

The population of Brantford is 12,600, an increase of 433 over last year. The assessment of the city is \$4,650,330.

We notice the death reported of Mr. J. A. R. Homer, in business as a commission agent at New Westminster, B. C.; also the death of Mr. R. Baker, of the firm R. Baker & Son, Victoria.

What is thought to be a gang of professional burglars is operating in and around Drayton. The safe of White & Holley, of that place, was cracked on last Saturday night, and \$900 in bills taken.

The aggregate exports of grain at Montreal from opening of navigation to 2nd October reached 11,198,633 bushels, divided as follows: 4,678,310 bushels of wheat, 3,373,862 bushels of corn, 1,376,681 bushels of peas, 1,753,855 bushels of oats and 15,925 bushels of rye.

The exports of live stock from the port of Montreal from the opening of navigation to end of last week were: 51,709 head of cattle and 60,597 head of sheep, against 52,505 head of cattle and 35,109 head of sheep in 1885, and 47,250 head of cattle and 47,009 head of sheep in 1884.

By a recent circular the Minister of Marine has directed the attention of owners and masters of passenger steamers to the act which provides that no coal oil lamp shall be used below decks on passenger steamers in which hay or other inflammable substances are stored, under a penalty of \$100.

In Manitoba and the North-West there are no very prominent business changes to note. Gatliff & Fraser, lumber dealers at Emerson, have dissolved partnership, while Baker & Lee, in the store business at Moose Jaw, are thinking of doing so. C. W. Williams, general dealer, removes from Wakopa to Killarney.

CONSIDERING the rapidly growing use of binder-twine in our grain-growing territory, we are prepared to hear, as we do, that a new industry will soon be started in West Brantford, in the shape of a factory for the manufacture of twine and cordage. The factory is to give employment to some fifty hands, and is to cost about \$40,000.

The gentlemen whose names follow have applied for incorporation as the London Crockery Manufacturing Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000; Wm. Glass (Sheriff), C. S. Hyman, S. F. Glass, Wm. Gray and F. H. Butler. The first directors of the company are to be Wm. Glass, S. F. Glass, Wm. Gray and T. H. Hunter.

The salmon pack for 1886, at Cook's Inlet, Alaska, is put down at 30,000 cases, and for the whole territory of Alaska, 130,000 cases. The latest San Francisco estimate of the salmon product of the Pacific coast for 1886 is as follows: Columbia river, 470,000 cases; other Oregon rivers, 15,000; British Columbia, 125,000; Alaska, 130,000; California, 40,000; total, 795,000. It is a little above the actual figures, though not much, says the *Victoria Times*.

The cotton-seed mills in the South having been brought under a single control by Wall street manipulation in order to fix the price for cotton-seed and afterwards control the sale of cotton-seed oil—cutting down the price of the raw material and putting up the price of the manufactured product—the cotton planters have started a counter organization. They will hold their seed for a year, hoping thereby to break down the monopoly which has been organized, says the *Record*, to cheat them and the consumers of oil.

THE assessment rolls, just completed, show, in the opinion of the *News*, that Kingston is moving onward. An increase in value of real estate for the year of \$278,495 and of taxable income \$54,000. The population has increased from 15,109 to 15,827, and the assessment figures are as under:

	1886.	1887.
Real Property.....	\$5,080,790	\$5,359,285
Personal Property....	1,153,200	1,008,900
Taxable income.....	411,450	465,890
	\$6,645,440	\$6,924,075

ABOUT a week ago, according to an item in the *Chronicle*, the real estate, stocks and ship property forming part of the estate of Levi Smith, was sold by auction at Windsor, N.S. The Windsor marine insurance stock sold at 190; Commercial Bank of Windsor at 225, [this must mean 125—Ed. M. T.] The shares in the "Larnica" sold at \$12 per ton; shares in the "Loanda" for \$13 per ton; shares in the "Levuka" for \$14 per ton; shares in the "Lucania" for \$21 per ton; shares in the "Linwood" for \$16 per ton.

THE following unique letter was received, says the *Winnipeg Commercial*, from a farmer by a Winnipeg bank manager, in answer to a communication regarding an overdue note:—"Sir: I am unable to meet your note at present, I have not thrashed yet, but expect to next week, and as soon as I can I will pay you. Now, boss, you were constantly writing me last fall for money, will you please, out of a favor to me, never in God's name take any of my paper again after this is paid. I have over \$2,000 of paper out and somebody will get left sure."

