

ever, were in no sense so reprehensible as they have been since the days of the Chapleau regime at Quebec, and Mercier has gone even further. To whatever extent his desire to maintain himself in place may have influenced Mr. Chapleau in his treatment of the Bishops and clergy it remained for Mr. Mercier, the leader of those whom it had been the custom to describe as the politicians of the infidel school, to make his arrangements with the Pope himself and to obtain from him such considerations as no other layman at the present day enjoys. By making the most of all this the dismissed Quebec premier managed to secure an influence among his compatriots such as no other Quebec politician ever had, and this it would appear that he has utilized not alone for political objects but for the aggrandisement of himself and friends. Mercier had to go in the public interest and though to drive him from office required almost a stretch of authority, it would seem well that it has been exercised. Before the electorate, the Mercierites will fight hard, and it would in no way be surprising if a considerable time did not elapse before what may be termed provincial solidarity be established.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW says that rich men keep neither their money nor securities in their offices. 'r. Clews says that rich men conduct their business down to a \$2 transaction by checks.

VINSEL, underwriting does not seem nowadays to be as promising a line of business as it used to be, no less than 17 underwriters at Lloyd's having withdrawn from the business of that association whose risks annually cover over \$300,000,000.

RECENT fires at Moosejaw, Calgary, Lethbridge, and other Northwest cities, have demonstrated how utterly helpless those towns are in the event of fire. Thousands of dollars worth of property have lately gone up in smoke because of scarcity of water, high winds, and the failure of the engines to work properly.

THE Quebec correspondent of the *Empire* wires that journal that the Quebec legislature was dismissed because if it met "it would probably be asked by Mercier to pronounce upon the causes of the late crisis without having before it the final and complete report of the Royal Commission upon the Baie Des Chaleurs affair."

THE weather indications for some days prior to the ordinary period for making New Year's purchases made everything look blue for those houses which are accustomed to reap their harvests at Christmas and New Year's tide. But the finer conditions that followed cleared the way for a good trade, which was done to the abundant satisfaction of both buyers and sellers.

ST. JOHN, N. B., between which and the port of Halifax there has always been more

or less rivalry, is seeking to secure a portion of the western grain trade, so much of which has latterly been passing to Europe by way of the last-named city. Halifax has elevators, St. John has not, but the latter thinks that chutes could be made at small cost which could transfer the grain to the ocean vessels much more cheaply than it would be possible to do by the aid of elevators.

"A carload containing 30,000 lbs. of fresh salmon," says the *Trade Review*, "has been shipped by the Fraser River Freezing Company, of Port Haney, to Hamburg, Germany. It is going via the Canadian Pacific Railway to New York, thence in the cold storage department of a German steamship. This is the first shipment of fresh salmon from British Columbia to Europe." Fresh salmon has, apparently, no idea of remaining in the continent to which it belongs.

ANYONE who took the trouble to attend the recent school examinations, or rather exhibitions, at the Christmas vacation, must have noticed from the list of subjects taught how comparatively little attention is paid to many matters upon which the boy or the girl who expects some day to have to do with business ought to be best informed. Our school system on general principles is an admirable one, but it is too all-comprehensive, and fewer subjects practically taught would seem to be of much more utility and advantage to the scholars.

A CANADIAN Bankers' Association has been recently formed, the officers being:—President, Mr. Geo. Hague, of the Merchants' Bank; vice-presidents, Messrs. Walker, of the Canadian Bank of Commerce; W. C. Ward, of the Bank of British Columbia; Stephenson, of the Quebec Bank; and Fysh, of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Two honorary presidents were elected—Hon. J. D. Lewin, president of the Bank of New Brunswick, St. John, and R. W. Heneker, president of the Eastern Townships Bank, Sherbrooke. A council was elected, composed of Messrs. Clouston, of the Bank of Montreal; Grindley, of the Bank of British North America; Thomas, of the Molsons' Bank; Burn, of the Bank of Ottawa; Bousquet, of the People's Bank; Schofield, of the Bank of New Brunswick; and Farwell, of the Eastern Townships Bank.

ROBERT WARD & CO. (LIMITED LIABILITY)

The last British Columbia *Gazette* contains the following memorandum of association:—

THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1890.

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION.

Robert Ward & Company (Limited Liability).

We, the undersigned persons, are desirous of forming ourselves into a Company under the "Companies' Act, 1890."

1. The corporate name of the Company shall be "Robert Ward & Company Limited Liability."

2. The objects for which the Company shall be formed are as follows:—

To acquire and take over as and from the

first day of January, 1892, the business now carried on by Robert Ward trading under the firm name and style of Robert Ward & Company, in Wharf Street, Victoria, in the Province of British Columbia, as general commission merchants, shipping and insurance agents, and to carry on the same.

To carry on a general commission, mercantile, shipping and insurance business, with the following powers:

To charter, acquire, build, own, run, equip, appoint, and operate steamships, tugs, and other vessels of any and every description.

To make advances in cash, goods, or other supplies to other persons, companies or firms, and to take and hold real or personal securities for the same.

To lease, purchase, hold and sell real estate and stocks, bonds, or shares of other corporations, or shares or interests in any other business whether incorporated or not.

To acquire, hold, and operate, fish and fruit canneries, grist mills, saw mills, dredgers, and factories, wharves, warehouses, and piers, and to sell or otherwise dispose of the same.

Generally to make, do, and execute all such acts, deeds, covenants, matters and things, as the Company may deem expedient, necessary, incidental, or otherwise conducive to the attainment of all or any of the above objects, or to the conversion or disposal of any security or property held or acquired by the Company.

3. The capital stock of the Company shall be three hundred thousand dollars divided into three thousand shares of one hundred dollars each.

4. The time of the existence of the Company shall be fifty years.

5. The stock shall consist of three thousand shares.

6. The trustees, viz.:—Robert Ward, of Victoria, British Columbia, merchant; William Arthur Ward, of Victoria aforesaid, clerk; and John Charles MacIure, of Victoria aforesaid, accountant, shall manage the concern of the Company for the first three months.

7. The principal place of business of the Company is to be located in the City of Victoria, in the Province of British Columbia.

The stock of the B. C. Iron Works Company, Ltd., Vancouver, has been increased to \$250,000.

The business men of Nelson are already receiving benefits through the town having water works. The rate of insurance has been lowered several points, houses formerly carrying \$5,000 insurance now being allowed \$6,500 for the same premium.

The B. C. Draining and Dyking Company is the name of a Vancouver concern which has for its object, primarily, the herculean task of draining and completely reclaiming the Pitt Meadows, a large area of low land which is submerged a portion of each year by the Waters of the Pitt and Fraser rivers. The president of the company is Mayor Oppenheimer. The company is now reclaiming section 1, or that tract of country lying between the North and South Lillooets, comprising about 14,000 acres.