

THE first of the year usually brings dissolutions of partnership in business firms. We observe a change in a prominent legal firm here, that of Messrs. Beatty, Chadwick, Thomson & Blackstock, which, having dissolved, is now reconstructed, by the admission of Mr. F. P. Galt into the firm of Beatty, Chadwick, Blackstock & Galt, and Mr. R. S. Neville into that of Beatty, Chadwick, Blackstock & Neville.

THE importance of the Glasgow shipping trade may be gathered from the printed list of ship-owners entitled to vote for the election of the Clyde Trustees. Five hundred and seventeen ship-owners are voters. Several own fleets of steamships worth millions sterling, while no voter owns less than 100 tons. The estimated value of vessels owned on the Clyde is £26,000,000 sterling, or, in round numbers, \$130,000,000.

ON the vote in the municipality of Shoal Lake, upon the by-law to grant the Manitoba & North-western Railway a bonus of \$70,000, to aid in the construction of the road through the county, the votes numbered 208 for and 203 against; majorities against it being polled in Birtle, Cook's, Shoal Lake, Hamilton and Fort Ellice, while those for it were Burdett, Edge Hill, Colvin, Dows and Williams. A three-fifths majority being necessary to carry the by-law, it was thus rejected.

MR. J. Y. SHANTZ, of Waterloo County, gives his experience of Manitoba winter weather in a letter to the *Berlin News*, in a way that may reassure some folks as to the effect of certain temperatures. From a mild snow storm on December 14th, the mercury fell to zero on the 15th. On the 16th it was 18 below zero, Fahrenheit; 17th, 26; 18th, 35; and on the 19th it was 46 below zero. "Still it was not bad to be out. On the 18th I had a sleigh ride—boss sleighing—18 miles without stopping or suffering from cold. On the 17th I drove 8 miles, and on the 19th was out and around in Gretna, and walked two miles to a village in Dakota. I passed a lot of carpenters working in the open air, putting up a tank house. Next day, with the mercury at 46 below, they were also working there."

THE Guarantee Company of North America is evidently working into a good business in the United States, as it deserves to do. We observe that so prominent a corporation as the Pennsylvania Railroad Company accepts its security on bonds of its employees instead of seeking personal securities, as it used to do. At a meeting of the Board of Directors of that Company, the following resolution was on motion adopted: "Resolved—That the Board of Directors do hereby approve of and accept the Guarantee Company of North America, as a sufficient surety in the bond of any officer or employee of this Company who shall procure it as his surety, and that the General Solicitor be and he is hereby authorized, instead of requiring two or more sureties as heretofore, to accept the said Guarantee Company as the sole surety on such bond."

WE, on this side of the water, are accustomed to think that we know a good deal about advertising, and the Americans, especially, we are apt to look upon as having exhausted the art almost, so fantastic, various and numerous are their schemes of advertising. But one has only to cross the Atlantic to find that, if they do not use giant type in newspapers, and have a wholesome dread of disfiguring a handsome building with huge signs at all angles, they know how to advertise. There comes to us by the *Sarmatian's* mail from London, England, a cloth-bound gilt-edged volume, which we thought was a Christmas gift-book, or at any rate a volume of spring poetry. It turns out to be a list of the Iron and Steel Manufacturers of Great Britain, and a Bound Book of these Trades, com-

plied by Mr. Herbert W. Griffiths, editor of the *Iron Trades Exchange*, from which we have the pleasure of quoting occasionally. The extent of those trades in Britain is indicated by the fact that 61 pages of a book the size of a *Canadian Almanac* are occupied with a mere list of the names of iron-smelters, blast furnaces, mills, forges, tin, iron plate and steel workers; 23 pages more are devoted to brands of all these makers,—queer and cabalistic designs some of them are. The remainder of the 150 pages are taken up with advertisements.

GOSS & PARSONS, a firm of general storekeepers of Harbor Grace, Newfoundland, are insolvent. Mr. Goss, one of the firm, died some time ago, and Mr. Parsons has since been carrying on the business, which for some years has been quite a small one. Shortly after commencing they met with a succession of bad fishing voyages, and have never been able to recover since. The liabilities are \$5,591 and assets about \$600.

A RATHER peculiar feature in connection with the robbery of a shop, is that which we have just heard of from Ottawa. It appears that on Christmas \$2,100 in cash was stolen out of the office of the dry goods firm of Mayant & Lanigan in that city, which sum Lanigan has accused Mayant of taking, and a chancery action has been instituted. The firm has failed, owing some \$4,300 and \$1,300 of this is secured by mortgage on the dwelling of one of the partners.

AMONG Manitoba traders we hear of the following incidents:—In Brandon, Wright & Wright, hardware, etc., failed in July last and compromised their liabilities at 50 cents on the dollar, but this seems to be too much for them to pay. They are reported to have left and the assignee is selling off their stock.—A Campbell, Venture Hotel, Winnipeg, finds the bailiff in possession of his premises and his effects are advertised for sale.—Harry Killer, general store keeper, at Emerson, is offering to pay fifty per cent. for a settlement, but this the creditors refuse.

