

by Mr. John Livingstone, assignee of the company, that neither the estate nor the inspectors have made any solicitations for any such bonus.

For the past two weeks the Government has been besieged by deputations which have visited Ottawa on every kind of mission, the large majority, however, being interested in changes in the tariff. A deputation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association has waited upon the Ministers of Finance and Customs for the purpose of presenting the recommendations of the Association which, this year, deal more with the interpretation of the present Act than with radical changes in the rate of duty.

THE Grand Trunk Railway Company have equipped a train running between Ottawa and Montreal with an electric apparatus by which direct communication may be had with the engine driver from any part of the train. The innovation grows out of the failure of the bell-cord to answer the purpose. If the apparatus proves as satisfactory in practical use as is claimed for it, it will be adopted on all trains. This is, we believe, the first attempt on any railroad to utilize electricity for purpose indicated.

THE Canadian Court of Commerce has been established in London, Eng., by exhibitors from the recent Colonial Exhibition, and is practically a comprehensive exchange, sample room, rendezvous and bazaar, open for commercial purposes. From a circular which we have received from Mr. J. George Grant, the Secretary of the Court, we learn that floor and wall space in the building secured for the exhibit is furnished exhibitors of Canadian products at moderate charges, which include rent, taxes, lighting, heating, supervision and attendance. The address of Mr. Grant is at 7 Dean street, Oxford street, London W., England.

*The Australasian and South American* is a monthly trade journal published in New York by the Australasian Publishing Company. It was published originally for the purpose of developing and enlarging the trade of the United States with the Australasian Colonies, and the appearance of it indicates that it has met with gratifying success. Its advertising columns show that quite a large number of manufacturers not only in the United States but in Canada also regard it as a convenient medium for the introduction of their goods not only into the British Colonies in Australasia, but into the various South American countries also.

In connection with the recent failure of the Maritime Bank, it is reported that bills of exchange which passed between the Stewart firm, Guy, Bevan & Co., and the bank, were endorsed by boys under age in the employ of the three concerns. A late English mail brought notices to several of the boys that bills bearing their names had been dishonored, and asking them to provide for them. About a dozen boys were used for this purpose. The operations had been going on for some time, the bankers who accepted the bills thinking that the endorsers were responsible parties. The lads say that they were never shown the face of the bills, and until they received the notice they did not know the amounts that were contained in them. Some of the lads have endorsed to the extent of £4,000 sterling

AN Act of the Canadian Parliament, known as the "Workmen's Compensation for Injuries Act," 1886, defines the responsibility of employers for accidents to their employees; and very many manufacturers are now anxious that steps should be taken whereby employers will be able to protect themselves by the payment of moderate insurance premiums from the heavy penalties imposed by the Act, which they would be liable to incur. To meet this emergency the Manufacturers' Life and Indemnity Insurance Company, of Toronto, have taken all preliminary steps looking to incorporation by the Dominion Parliament. The capital stock is fixed at \$2,000,000 divided into shares of \$100 each, twenty per cent. of which will be called up to enable the company to commence business. Many of the most prominent business men in Canada have already made application for insurance, and it is desired to have as many of the manufacturers and business men of the country as possible interested in it. There is ample room in Canada for another company possessing the special characteristics of this one here alluded to. The business of the company is in the hands of Mr. J. B. Carlisle, managing director, one of the very best insurance men in Canada, of whom all information may be obtained.

THE "National Policy" of Great Britain is that of free trade as regards the importation of foreign goods into the kingdom, and therefore all revenues for the support of the Government must be raised in other ways. But manufacturers there are heavily handicapped in the imposition of local taxes, and petitions are being sent to the Parliament asking relief. A London contemporary, now before us, publishes the petition of the Paper Manufacturers' Association regarding the law relating to rating of machinery now before the House of Commons. It is there stated that the industry is in a depressed condition, owing in great part to the pressure of foreign competition, protected and fostered by fiscal regulations in other countries, and that the cost of production is much enhanced by the burden of rates and taxes upon mills and manufacturers becoming more onerous from year to year, in some cases aggravated by the levying of rates, not only on freehold hereditaments devoted to the manufacture of paper, but on personal property and chattels in the form of machinery, which, though attached to the freehold, is as essentially personal property as stock in trade or any other part of capital employed in trading. The petitioners pray that in any bill which may be passed to amend the law of rating, all machinery of the nature of personal chattels—the mere furniture of a mill or manufactory—shall be specially exempted from being rated for any purpose. That paternal policy which draws the revenues of the Government from those who have their money invested at home in manufacturing enterprises, as herein indicated, and not from foreign manufacturers and importations of foreign goods does not commend itself to the people of Canada as one to be imitated.

THE especial pride of the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER Publishing Co., is the elegant diploma and and bronze medal, that was awarded their literary exhibit at the Colonial Exhibition at London, last year. Friend Nicholls rather got the start of the rest of the craft, being the only newspaper man of any colony that made an exhibit or received such an honor. We have no hard feelings about it, however, and sincerely congratulate him on the reward of his enterprise.—*Toronto Trader*.