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The *Chignecto Post* of recent date says: The first commercial traveller, with his samples, passed over the line of the N. B. and P. E. I. Railway this morning en route to Baie Verte. A considerable quantity of cordwood arrived from the north during the week.

The Hamilton city council has reported in favor of providing increased water supply for that portion of the city north of the railway, including the important factories there situated. The *Times*, says the water works revenue is large enough to permit liberality in extensions without incurring any new debt.

At a meeting of the proposed Miramichi Steam Navigation Co., held recently at Oshatam, N.B., the following gentlemen were elected provisional directors: Hon. Richard Hutchison, J. P. Burchill, John McLaggan, J. B. Snowball, John Sadler, Richard Hocken, R. Flanagan.

The total visible supply of cotton on Dec. 13th was 2,942,082 bales against 2,635,500 bales at the same date last year, showing a decrease of 189,515 bales. As compared with corresponding period in 1882, however, there is an increase of 159,653 bales. The price of Med. Upl., in Liverpool is 5 7-8d against 5 13-16d a year ago.

Steps are being taken to abolish the tolls through Wentworth County, Ont. It is also contemplated to discontinue the market fees in Hamilton.—The Michigan Central Railway has tapped Petrolia, Ont., with the result that a large stove factory and cooperage are being erected in the vicinity by a London manufacturer.

A CHINESE nut or fruit called Li-Che is becoming popular. It is the size of a walnut, and has a skin about as thick as writing paper. Within is the fruit, which resembles a fine raisin

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in flavor and consistency, and which contains in turn a small oval seed. It costs three cents per pound in Hong Kong, twenty cents in San Francisco and forty cents in New York.

Mr. A. W. LEITCH, dry goods dealer, Quebec declares his inability to pay in full, and is now taking stock with the view of placing a statement before his creditors in a few days. Mr. Leitch was formerly with Mr. Fyfe, under the style of Fyfe & Leitch, who in June, 1883, compromised at 40 per cent. in three payments, the first cash and the balance in 6 and 12 months.

The Glasgow & London Fire Insurance Co. Messrs. E. L. Bond and Stewart Browne, general managers for Canada, have leased the elegant premises on Notre Dame and Recollet streets, fitted up for the Federal Bank branch in this city, recently withdrawn. It is evident that the legend of the Recollets has no terrors for the enterprising managers of the Glasgow & London.

The total liabilities of the Marriage Aid Association, Hamilton, Ont., are \$3,186 of which \$850 are general and \$2,336 liabilities under benefits. There is on hand divisible under claims for general liabilities the sum of \$344; and the law costs and liquidation fees will probably be about \$1,200; so that general creditors may expect to get about 25 cents in the dollar.

A QUANTITY of dynamite, about 20 tons, imported by B. & S. H. Thompson & Co., this city, last September, has been seized by the customs authorities for undervaluation. The firm say the price in England is £65, that they entered it at £80, but the Government appraises it at £120 per ton. Several seizures of goods have been made in the Maritime Provinces and small fines imposed.

LONDON *Mining Journal* has taken some time to arrive at the conclusion that there are probably few fields for mining enterprise which offer greater attractions to capitalists than the Maritime Provinces of Canada, and has no doubt that, as scientific and technical knowledge becomes more widely disseminated, the mines and industries of those provinces will be widely and favorably known in the British markets.

According to the *St. John Telegraph*, mackerel on the shores as far as Shad Bay, Upper and Lower Prospect, Terrance Bay, East and West Dover, have been a failure, no catches of consequence having been taken. Some small mackerel were taken during the summer, but prices have been down. The fishermen intend holding their fish till the spring in hopes of a rise. The price of mackerel at the present time is about \$2.35 per bbl.

The amount of grain received and shipped out by the Northern Railway elevator at Collingwood during the season was: 1,182,239 bush. corn; 608,162 bush. oats; 127,867 bush. wheat; in all about two million bushels. There is still about 130,000 bush. corn in the building which will be shipped out during the winter. Nearly 4000 cars were used to transport the grain over the road, and some 30 men are employed in the elevator during the summer.

Another good week's business was done in the Boston wool market, with a fairly steady undertone experienced in most descriptions. The total sales last week were 3,364,694 lbs., against 2,529,146 lbs. for the week previous and 3,187,000 lbs. for the corresponding week in 1883. The total sales since January 1st, 1884, have been 117,811,715 lbs., against 125,093,005 lbs. for the corresponding period of 1883, a decrease of 7,281,295 pounds.