seeing Jones, "I have that up at the house." Jones never got a settlement.

THE curlers and leading citizens—are not the terms synonymous?—of St. John's, Que., gave a complimentary dinner last week to Mr. Frank Harmon and Mr. Alex. T. Johnson. The former, who was commercial agent of the United States at that point, and was much esteemed as such, returns to his home in Shelburne, Vt. Mr. Johnson, says the *News*, "whose absence will cause equal regret, goes to Toronto to represent the Dominion Oil Cloth Company in the Queen City of the West."

NOT even so appalling a disaster as the Montreal flood can dampen the business ardor of some men. In one of the submerged streets of that city a saloon keeper, in order to accommodate his customers, whose demands had, perhaps, risen with the tide, erected a pontoon bridge from the street to his counter. Around the door was seen a motley collection of boats,

the thirsty owners of which crowded the narrow footpath for a "smile." "Will you take water in yours?" blandly asked the bartender of an Irishman. "Divil a drop," was the quick response, "shure, the sugar I gets from me grocer is soaked wid water and so is the tay, but begorra oill take me whiskey nate."

THE following shows one of the pitfalls against which loan societies and money lenders have to guard. A few days ago a respectable broker in good faith offered a loan company a mortgage of \$5,000 which was understood to represent the balance of purchase money on the sale of south half lots 6 and 7 in the 8th con., township of Charlottetown, Norfolk Co. The party offering this mortgage accompanied it with a valuation of the property at \$8,200, made by a person said to be agent for a very respectable agricultural machine manufacturing company. Testimonials as to this man's capacity and integrity as a valuator were also presented, signed by persons in that locality. Before any further move was made by the company its correspondent in that district was telegraphed as to the value of the land. His reply gave it at \$1,500! The management of the company then concluded that something was wrong and as its inspector happened to be going on that route he was instructed to look further into the matter, which he did. He reported the outside value of the lots to be \$1,600, and that possibly the farm and buildings might rent for taxes and statute labor instead of \$400 or \$500 a year as represented. No trace could be found of the alleged mortgagor and purchaser who was stated to occupy the premises. The principal in the proposed sale is said to own some 750 acres of land in that district and it is almost impossible to believe that the man who owned property for a considerable time should know so little of its value.

DISSOLUTIONS, changes in firms *personnel*, removals and retirements are constantly occurring in the business world, and those amongst Ontario traders during the last few days are quite numerous. The grocery firm of Clark & Colborn, at Chesley, has been dissolved, the first named continuing alone.—A photographer at Hagersville, E. S. Phillips, will hereafter do business in Aylmer.—Wm. Dundas, dealer in shoes, at Markdale, has removed to Rocklyn.—In Napanee, M. Madole, has been admitted to partnership with H. W. Perry, and will do business in hardware as Perry & Madole.—W. M. Stroud continues the grocery business formerly done under the style of Robson & Stroud at Norwich.—Frank Kean, of Orillia has admitted his son a partner, and they will trade in groceries as F. Kean, Son & Co.—A firm of hotel keepers in Picton, Messrs. Allison, Dorland & Membury, has been dissolved.—W. J. Craig, at Port Elgin, has gone out of the general store business.—Elder & McIndoe, oatmeal millers at Wingham, have dissolved and are succeeded by Elder & Clegg.—In the village of Aylmer Mrs. Bisson has disposed of her stock of fancy goods, and Conn & Bro., tinware, have dissolved.—R. Chamberlain has been admitted a partner in the hardware firm of Hymmen Bros., Berlin. The style is now Hymmen Bros. & Chamberlain.—A general trader in Blenheim, P. H. Black by name, has sold out.—T. G. Marlett has bought the shoe business of A. Wright, in Lindsay.—C. L. Drier, London, is selling out his stock of groceries.—Two Meaford traders, A. B. Atcheson, general store, and H. R. Graham, dry goods, advertise their business for sale.—A. Clegg, the proprietor of a grist mill and furniture store in Peterboro has sold out his inter-

est in the former.—W. J. Hall, in the same town, wants to sell his dry goods business.—Miss E. Wells, in Simcoe, sells her stock of fancy goods to Mrs. R. G. Roseer.—A drug firm in Thornbury, T. McKenny & Co., has sold out to Howe & Co.—Mrs. B. Kirtton, of Wallaceburg, and Mrs. Sarah Welsh, of Windsor, both in the shoe business, have sold out.

FAILURES amongst Ontario traders are numerous enough this week but none are of sufficient magnitude to cause more than passing comment. The general store firm of E. Towns & Son, Drayton, has made an assignment in trust. Their liabilities are stated at \$11,000 and assets \$7,000 half of which is in stock. The senior member failed some years ago when in business on his own account in Keenansville.—When Barber of Streetsville failed in 1884, the firm of McCalley & Dickson, woolen manufacturers at Vienna was thereby seriously embarrassed. It was thought that they might pull through and they have managed to do so until a few days ago when they assigned.—Since the Scott Act came into force in Wingham, Wm. Mullin, a grocer of that town has not apparently been getting along very well. He is now offering creditors 60 cents on the dollar with interest secured.—After a business experience of 15 years, C. E. Nelles, doing a small trade as a harness-maker at Port Rowan, has assigned.—A fancy goods dealer at Ridgetown named B. S. Barnard is in deep water, the sheriff having taken possession for rent. He was at one time a bookkeeper in the *Telegram* office here.—After a four months trial in the grocery business at Thamesville, J. W. Snyder finds himself unable to meet his obligations and assigns.—Rowland & Davis, dealers in stoves at Trenton have assigned. They purchased the business of Knox & Snyder in November last.—A city grocer named T. H. Turner has assigned.—Justus Roeding in the shoe business at Zurich makes his first failure.—A. G. Horwood, a dealer in hardware at Dovercourt near this city has assigned.—A Dunchurch general trader named Wm. Robertson has assigned to a Toronto house. He has not been in business there long, having kept a grocery store on King street in this city.—We made reference last week to the business difficulties of Sweetman & Hazelton, piano makers in Guelph, Their troubles have culminated in an assignment.—T. H. Hern, a dealer in picture frames at Lindsay has failed.—Over crediting and consequent difficulty in collecting accounts have doubtless had their effect in bringing about the present troubles of J. P. Newman, a shoe dealer at Listowell. He has been in business for more than 20 years.—B. H. Lundy a general store dealer at Newry, having got behind with his payments sought the not unusual method of relief by leaving the town. It is fortunate that he does not owe much.

—The first ocean steamer came into Montreal harbor on this day week. There have since been several other arrivals from sea and the harbor is fast assuming its usual busy summer aspect. The Lachine Canal opened on Monday last, and navigation on both the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa is now fully open.

—On Thursday of last week, a meeting was held in Montreal of the Canadian Cottonade Association. There were present Hon. Donald McInnes, Mr. A. F. Gault, Mr. Chas. Gurney and Mr. J. M. Young, representing respectively, the Canada Cotton Manufacturing Company, the Stormont Cotton Manufacturing Company, the Ontario