

It has been decided, upon reconsideration by the Board of Directors of the Halifax Banking Company, to continue its agency at Oxford, N. S.

A GENERAL trader of Ste. Marguerite, Que., named T. Legault, has failed, owing about \$8000. He has apparent assets of \$2,500. The estate is to be wound up.

We note a change in the old established house of Robitaille & Picher, hardware merchants, Quebec. Mr. Eugene Picher will continue the business alone hereafter.

The British Empire Mutual Life Insurance Company, the purchasers of the Exchange Bank building in Montreal, having paid over the purchase price \$110,000, expects to occupy it about the middle of October.

Six per cent debentures to the amount of \$10,000, at ten years were recently issued by the town of Galt. These have been bought by the Gore District Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the town receiving therefor the Company's cheque for \$10,375.

It is a very pretty game. First, get your protective tariff to secure your home market. Then, when prices go down, bank your fires, close your mines, stop your mills, till prices come up again. In the meantime, let the laboring man look out for himself.

The firm of Goudron & Frere, manufacturers of bolt and nuts at Berthierville, Que., we recently noted, have effected a composition at 30 cents on the dollar. Their liabilities direct are about \$18,000, indirect \$4,000, with nominal assets of about \$17,000.

JOHN J. BECHERVAISE of Metapedia, Que., originally a school teacher, who has been doing a small business in general merchandise for a few years past, is seeking a composition at the rate of 62½ cents on the dollar, payable in four, eight and twelve months. His liabilities cannot be very large.

DURING the present season, says the *Carleton Sentinel*, the N. B. Railway has carried, en route to Boston, from Carleton and Victoria, counties in New Brunswick, and Aroostook County, in Maine, 215,000 pounds of raspberries. One-half of this quantity was exported in the raw state, the rest being boiled.

BLANCHARD & LIVINGSTON, dealers in liquors and groceries, at Sherbrooke, Que., whose ultimate success had always been considered open to question, have assigned, and their stock is advertised for sale by tender. The firm has been unsuccessful in business before, and had very little credit even locally.

The firm of S. S. Mutton & Co., dealers in lumber, etc. in this city, are in difficulty. They have been sued several times and now both sheriff and bailiff are in possession of their effects. Less than a year ago, we are told that a surplus of over \$50,000 was claimed by the firm. If this was true, their losses have been rapid in the meantime.

THE building for the St. Thomas biscuit works is now in course of erection. Its dimensions are 100x24 feet. It will be fitted with a six pan reel oven, capable of turning out 1½ tons of biscuits per day. When in full operation the works will give employment to fifty hands. The company has a chartered stock of \$25,000, and expects to be in running order by 1st October.

ROBERT HOE, a member of the firm of R. Hoe & Co., of printing press fame, died, after a long illness, on Saturday last, in the seventieth year of his age. He was born in New York, and was the son of Robert Hoe, an Englishman, who came to the United States in 1803 from Hove, in Leicestershire, England, and founded the business house of R. Hoe & Co., well-known manufacturers of printing presses.

The city council of New Albany, Ind., has done a very foolish thing. It has ordered the Gamewell Fire Alarm Company to take down its alarms on the ground that the city is not able to pay for the same. The company very justly claims that inasmuch as the city has used the boxes for a couple of years and the alarm giving satisfaction, the council cannot now take it down without paying for it.

THE first wheat shipment from Buffalo to a Canadian port was made on the 10th inst., the schooner *Fleetwing* taking 10,000 bushels to St. Catharines, at 2½c. freight. The Chicago journals report very little demand there just now for Lake Ontario tonnage, the recent action of the Harbor Commissioners in regard to wharfage charges at Montreal having shut off grain shipment to that port.

THE population of Deer Island, Charlotte County, N.B., is about 1,000. Fishing is the chief industry. In 1883 50,000 boxes of smoked herring were put up, and 2,500 barrels of fresh and salt herring were sold, besides large quantities of cod, pollock, hake, etc. Moreover, 15,000 hds. of herring for sardines, 60 tons of lobsters, 30,000 gallons of oil and 800 tons of pumice were exported.

M. ROTHSCHILD, who only opened store at the Mattawa about a year ago, is in embarrassed circumstances and a meeting of his creditors was held in Montreal last week. He shows liabilities of about \$6,000, assets about \$7,800 apparent. We believe the creditors decided to put in a receiver, and when 50 per cent. of claims is paid the receiver is to be withdrawn and an extension of time granted for the remaining liabilities.

A WELL executed photographic forgery of five dollar notes on the Port Hope issue of the Bank of Toronto has been detected in circulation. Eight of these forgeries found their way to Port Hope agency and one into the Standard Bank Toronto. The counterfeit is not very well executed on the back, but the front has a genuine appearance, barring a certain greasy covering, which, however makes detection harder.

