

THE Northern & North-Western Railway Company will soon have a new equipment of which it stands in need. It will consist of six of the finest passenger coaches, eight locomotives, besides mail and other cars.

MR. KENNETH MACKENZIE, President of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, has gone to Chicago in order to ascertain whether or not the cattle dealers there would be inclined to start business on ever so small a scale in Winnipeg.

TRACK-LAYING on the Buctouche and Moncton railway is progressing at a satisfactory rate. Several of the smaller bridges have been erected and tested, and the hard pine for the larger bridges has arrived ready for use next spring.

MR. N. B. BOYD, of the firm of Boyd & Crowe, left Ottawa for the west last week with 700 high grade sheep, bought in the counties of Carleton, Russell, Leeds and Grenville, with which to stock their ranche near Carberry, N. W. T.

SAYS the Winnipeg *Manitoba*: Notwithstanding the approach of cold weather, building operations are still brisk. It is estimated that the value of new residential building commenced within the past five weeks aggregate \$100,000.

THE Chief of the American Bureau of Statistics reports the total values of the exports of breadstuffs from the United States as follows: September, 1886, \$14,282,528; 1885, \$9,007,713. Nine months ended Sept. 30, 1886, \$110,828,599; 1885, \$102,190,798.

IN St. Thomas the other day, a fire destroyed the premises of Isaac Styles, jr. Having no insurance to cover his loss of \$1200 or \$1500, kind-hearted neighbors collected between \$800 and \$900 to help the unlucky fellow to rebuild. Others agreed to furnish lumber.

A COMPANY is about to be formed to develop the recently discovered gold deposits at Carleton, Yarmouth county, N. S. The leads opened during the last two months, since the first discovery, have resulted very satisfactorily. The capital of the company is to be \$25,000.

THE Portage la Prairie *Liberal* learns that the Pray Manufacturing Co., of Minneapolis, Minn., has entered into contract with the Portage Milling Co. to increase the capacity of its mills to 600 sacks in 24 hours, quality of flour to equal any made in North America from same grade of wheat.

AT the two weeks manufacturers' exposition, now being held in Denver, Col., there is a monument or pile of silver bricks seven feet high. It contains 107 bars, and weighs four tons and 376 pounds. The silver is as pure as it can be made, and is worth, at the present price of silver, \$11,849,277.

ON Saturday last a large gathering of buyers and interested parties was to be seen at the auction sale of the old Lacrosse Grounds in Montreal, for account of the Phillip's Estate. The *Herald* states that the result of the first day's sale was in every respect satisfactory to the proprietors. The prices covering the number of lots placed ranged from 52½ cents to \$1.31½ per square foot, English measure, and the result of the sale exceeded \$175,000.

APPLICATION has been made to the Government of Winnipeg for letters patent incorporating the Winnipeg, St. Boniface and Carillon Railway Company, for the construction of a line from Winnipeg to a point in the eastern part of the county of Carillon. The capital stock of the company is to be \$1,500,000, divided into 15,000 shares of \$100 each. The applicants are Messrs. F. H. Brydges, H. M. Howell, W. R. Baker, W. L. Boyle, W. R. Allan, and J. E. P. Prendergast, M. P. P. The proposed road will be about 100 miles in length.

IN a Manitoba exchange we read that nine trainloads of Montana cattle have arrived at Winnipeg this season from the west, aggregating 4,000 head. During the past month or so there have also been four trains shipped through to Montreal—the *avant couriers* of the immense traffic in cattle which will in the future pass over the C. P. R. Two of these trainloads, shipped by a Toronto dealer, were destined for Liverpool.

A NEW YORK circular issued to apple-raisers and packers says it is expected that the English apple crop will be small this year, and therefore a profitable market will be found for many Canadian apples abroad. Last year in the nine months between August, 1885, and May, 1886, 862,000 barrels of apples were shipped from this continent to England. Prices were not entirely satisfactory, however, and many were disappointed. This year, in consequence of the reported failure of the English crop, prices are likely to be more satisfactory.

AN unfortunate rumour got abroad in St. John on Friday evening last, that the International Co's. steamer "New Brunswick" was on fire at sea and burning rockets. Happily its falsity was demonstrated to the anxious citizens later in the same night by Pilot Trainor and Captain Keast of the "Wallula," both of whom passed her off Grand Manan. There is little doubt that the rumour was started by the lighthouse keeper and others at Digby, who had mistaken the reflection of the Eastport fire for the "New Brunswick" on fire.

