

SUPREME COURT REPORTS.—We took occasion some months ago to remark upon the very dilatory way in which the reporting of the judgments of the Supreme Court is done. The evil appears to increase instead of diminish. Another number of the report has just been issued containing the judgments of the Court in eleven cases. Will it be believed that out of the eleven judgments nine were delivered in the early part of June 1878, and the remaining two on the 15th of April 1879? Such delay is disgraceful. Among these decisions are some of the first interest to the public as well as to business men and the legal profession. If our new Court is to grow in public confidence it will not by allowing its judgments to remain in manuscript until half the laws of which they treat have been repealed by our too active legislatures.

—A first and final dividend has been declared, and we believe paid, of three cents in the dollar, in the matter of Homer Campbell, senior, of Ingersoll, an insolvent. There are twelve creditors, four of them for over \$100 each; the whole liability is \$2,321, and the total amount paid for dividend is \$69.64 (sixty-nine dollars and sixty-four cents). This is all that remained of realized assets, equal to eleven per cent of the liabilities, or say \$251, after disbursements as per the following soothing list:

Assignee's disbursements	\$21 53
Twenty-five days care-taking.....	25 00
Law costs	40 42
Auctioneer's fees	10 00
Inspector's fees.....	10 00
Preferred claims (C. C. Clerk's costs)	36 98
Assignee's commission.....	12 56
Assignee's discharge.....	25 00
First and final dividend.....	69 64

\$251 13

A natural remonstrance was made by a creditor who, we may suppose, took exception to the payment of \$25 for the caretaking, for as many days, of \$211 worth of stock; to paying lawyers 30 per cent of the whole sum collected; to "fees, commission, fees, costs," on a scale suited to an estate whose assets were worth thousands instead of tens; and to the comprehensive fact that the mere expenses of collecting the three per cent dividend for creditors would have paid them nearly eight per cent. more. The assignee's explanation is that the real estate asset of the insolvent was more than covered by mortgage; that the sole inspector, who is the largest creditors, had approved the law costs and authorized the payment of a fee to himself; that certain fees are customary, whether passed by a creditors' meeting or not; and that he himself might have charged more than he did for fees, and could have claimed \$40 for a discharge, which many assignees do, but was desirous to keep expenses down. This is one of the cases in which, doubtless, the worry of litigated or valueless assets appears to an assignee out of all proportion to his remuneration. Still, it is possible to maintain a relation between the amount of certain assets and the disposition of them, and this was not done in paying \$45 for care-

taking, auctioning and inspecting \$211 worth of goods. The manifest astonishment of creditors at the discovery of a building society lien of \$1,400 on property for which more than \$1,000 can not be got (so we understand the assignee) helps to show upon what understanding London and Hamilton merchants credited this trader, and why they feel sore.

—From the report of the Harbor Master of the port of Montreal we learn that the number and tonnage of sea-going vessels arriving in that port, from the opening of navigation to the 1st of December in the following years, was as under:

	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1876 — 602	391,180	
1877 — 513	376,859	
1878 — 516	397,266	
1879 — 612	506,969	

Showing an increase in tonnage for the two latest years, that of 1879 being over 21 per cent. above that of 1878.

CLASSIFICATION.

	S. Ships.	Ships.	Barques.	Brigs.	Brigs's.	Schrs.
1876 — 240	40	146	18	35	123	
1877 — 247	41	108	10	29	78	
1878 — 207	44	113	9	34	109	
1879 — 289	38	121	5	37	127	

Number of inland vessels that arrived in port from the opening of navigation up the 14th December in the following years was:

	Vessels.	Depth in channel.
1876	6,083	1876....20 feet 9 in.
1877	6,333	1877....20 " 10 "
1878	5,479	1878....22 " 10 "
1879	5,696	1879....21 " 1 "

—The highest honors of the International Dairy Fair were carried off by a Canadian firm, Messrs. Hodgson & Son of Montreal, who beat the Americans and won the sweepstakes prize, open to all the world for the best cheese made anywhere. This is the right kind of "Canada First," and should encourage our butter and cheese makers to strain every nerve to keep ahead in the quality of their production. The firm named also took 1st and 2nd prizes in the class for Canada cheese only, and Harlow Chandler, of Montreal, the third. For Canadian butter the prizes were also all taken by Montreal firms who were exhibitors, we are not told the makers. Creamery 1st and 2nd prizes, Ayer & Co.; 3rd Frank Wilson. Dairy Butter 1st, Fuller & Shufelt; 2nd and 3rd, Ayer & Co.

—The receipts by rail and canal at Montreal, of leather, in rolls, (a roll, we presume, meaning ten sides) and the shipments via Montreal and Portland, canal and rail, were as follows for the past four years, from 1st January to 10th December in each year:—

1879 receipts.....	41,036 shp'ts	9,111 rolls.
1878 "	45,443 "	12,014 "
1877 "	34,912 "	13,855 "
1876 "	50,203 "	8,728 "

—Mr. Shehyn, of Quebec, has been induced by the repeated solicitations of the business men of that city, to recall his resignation as president of the Quebec Board of Trade.

—The report of the Committee, Messrs. Moat Campbell & Moffatt, on the condition of the Consolidated Bank has been filed in Court. The following is a condensed statement of the committee's report:—

GENERAL STATEMENT TO 31ST OCTOBER 1878.

Liabilities.

Circulation.....	280,672 00
Public deposits.....	630,416 04
Prov. Govt. deposits.....	117,944 07
Dom. Govt. deposits.....	171,950 42
Due to other banks and agencies..	795,358 26
Unclaimed dividends.....	6,445 01
Interest reserved.....	25,000 00

\$2,027,785 80

Capital stock paid up..... 2,080,920 00

\$4,108,705 00

Assets.

Specie.....	\$ 6,210 99
Dominion notes.....	17,926 00
Checks and bills of other banks..	13,636 15
Due from other banks.....	312,693 58
Notes, mortgages &c.,—good.....	1,817,101 01
Notes " " —doubtful..	297,322 86
Notes " " —contingent	364,953 73

\$2,829,844 32

Total deficiency.....\$1,278,861 48

—The Stock Market at Montreal, during the past week, has been quiet and the movement generally unfavorable, lowest prices being touched on Monday and Tuesday, when Bank of Montreal fell to 138, Merchants to 86, Montreal Telegraph to 94½, and City Gas to 114½. To-day the market closes steadier, but with little doing. Bank of Montreal, 139; Ontario, 68½ bid; People's, 55 bid; Molson's, 75½ bid; Toronto, 118 to 122; Merchant's, 86½; Commerce, 115 ex dividend; Montreal Telegraph, 96 bid, 97 wanted; City Gas, 116.

—The Canada Permanent Loan & Savings Co., announces its thirty ninth half yearly dividend, the rate is as usual twelve per cent, per annum.

—The Ontario Loan & Debenture Company, declares a dividend at the rate of ten per cent, yearly.

—The Imperial Loan & Investment Co., notify a dividend at the annual rate of eight per cent.

—A dividend is declared by the Bank of British North America at the rate of five per cent. per annum, payable on 5th January next.

—The British America Assurance Company has declared the usual dividend of five per cent. for the half year now current.

—A semi-annual dividend of four per cent is announced by the Anglo-Canadian Mortgage Company.

—The Hamilton Provident & Loan Society has declared a half yearly dividend of four per cent.

—The Confederation Life Association declares a dividend of five per cent. for the current half year.