

ments. People will be forced to the conclusion that there is something wrong where such information is withheld from the public.

—We regret to learn that A. T. McCord, Jr. of Toronto, has been compelled to make an assignment. His liabilities are heavy, amounting to about \$250,000, assets about \$216,000.

—The possibility of manufacturing sugar from corn has begun to agitate the minds of our neighbors now that the great political question has been settled.

—The Protection Life Insurance Company of New York comes next on the list. It stoutly asserts its solvency however, and cries out "blackmail" with all its might. A demand has been made for the appointment of a Receiver in New York and also in Chicago. Fraud is charged against the officers of the company.

—Two Sarina merchants, Messrs. T. & J. S. Symington, have bought out the Sarina Street Railway, which has for some time past been under American management.

—Trains will resume running on the Kingston and Pembroke Railway as soon as the snow disappears from the track. Work on the extension of the line beyond Sharbot Lake has been continued all winter.

—The Quebec and Gulf Ports Steamship Company talk of putting on boats the coming summer, between Summerside, Charlottetown and Boston, and Messrs. Carvell Bros. are getting ready for a rush of business by building a commodious wharf, at a cost of over \$20,000.

—The two recent heavy snow-storms do not seem to have interfered with traffic on the Intercolonial Railway, which seems to be equal to the situation in regard to clearing the snow off the track. There has not been any day this winter that the cars did not run. The train hands are to be complimented for their persevering efforts and steadiness in trying situations with their charges.

—The *Northern Light* is doing well at last. The Nova Scotian mails have been only seven hours from Pictou to Charlottetown of late, and two or three round trips are made weekly, carrying full freights, Nova Scotia mails and passengers. Crossing at the Capes is very regular.

—One enterprise leads to another. In Prince County, P. E. I., meetings have been held and an agitation is going on to establish a steam line between Cansumpee and the Intercolonial Railway, via Clatham Junction or Newcastle deep-water terminus, per the Miramichi River.

—The Prince Edward Island banks are in good standing. Union and Merchants' Bank of P. E. Island sold at 56, 60 and 65 per cent. premium at auction a few days ago, and the Bank of Summerside declares gross earnings of \$7,000 the past year.

—We learn that the gross receipts of the Whithy and Port Perry Railway for 1876 amounted to \$50,501, an increase of \$7,876, or 18.47 per cent. over the earnings of the previous year. The working expenses for the year amounted to \$31,405 being 62.18 per cent., an increase of 2.37 per cent. in comparison with 1875. The amount carried to credit of profit and loss account was \$19,095.75. The perma-

nent way, buildings, locomotives, and rolling stock, have been maintained in complete repair and efficiency, and fifteen tons of new iron rails and 9,000 ties were placed on the track during the year. The cars, formerly rented from the British American Car Company of Montreal, and locomotives, cars, steamboat, and scows, and other property formerly rented from Messrs. Austin, Michie, Fulton & Holden, have been purchased by the Company.

—Among the new enterprises in Canada is that of the Cobourg Carpet and Matting Manufacturing Company, which bids fair to result in the building up of a very large business. The Company was chartered in July last, with an authorised capital of \$100,000, of which \$50,000 is paid up. Mr. George H. Longmore, formerly of St. John, N. B., and a practical man, is President of the Company, which numbers among its directors several men of capital and business ability. The raw material used is all brought from tropical latitudes in Asia, and, as it does not compete with any Canadian production, should always have been admitted free; but recently the Custom House officers have collected duty, not finding the article of cocon matting in the free list. We learn from the Cobourg papers that recently Mr. Clark, who is a director with a considerable interest in the enterprise, visited Ottawa, and made the case so plain that an order was issued from the Department making the raw material of this manufacture free. The Company will, in consequence, be able now to furnish their goods at the lowest prices, rendering it entirely unnecessary to go abroad for mats and matting, which can be cheaply manufactured at home from the imported raw material. Every new enterprise like this helps to keep money in the country, and should be encouraged.

—The annual statement of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax shows that the net gain of the year was \$75,392, or about 8½ per cent. of capital. The 8 per cent. dividend amounting to \$72,000 has been paid, which leaves only \$3,392, with \$7,545 from last year, to be carried to reserve.

—Mr. G. Lomer, Jr., of this City, has been appointed agent for the Transatlantic Marine Insurance Company, of Berlin, Germany. A large business is done by this Company in its various branches, in Britain, the principal Ports on the Continents, Australia, India and America; it is to be hoped that their Canadian venture will prove successful.

