with an elegant silver-plated water pitcher, cup, and fish-knife and fork.

THE Herdic Coach system in the city of Philadelphia, has been discontinued. It did not pay.

THE aggregate traffic of the Midland Railway to Aug. 12th shows an increase of $153,932 over last year.

OF the $10,000,000 worth of bonds issued by the Canada Pacific Railway Co., more than four-fifths has already been taken up.

THE arrangement to establish a connecting link between the Grand Trunk Railway Co. and the North Shore Railway Co. was confirmed at a meeting held on Tuesday last.

An increase of $1,541 in the week's traffic receipts of the the Toronto, Grey & Bruce railway, is indicated by a return made on August 19th. The Northern & North Western shows an increase of $613 for a like time.

THE N. Y. *Times* in describing an encounter at fisticuffs between two members of the Produce Exchange, alluded to the defeated man in these terms "Mr. Fox, as before stated, is a broker, and his cheek sustained no injury.

THE ratepayers of Pictou, N. S., have voted a bonus of $50,000 to the Great American and European Short line Railway Co. The grant will be paid over when Oxford and New Glasgow are connected by the rails of that company.

THE good results of the deepening of the ship channel between Montreal and Quebec have been noticeable in a most gratifying manner this season, the shipping companies being saved large amounts in lighterage, etc. As an evidence of the success of the work accomplished, it may be stated that the Allans have decided to sell their iron Glasgow-built lighters, also the powerful tug used for towing.

MESSRS. WURTELE & Co., wholesale dealers in dry goods in Winnipeg have assigned to Messrs. Moffatt & Bathgate of that city. Their liabilities are about $44,000 with assets of a similar amount. They had not sufficient capital to succeed in Manitoba, where expenses of all kinds are so very high. However it is thought that if their affairs are not complicated with the old Quebec house they may get a settlement with creditors.

IT would seem a little strange that the Underwriters' Association should increase the rate of premium in Winnipeg, just at a time when the water works are being completed. The fact that many new buildings are being erected in all parts of the city, without any regard to the building law, will no doubt to some extent account for this action on the part of the companies. This is like some of the sanitary regulations in that city, which are good, were they not permitted to practically become a dead letter.

THE result of the annual meeting of the Credit Foncier Franco-Canadian, held in Paris last week, is looked for with considerable interest, the special business to be laid before the meeting being the advisability of making further loans in Canada, and the consideration of the recent amendments to the act of incorporation. The company has loans out to the amount of about one and a half millions, but has done no new business since last December, and the local management is awaiting further instructions on this point.

THE report of the St.Paul, Minn. & Manitoba Railway Co. presented at the late annual meeting indicates that the Company is in a most prosperous position. The surplus net revenue for the year, after paying the fixed charges and dividends on stock is $985,000. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected directors for the ensuing year. Geo. Stephen, D. A. Smith, Jas. J. Hill, R. B. Angus, John H. Kennedy, D. Willis, Jas. and R. B. Galusha.

THE town of St. Johns, Que., and its transfluvian sister town of Iberville are likely to become the Staffordshire of Canada. Besides the six potteries, some of them on a very extensive scale, already in operation there, two other similar concerns are now preparing for work. The larger of these will make a specialty of drain pipes and tile goods generally, the other will run on Rockingham and can-ware. Messrs. Wm. Livesley & Co., who have only been a short time in operation, are now adding a third kiln to their establishment, and are going into the production of decorated ware, samples of which have been highly spoken of.

CAP. SHAW, the chief of the London (Eng.) Fire Department arrived in New York on Tuesday of this week. In an interview with a *Times* reporter he remarked "if we had such building laws as you have here we should never have a very disastrous or destructive fire in London, in my opinion. Your building laws are the best in the world, and ought to give you almost absolute safety against destructive conflagrations." "Providing they were carried into execution, they probably would," interjected the reporter. "Ah, but you ought not to say that; it is a reflection on your commissioners. You have a most absolutely perfect law and Commissioners to enforce it. Why shouldn't that give you safety?"