THE lamp manufacturing firm of H. Prevost & Co., Montreal, whose troubles have already been alluded to, have at last assigned in trust. They show liabilities of about \$10,000 and assets of nearly \$4,000.—The general store firm of Forest & Co. Joliette, Que., who failed last July and compromised at 45 cents in the dollar, are again in difficulties and creditors have sent a man to take stock and investigate their affairs.—Lavigne & Frere, traders, of Masham Mills, Que., have assigned in trust. All they owe is some \$2,000 and their assets nominally the same.

A Portage la Prairie brewer, Mr. P. Cairns, is charged with an infraction of revenue law, and his premises have been closed by the officers in charge. Fred. Stokes Palmer, formerly an *attache* of the police force in Winnipeg, started a detective agency along with one Eddy, said to be a very decent fellow, who soon learned the character of the man he was with and retired. However, Palmer being a "tony fellow," succeeded in victimizing a number of persons, one it is said out of \$2,400, others in sums varying from \$500 downward, and now he is missing.

THE legal firm of Thomson & Henderson issues its card to the public at the first of the year. It consists, we understand, of Messrs. D. E. Thomson, David Henderson, and Thomas T. Porteous. Mr. Thomson was a number of years in the firm of Beatty, Chadwick, Thomson, & Blackstock, and its predecessors, and may truthfully be said to have earned a reputation as a painstaking and successful business lawyer, whose forte is insolvency cases. Mr. Henderson has been of the firm of Bain, Gordon, Shepley, & Henderson, and the new firm begin business under promising auspices.

WESTGATE BROS., manufacturers of casks, Montreal, have assigned in trust, but the amount of their liabilities or assets is not yet learned.

G. C. HATFIELD, a small grocer of St. John, N.B., has assigned in trust, as also have E. Toombs, grocer, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., and Miss M. T. Kinsman, milliner, of Kentville, N.S.

BOWN & WOODS, auctioneers and commission merchants, of St. John's Newfoundland, have petitioned the court to be declared insolvent. Shew liabilities of \$3,200 and assets \$1,200.

WE hear of the assignment in trust of Mr. Thos. Juneau, general dealer at St. Paulin, Que. owing about \$6,000 and having assets to nominally the same amount. He was a creditor of the defunct Beaver Lumber Co., for some \$1,500, and this has partly brought about the above result.

EILER & Co. who have carried on a Hat, Fur and Millinery business in Quebec for a couple of years, have stopped. The concern was reported to have come over from the States under a cloud.

—OVIDE LECLERC, a Quebec barber, and who also kept a small tobacco store, has assigned in trust. His liabilities are small but his assets are still less and it is said that creditors outside of the landlord will hardly get anything.

SOME of our readers in the dry goods trade may not have seen the very handsome stone warehouse of Messrs. John Macdonald & Co. since the new addition was completed. If so, they will not fail to be interested by the lithographed view of it which we have pleasure in giving in to-day's issue. The picture represents both frontages of the building on Wellington and Front streets. It is now, we believe, one of the best adapted dry goods warehouses on this continent. The need for so extensive a building shows a growth of business to a degree which reflects great credit on its founder. Some months ago we gave a detailed description of these premises in this city.

WHAT is termed by the London *Economist* "a blot on the parcels'-post" is thus described by that journal. There is really a good deal of truth in the complaints we continue to hear, that the chief drawback to the use of the parcels'-post for trade purposes is the impossibility of sending 1 lb of goods for threepence, or 3 lbs for the sixpence, and so on. To send 1 lb of tea or coffee involves as heavy a postage-charge as 2½ lbs, by reason of the necessary weight of the packages; and the suggestion that some such a scale as the following should be adopted is well worthy the attention of the Post-office authorities. It would greatly extend the business and utility of the Department:

	Net Weight (Not Allowed).	Gross Weight (To Include Package).
Postage		
3d	1 lb	1 lb 2 ozs.
6d	3 lbs	3 lbs 4 ozs.
9d	5 lbs	5 lbs 6 ozs.
1s	7 lbs	7 lbs 8 ozs.

REFERRING to the paragraph which we printed a fortnight ago, on the suspension of J. A. Codd & Co, of Bowmanville, Mr. Codd requests us to correct one or two errors in our description of the affair. The bank, we learn at the time of the run upon it was left in charge, not of his son, but of a gentleman of some business experience and Mr. Codd's interest in the Lake Scugog Drainage Company was acquired, he tells us, before he began private banking. According to a letter signed by a number of business men in Bowmanville, who expressed their confidence in Mr. Codd, the circumstances which led to his suspension have not been quite correctly stated, "but," says the letter, "we did hear that certain cheques of the firm had been refused, both lately and months ago," Mr. Codd resents the imputation of our item upon his skill as a busi-