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4 to 34 King and Queen Streets, Montreal,

MAKER OF

Steam Engines, Steam Boilers, Hoisting Engines,
Steam Pumps, Circular Saw Mills, Bark Mills, Water
Mills, Mill Gearing, Hangers and Pulleys, Hand and
Power Hoists for Warehouses, &c., also, sole Manu-
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with Patented Improvements.

"ASKWITH'S" Patent Hydraulic Lift.

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No. 2 Corn Exchange, Montreal.

CONNALL, COTTON & CO.,

134 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

Agents for CHAS. TENNANT & CO., Glasgow—
Chemicals, WM. LANG, Jr., & CO., Pig Lead, Dry
Red Lead, Litharge, &c.Importers of Paper and Soapmakers Chemicals,
Bi-Carbonate of Soda, Sal Soda, Linseed Oil, Dry
White Lead.Orders for SCOTCH REFINED SUGARS and
merchandise executed in the British markets ON
BEST TERMS.

— Those who believe in total depravity are rarely at a loss for illustrations of their theory. Take for instance the case of "Harry" Scotchmer, formerly agent for an American sewing machine company in this city. Under the *non de plume* of "An Old Agitator" Harry writes, professedly from Quebec, to the *Sewing Machine Advance* of Chicago, describing Lower Canada as "poor in point of soil and climate," and the people as "too poor to buy sewing machines." He divides Dominion society into two classes, one portion of which he dismisses with a sneer as "blue bloods" and "finished snobs," while the other he describes more at length as speaking "different tongues, one-half of them being unable to understand the other, a kind of mongrel French commonly known as the *patois* being in most general use. These people are without much ambition beyond a daily existence, and are kept in that condition under the policy of some of the powerful institutions of the country." Having thus prepared the way for the exercise of his imagination, this graphic correspondent (who by the way does not speak French) next enlarges upon the difficulties that beset sewing machine enterprises in this country, and altogether succeeds in drawing a picture of Canada and Canadians calculated to "blanch joy's rosy cheek and scatter the hoars of age o'er youth's golden ringlets forever." We wish to throw two side lights on this ex-agent's communication, merely by way of illumination, and then we have done with it. In one part of his letter already quoted he says: "The country is poor in soil and climate," while at the close he writes: "The climate, however, is healthy." From which we infer that this is a healthy, poor climate. And again he dates his letter Quebec, Sept. 1st, while in the same journal appears another contribution signed Henry E. Scotchmer and dated Chicago, Aug. 25th. After leaving the Dominion in disgust, and taking up his quarters in

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GREENE & SONS CO.,

Wholesale Manufacturers

MONTREAL.

**FURS AND HATS,
BUFFALO ROBES, &c.**

Our Customers Buying from us Buy Direct from First Hands.

FINE FURS. BEST VALUE.

ALL THE LEADING STYLES.

WAREHOUSE, { 517, 519, 521, 523, } MONTREAL.
ST. PAUL STREET.

Chicago, did our hero take a run up to Quebec for the purpose of writing to the *Advance*? The Company you left, Harry, finds business very fair and improving!

— In New York and other large cities in the States the vagaries of speculation have of late years given birth to a new institution known in vulgar parlance as the "bucket shop." The *modus operandi* of such a concern is to buy from or sell to any client whatever number of shares of certain designated stocks he may wish to deal in at the actual market price. The dealer requires from his customer a margin of one per cent., charges a commission on the purchase and sale of, usually, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and by the terms of the contract whenever fluctuations on the Stock Exchange shall indicate the loss of the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the transaction is *ipso facto* closed: the speculator has lost what he ventured, the dealer has won it. If, however, the market should favor the speculator, he is at liberty to leave the contract open indefinitely, closing it at will whenever satisfied with the profit shown by the market price of the moment. The whole business is cash, and the "bucket shop" undertakes to pay over profits on surrender of the voucher given with the same promptness that banks ordinarily, but alas, not always, pay depositors' checks. A like solution of continuity with regard to payments ordinarily, if not always, overtakes the bucket shop; and so it comes that we have to record the collapse of an institution of the kind, established here in Montreal within the past year or two under the sounding title of the "New York Open Board of Trade." The theory upon which this business is founded is that in active stocks fluctuations are so frequent that whichever way one may operate the chances are that a small margin will soon be used up, and so the dealer would win all that is staked, but added to

this is the very great advantage of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission which the dealer pockets at the start. In its followers, its methods and its tendencies, it is a business closely akin to gambling, and we believe the experience of the majority of those who have "tried their luck" is that "it don't pay." Still we cannot see that it differs radically in principle from larger speculative enterprises, and the best objection to the existence of bucket shops is perhaps the fact that their practical workings condemn them.

— The failure of Moreau & Trottier, dry goods, of Three Rivers, was announced on Saturday last. Two years, or more, ago Moreau bought out the stock of F. Rochelleau, and for a time struggled on alone, but soon found his single name a great disadvantage in buying. He then took a partner, Mr. Trottier, a young man of good record as a clerk, and the son of a gentleman understood to have considerable property. Trottier was supposed to supply the needed capital, but, if he did so, it has disappeared in an amazingly short space of time, for the firm has hardly been in existence more than a year, and now the liabilities are roughly estimated at \$9,000, and the assets \$6,000. Moreover, the original stock bought by Moreau of Rochelleau is not yet fully paid for, the unpaid balance, as we are informed, being over \$2,000. No statement of the affairs has yet been officially made, nor are the causes which have led to this misfortune satisfactorily disclosed, but the good character of the insolvents is, so far as we know, unimpeached, and we presume the usual explanation of bad debts and bad times is about all there is of it.

— The creditors of William A. Heaton, harness maker, of Thorold, Ont., have instructed the assignee to dispose of the residence of the insolvent, and conformably therewith the sale at public auction will take place on the premises on the 27th inst.