WHAT any man or firm wanted with a cheese as big as a pair of old-fashioned mill-stones, could not easily be conjectured. But we now learn that it is wanted for exhibition purposes. The *Ingersoll Chronicle* tells how Wm. Heapy & Sons, of Liverpool, ordered from James Ireland, at the West Oxford Butter and Cheese Co's. factory, a mammoth cheese. It was accordingly turned out, and weighs 4,740 pounds, requiring the milk of 4,000 cows for one day to make the curd. It is five feet in diameter and forty inches high, and will be shown at different fairs in England and Scotland.

THE Yarmouth woolen mill is busy, having received good orders from England, according to the *Acadian Recorder*. The duck factory at the same place is well engaged, and doing well. Several other industries are doing fairly well under all the circumstances. The letter goes on to say that "trade all round is still dull here. Storekeepers say with one voice that money is scarce. Many hope with the upward tendency of the price of fish, that general trade will improve next month. It has for some time been a sharp struggle in the county, and especially in the shire town; the failure of shipping and shipbuilding have been felt keenly, and the fishing industry being unremunerative."

WE generally hear of Amherst as a live Nova Scotia town; and are glad to learn that its manufactures are booming. The *Gazette* of that town says that Rhodes, Curry & Company, wood-workers, employing about 100 workmen at an average, are steadily receiving orders for building material and the firm expects to turn out about \$50,000 worth of work between this and December 31st. The Amherst boot and shoe company employs 135 hands and pays aggregate wages of \$175 per day. At present \$1,000 per day represents their shipments of goods, and the factory hands have been working over-time for ten weeks getting out the spring samples. A. Robb & Sons are doing a large business employing about 60 hands, and are employed up to their capacity.

OUR weekly budget of business reverses in Ontario and Manitoba discloses nothing of importance, and is anything but extensive. We note that Bull & Co., dry goods dealers at Thorold, have made an assignment, with which process they must by this time be pretty familiar as they have failed on more than one previous occasion.—A bailiff has taken possession of the premises of Taylor & Co., tailors, in this city at the instance of the landlord.—Wm. Elliott, a general trader at Wingham, whose troubles we have referred to has arranged with creditors at 40c. on the dollar.—Mrs. H. Ruthven, a boot and shoe dealer at Leamington, is in difficulties and will assign.—A blacksmith named Wm. Ament, at Strasbourg, has failed.—Alex. Weir, a dealer in boots and shoes in this city, has assigned. His stock valued at \$4,000 is to be sold at auction on the 26th. The present is his second failure. He must owe a good deal.—A Toronto firm has obtained judgment for \$4,000 against W. T. Harris, a Winnipeg jeweller. He is asking for two years in which to liquidate. There is also a chattel mortgage to be provided for.

QUITE an extensive refinery is being prepared for active operation at Sarnia, i. e., the Alpha Oil Company's works. It is expected that they will be set going this week. We learn from the *Observer* that 5,000 barrels of oil can be treated at each run—the stills, condenser, agitator, and settling and bleaching tanks being capable of handling that quantity. Stills, boilers, bleachers and agitators of the best boiler plate; miles upon miles of iron tubing, from the smallest size up to the largest; costly pumps; enormous underground tanks; massive brick-work and frame work, these form a portion of the expensive fixtures provided. A new oil-refining process is about to be tried in Sarnia, the inventor being Professor Hall. Professor Hall is not a professor who does not profess, for he vows he can make three barrels of refined oil out of one of crude and water. If it prove successful, it is predicted that the population of that town will double within a year. Here is a list of the enterprises which it is claimed will follow; "Boiler works and engine works, with foundry attached, having a capacity for casting twenty tons of iron per day are already nearing completion. Large cooperages will be required; smelting works are contemplated, and a number of minor industries that are bound to follow in the train."

FOR the second time within a month, despite night watchmen and all other careful appliances, a fire has been in progress for hours, at night, in a warehouse in the heart of the Toronto business quarter, and destroyed almost the whole contents before it could be subdued. First came the fire at Davidson & Hays, on Yonge street; next, at three or four o'clock on Wednesday morning last, the drug warehouse of Elliot & Co. was found by a policeman to be a mass of smoke and flame inside. The fire brigade came promptly at the summons of a general alarm, and by working faithfully many hours confined the fire to the building. A deluge of water poured into the cellar, where inflammables and explosives were stored, saved these from igniting, but there were some explosions in the upper flats, one of which proved nearly fatal to two brave firemen. The firm which suffered so largely by the last big fire, Messrs. Davidson & Hay, had removed to temporary premises next door to the one burned. Their stock is fortunately uninjured. On the other side was the Canadian Rubber Company's warehouse, but we are glad to say their only loss is a slight one on goods in cellar.