An eastern drummer who was travelling through the rural districts of Wisconsin came to a cross-roads store which bore a sign of "Wholesale and retail store," and he asked the proprietor: "What can you do for me on ten barrels of 'A' coffee sugar?" "Ten bar'ls! Why, great heavens! I haven't that much in five years," was the reply. "Well, on one barrel, then?" "That's too much. Wholesale out here means five pounds of sugar at 9 cents a pound and a bar of soap or a dozen clothespins throw'd in. Which will you take?"

THE Texas wool growers and dealers have 5,000,000 pounds of wool to sell and are delighted to find that the price has jumped from 19½ cents per pound to 21½ cents, with a strong upward inclination. The rise in prices, the *Philadelphia Record* declares, is not due to the protective tariff, but in spite of it. "The advance in foreign markets since last March has been about 50 per cent. as against about 20 per cent. in the home market. The people who raise sheep and have wool to sell in countries where trade is not crippled by protective tariffs are getting more for their wool and paying less for their cloth than are the people in this tax-bedeveled country."

THE principal changes among firms or traders in Canada, that have taken place of late, include the retirement of Mr. John Bacon from the Cobban Manufacturing Co. in this city. Mr. F. J. Phillips, who has been the active partner of late years, will continue the business which will be conducted on the same scale as formerly.—Mr. Sullivan continues the dry goods business of Giroux and Sullivan, Peterboro.—P. H. McCall has admitted P. J. Reilly as a partner in his grocery business at Petrolia.—Charles Mawson continues the building business of Mawson & Miller, in this city.—Simon Robertson, general dealer at Cassel, Ont., has sold out his stock and business to Wm. Armstrong.—R. Ferrah has purchased the business of J. H. McKibben,

druggist, Galt.—J. R. McCrae has sold his drug store, at Peterboro, to G. A. Sherrin.—H. Macklin, London, has bought the general stock of F. Alexander & Co.—The dry goods stock of R. H. Trimble, Napanee, is advertised for sale by auction.

AN effort is being made to prevent, by injunction, the Montreal Street Railway Company from paying its current half-yearly dividend, on the ground that it has not been earned.

At Midland City, the northern terminus of the Midland Railway, the Grand Trunk Company has erected a large grain elevator with a capacity of some 275,000 bushels. There are here also two planing mills, and a roller grist mill is being built. Three saw mills are at work which cut, I am told, 5,000,000 feet yearly; then there is a furniture factory, three shingle mills and a woollen mill. In addition to those named, three saw mills are in course of erection, and the lease of the property from the G. T. R. calls for a cut of 1,500,000 feet annually from each mill. The Western Bank has an agency at this point and the population of the place is some 2,000. So writes our agent, who is travelling in that vicinity.

"SORGHUM syrup and cider made to order at the old Barron Mill on Knapp's Island, Malden." So reads an advertisement, with a French signature, in the *Amherstburg Echo*. Essex county continues to be the garden of western Ontario. Sugar-cane, tobacco, maize and grapes can be raised, and are raised in that favored climate, besides most of the customary good things of the Canadian farm and garden. If the apples of to-day are as good as of yore, and the old "bell" pear trees, with their oak-like forms, continue to dot the east shore of Detroit River as they do the west shore of Lake St. Clair near Detroit, and bring forth their mammoth fruit in season, we congratulate the small boy of the present generation on his sweet, if stolen, mouthfuls.

We gather from the London papers that the gate receipts of the Western Fair, held in that city last week, exceeded those of previous years in the following proportion: 1886, receipts \$10,922; 1885, receipts \$10,900; 1884, receipts \$10,445. These figures, at 25 cents per ticket, represent an average attendance of over 43,000 persons. In comparison with the recent Provincial Exhibition at Guelph, adds the *Free Press*, the Western Fair shows a large increase of receipts. The following are the figures:

	London.	Guelph.
Tuesday	\$ 475	\$ 250
Wednesday	3,500	1,864
Thursday	5,200	3,220
Friday	1,747	710
	\$10,922	\$6,044

THE disastrous fire in their Yonge street premises the other day has by no means stopped the firm of Davidson & Hay from doing business. A visit to their temporary premises on Front street yesterday, showed a very fair supply of new goods and a condition of things that does credit to their energy and system. The loss on Yonge street, now that the underwriters' sale has taken place, will be less serious than it looked, we understand. There is \$10,000 worth of liquors unharmed in the cellar, and the proceeds of the sales in the old premises and on King street are understood to be, say \$25,000 and \$15,000 respectively. The firm's loss above its insurance of \$71,000, therefore cannot be serious, a circumstance on which they have many friends to congratulate them.