

The Canadian Pacific Colonization Corporation was the imposing title of a Company which has come to grief by being wound up in London. It began operations in 1888 with a nominal capital of \$2,500,000, over \$200,000 being sunk in the enterprise. In Canada the disbursement included \$190,000 paid for property now estimated to be of no value. The losses on horses and cattle reached \$7,000.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has announced the issue of \$21,000,000 of 4 per cent. 50-year gold bonds under its absolute guarantee, but forming a first mortgage on the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie railway. Of the whole amount \$14,290,000 will be reserved for the exchange of existing bonds. Cash subscriptions will be received for the balance at a price of 90 per cent.

The "green goods" swindle is being operated in various parts of the Dominion. A nicely lithographed circular, requesting the co-operation of the innocent one to "handle goods," that is, distribute bogus greenback bills, is being sent round to citizens. Special instructions how to act are also given, and a bogus cutting from a newspaper enclosed. It is the old and familiar swindle designed to trap the unwary.

The City of Halifax is calling for tenders on a loan of \$20,000, the amount required for certain street improvements. Interest will be payable half-yearly from the first January, 1891, and accrued interest will be payable by the lenders up to the time of paying over the amount loaned. Tenders should state whether coupon debentures or new city stock certificates will be required, and will be received up to the 7th May at noon.

Some strange requests are received by the departments from time to time. The Minister of Finance recently received a letter from a Western farmer, stating that he had a mortgage on his farm, and that he was paying 6 per cent. interest to a Toronto insurance company on the money he had borrowed. The writer understood that the Government was lending at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and he requested that steps be taken by the department to lift his mortgage, and lend him the amount he needed at the lower rate of interest.

The Ontario Legislature has favorably considered the bill to provide for the consolidation of the debenture debt of the city of London, by authorizing the issue of 40 year debentures to the amount of \$2,000,000. A proposal to insert a clause authorizing the issue of additional 40 year bonds was rejected, on the ground that the Municipal Act limited the term to 30 years, and other municipalities would demand a like privilege if any additional term were granted to London.

Mons. Argellio, of the Paris Prefecture of Police, calls attention to the remarkable degree in which the division of labor principle is being applied to the operations of the criminal classes. There are associations of professional horse thieves and mutual aid societies of professional burglars, and division of labor has resulted in producing several extremely deceptive counterfeit treasury notes. One specially clever hundred francs bill was ascertained to have been the work of five confederates—one paper-maker, one art printer and three expert engravers.

According to the report of the Minister of Finance, recently issued, we learn that the number of post office savings banks now in operation in Canada is 494, of which 31 were established during the year. The amount of deposits was \$6,599,896, and the amount withdrawn \$8,575,042. The new accounts opened numbered 32,127, and the accounts closed 33,499. The average amount of each deposit was \$42.67 and of each withdrawal \$95.12. Thus, by reducing the rate of interest from 4 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the Government saved a few thousand dollars, and lost nearly \$2,000,000 in deposits.