The *St. John Telegraph* of Saturday says there were six vessels in port, three ships and three barques, loading with deals for Alex. Gibson and another will complete loading to-day. These will make a total of 107 vessels loaded here this season by Mr. Gibson. Perhaps a few others may be chartered, but shipments will be very limited for the balance of the year. Last year Mr. Gibson forwarded 98,000,000 feet of deals in 117 vessels.

THE attempt to restrict the output of pig-iron by a general stoppage of work at the furnaces has been given up. Iron-masters whose furnaces are properly located can see no reason for remaining idle in order to keep the market so advanced that iron may be made where the cost of making it is excessive. The true method of restriction is to blow out the furnaces that cannot make cheap iron. If iron enough to supply the market can be produced cheaply it is a matter of vast consequence to the country that no measures be taken to prevent a thing so desirable.

On the 10th instant, the stock in trade of Messrs. Vanstaden & Co., wagon and carriage builders, of Strathroy, was seized by sheriff's officer, under a writ issued at the instance of John Vanstaden, whose claim amounts to \$13,940 09, and is nearly all secured by a chattel mortgage for \$12,000. The stock in trade, which consists of carriages, wagons, unfinished work, etc., was not found sufficient to cover the liabilities. The Federal Bank has since the seizure made a claim for \$8,000 against the estate. This makes the total claims so far \$22,000.

DANGEROUS counterfeit five dollar bills on the Bank of British North America are in circulation. The bills are of the D series signed by R. W. Grindley, Manager. In the genuine the date of the bill is lithographed 1st July, 1877, the date of the counterfeit being 3rd July, the 3rd being entered with a pen.

We have the following letter from Messrs. W. H. Perot, Son & Co., dated Baltimore, Sept. 15th, 1884: "Dear Sir,—In your paper of Sept. 5th, we notice a paragraph stating that our friends, Messrs. W. H. Perot & Co., of Demerara, had failed. We shall feel obliged if you will deny this statement through your columns, and would refer you to a letter published in the *Annapolis Spectator*, of Sept. 12th, which we should be glad if you will copy." [We have not received the paper mentioned, and we are therefore without the explanations which, it may be inferred, may be found therein.]

OWING to the large proportion and heavy tonnage of the steamers employed in lumber carrying as compared with sailing vessels this season, the quantity already handled will equal that of last year though carried in ten vessels less. At the close of the present year, says a New Brunswick journal, it will be found that Mr. Gibson's total shipments will foot up to about 108,000,000 feet, of which more than half was carried by steamers. Other prominent shippers in St. John have not forwarded nearly as much stock as in former years and a considerable quantity is being piled up in readiness for a favorable shift in the English market.

THE jute manufacturing industry in Scotland, which forms a large portion of the trade of Dundee, is threatened with serious competition on the part of German manufacturers. Returns recently published show that the jute manufactories of Germany have added 10,000 spindles to their existing machinery, giving a capacity for turning out 770,000 hundred weight per annum of the various fabrics manufactured from the material. The news has created great alarm north of the Tweed, where 20,000 persons are now engaged in this industry, as the capacity of the German mills is now nearly equal to one-half the capacity of all the mills in Scotland.

On Saturday last, the Montreal Exhibition closed, the attendance having averaged over 8,000 a day during the six days other than those of opening and closing. We append the figures of the attendance of spectators and the receipts:

	Attendance.	Receipts.
Friday.....	296	\$74 00
Saturday.....	1,181	295 25
Monday.....	3,239	809 75
Tuesday.....	19,198	4,799 50
Wednesday.....	13,945	3,486 25
Thursday.....	9,089	2,272 25
Friday.....	4,835	1,208 75
Saturday.....	125	31 25
Total.....	51,908	\$12,977 00

Among commercial happenings in the lower provinces, R. S. Fitch, of Truro, N. S., grocer, has made an assignment and general creditors will be but poorly paid, as he had some favorites. He owes \$7,000.—J. A. Morrell, a grocer of St. John, N. B., after being in business about three years, has failed and assigned. He was an industrious young man, but industry is not everything in business.—M. T. Glenn, of Welford, N. B., storekeeper, is involved and it is not thought possible for him to succeed.—In Souris, P. E. I., Doyle & McBride find their premises in possession of their leading creditor. They claim assets of \$62,000 and liabilities of about \$50,000.

From the north we obtain the following items: J. C. Mackenzie, a shoe dealer in Prince Albert, was burnt out last year. The loss then incurred was never recovered, and it is probable