—The following letter appears in a recent number of the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*:

"Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 30th ult. in regard to the measurement of timber shipped to this country as deck-loads, inquiring particularly as to the divisor to be used for the measurement of round timber by the girt, I am directed by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs to acquaint you that it is not contemplated to make any alteration in the divisor (viz., 113) which has been used for many years in this department.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"J. B. HALE, Secretary.
"William Chellev, Esq., Point Deveron, Cornwall."

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONTINENTAL HIDING AWAY HIS PROPERTY.—The officers who have writs to serve on Luther W. Frost, President of the late Continental Life Insurance Company,

have not been able to find him. The town records of Yonkers, N. Y., show that he has made good use of his liberty by transferring \$30,000 worth of improved real estate to parties friendly to himself and his wife.

* FIRE RECORD.

Ottawa, March 7.—Sheds in rear of the Royal Exchange Hotel partially destroyed by fire.

Halifax, N. S., March 8.—The dwelling of C. E. Hill, of Cow Bay, C. B., burned.

St. Catharines, March 8.—Residence of Hugh Hagan, on Hainer's Hill, was destroyed by fire with the barn and other outbuildings. The loss is about \$1,800; insured for \$1,000 in the Waterloo Mutual. This morning the residence of David Fraser, on Hainer's Hill, near this city, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$700; insured for \$400.

Aurora, March 9.—Fire broke out in rear of the premises occupied by Mr. Tomlinson as an hotel. Mr. Lemon's adjoining hotel was also consumed. Insured in the Western Provincial, Stadacona and Niagara District Mutual.

Woodstock, March 9.—R. P. Crawford's jewellery store badly damaged by fire. The cause is supposed to be one of incendiarism. Stock nearly all saved. Loss covered by insurance.

Langton, March 9.—Steinhoff's tavern, unoccupied, and the store, dwelling and storehouse lately occupied by J. K. McLennan were consumed by fire. The buildings were uninsured. Loss on contents covered by insurance. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

Mono Mills, March 9.—Store of Patrick McLaughlin, of this village, was discovered to be on fire, and, before any assistance could be rendered, it and the contents were destroyed, together with a storehouse and other buildings. Mr. McLaughlin's loss is heavy, the stock being large and but lightly insured. None of the books were saved. Supposed to be a case of incendiarism.

St. John, N. B., March 9.—Fire broke out in cellar of Gardiner's brick building, occupied by M. C. Barbour and J. H. Golden and Steves Bros., dry goods, and worked upward, and soon got into the splendid brick store of Hon. Isaac Burpee, Minister of Customs, occupied by I. & F. Burpee and Kerr & Thorne. Gardiner's, Burpee's, and Watts & Turner's buildings were destroyed, and Beard & Vennings' considerably injured. A gang worked all day at the ruins, and found the charred bodies of the following:—D. E. Watts, merchant; George Budd, bookkeeper; Leburron, Akerley, Sunl. Lister and Daniel Comboy. Several others were injured; loss, \$280,000. Insurance is as follows:

—Watts & Turner had their stock insured in the Imperial for \$8,000 and Aetna \$5,000; C. R. Ray had \$2,000 in the Phoenix; Samuel Gardner had in the Royal \$12,000; Steves Bros. on stock had \$18,000 in the Aetna; J. H. Golden & Co. had \$4,000 in the Provincial and \$4,000 in the Imperial; M. C. Barbour had \$34,000 divided among the following offices:—Liverpool, London & Globe, \$6,000; Queen, \$9,000; North British and Mercantile, \$5,000; Lancashire, \$1,000; Commercial Union, \$3,000; Guardian, \$7,000. Isaac Burpee, owner of building had \$3,000 in the Liverpool, London and Globe. I. & F. Burpee & Co., had on stock in the Liverpool, London and Globe, \$2,000; Queen, \$3,000; Lancashire, \$6,000. Kerr & Thorne had \$5,000 in the Liverpool, London and Globe, \$10,000 in the Queen. Miss Sarah Kineaur, owner of building occupied by Beard and Vennings, had \$5,000 in the Liverpool, London and Globe. Beard & Vennings had insurance as follows: North British and Mercantile, \$4,000; Royal, \$4,000; Commercial Union, \$6,000; Lancashire, \$6,000; Imperial, \$8,000; Aetna, \$6,000; National, \$6,000.

Ottawa, March 10.—Flour store on St Joseph street, owned by Galarneau, was destroyed by fire. Loss about \$1,000.

Ottawa, March 10.—The Carleton House, on Wellington street, took fire, but was extinguished before any great damage was done.