WE have received from the British American Bank Note Company, which has a capital of $200,000, a circular setting forth some facts in connection with its history during the past sixteen years. The work of engraving and printing bank notes implies great responsibility as well as great care and skill in workmanship. When all this is assured, it is well that the work should be entrusted to one establishment, for it is evident that the more you multiply the printing material, such as plates and dies used in this work, the greater opportunities you give rogues to make counterfeit paper. At all events, no change should be made while the work is well done and at a reasonable price. This company, in the language of the circular, has been entrusted with the engraving and printing of all the Dominion Notes, Postage and Revenue Stamps, &c., required by the Government, under the several Administrations for sixteen years past, and has at present the printing of *ninety-nine* per cent of all the Bank Note circulation of the Dominion. The President and Manager may, with some degree of pride, be permitted to point out that he has personally had the management of bank note engraving and printing since the first note was printed in Canada, and the continued responsibility of supplying the notes to the Bank of Montreal for the last *thirty years*, and all the other Banks (with two or three exceptions) since they were incorporated.

THE affairs of the old grocery firm of T. W. Robinson & Co., Peterboro, are in a very bad shape and it has suspended payment. About two years ago Mr. James Elliott became a partner. He was then supposed to be worth over $20,000 but the addition of his capital was not sufficient to save the firm from ruin. There is now a contest between creditors as to who will get the first chance. Messrs. Lightbound, Ralston & Co., Montreal, have a claim of $14,000 which they are pushing; one of the banks claims about double this amount. In any event the general creditors need not expect much as the liabilities are estimated from $80,000 to $100,000 and assets about one fourth the latter sum. The real estate owned by the firm is heavily mortgaged.

AMONG the business changes of the week is the admission of Mr. Peter Ryan into the firm of Messrs. J. J. Walsh & Co., brokers in this city; the new style is to be Walsh & Ryan. In Guelph O'Donnell & Hazleton, grocers, &c., have dissolved; George W. Hazleton continues. In Hamilton Thos. Irwin, dealer in stoves, &c., has admitted John T. Irwin a partner; the style is now Thos. Irwin & Son. King & Harrison, tailors, have dissolved partnership; the former contin ues the business. John E. & A. Rogers, dealers in boots and shoes in Jarvis have dissolved partnership; Andrew Rogers continues. In Millbrook Philp & Kirkpatrick, stoves and tins have dissolved; Thos. H. Philp continues. Husband & Horswell, dealers in dry goods in this city have dissolved; the former continues under the style of A. C. Husband.

THE daily papers contain long accounts of the defalcations of Mr. James Hunter, a Montreal broker. The first fact brought to light was that he had borrowed, for his own use, $35,000 on Bank of Montreal stock, entrusted to his keeping, under power of attorney, by Mrs. Phillips. The excuse was that he had reason to believe Mrs. Phillips had made her will in his favor, and he anticipated the assumed bequest in this way. Inadequate as was this plea, the statement soon followed that he had converted other people's money to his own use; and now Mr. Hunter is missing. None of the statements are made before a court, though that relating to the Phillips' estate was admitted by Hunter. It is a vulgar case of defalcation, in which extravagant living is said to have played a part. Should Mr. Hunter be found, he will undoubtedly have to face a criminal prosecution. If half the reports we hear are true, the delinquent merits severe punishment.

A circular tells the lucky receipient of it, that "The American Grain Company is content to do business on sound business principle, and to make from 50 to 500 per cent. yearly without assuming large risks of loss, paying its shareholders monthly cash dividends of such money as can be made." Moderate indeed, easily content, only 50 to 500 per cent! But then the hope of something beyond these paltry gains is encouraged. The circular winds up with this delicious prospect: "Any month may give you a 25 to 100 per cent. dividend." Indeed! The stock has been increased to $250,000, and the circular tells that about one-half of it is for sale. It is added that bank men in eleven different States have bought. Nevertheless, we must ourselves decline such tempting offers, while we leave others to their own judgment. A very little of that commodity ought to suffice for direction.

JOSEPH MARTIN, jr., a Toronto tailor, has cleared out, and Messrs. Gault Bros. in Montreal have possession of the stock.——The assets of S. Martin & Co., engaged in the salt trade in this city were to be sold on Tuesday last.——Ardagh & Meredith, dealers in gent's furnishings have assigned to Wm Petley; stock is now being taken and the real condition of the firm is not yet known.——A few days ago, Mr. J. A. Nelles of Guelph, bookseller, presented his creditors with a statement of his affairs and was then granted an extension of time. Since then it is stated that his wife sold her property in Clinton, and about $2000 was put into the business. It is now thought that with a little more attention to his affairs he may succeed.——Campbell & Lindsay, a waggon making firm at Glencoe, are in trouble. The bailiff has been put in possession of their premises. Liabilities are said to be between $3,000 and $4,000; assets about $1,000.