

MR. MINGAYE, hitherto collector of customs, at Winnipeg has been superannuated, and will be appointed, it is said, inspector of customs, for Manitoba and the Northwest, his district extending from Port Arthur to Calgary.

THE Halifax Gas Light Company has called a meeting of its shareholders to authorise the adoption of the electric light by the company and enter into competition with the Halifax Electric Light Company, which latter now is in full operation in Halifax.

THE Manitoba legislature will be petitioned to appoint a boiler inspector for that province, whose duty it would be to periodically inspect all boilers and see that no engineers are employed who have not the Dominion certificate of competency.

AT Moncton, (N. B.), a large quantity of fir wood for pulp is being hauled to the public wharf for shipment to the United States in the spring. Several vessel loads of this wood will be shipped next season, so says the *Times*, for paper-making.

BILLS of the Maritime Bank are taken by St. John shop-keepers at rates which indicate either their desire for "a shave" or their loyalty to a local concern *in extremis*. One man offers to take them at the face and one offers only 80 cents in the \$ for them, "for goods or in payment of account."

AMONG recent bank changes we note that Mr. Pottenger, formerly inspector, becomes manager of the Merchants' Bank at Hamilton, and will be succeeded by Mr. Robert Shaw. Mr. E. E. Triven, of the head office of the Merchants', has been promoted to the position of accountant of the Hamilton branch.

ACCORDING to the St. Croix (N.B.) *Courier*, the authorities of the United States have sent men to the upper waters of the St. Croix and Saint John rivers to take account of marks and the quantity of logs got out on American soil with a view of stopping the alleged smuggling of Canadian lumber into Maine ports.

ACCORDING to the despatch of Superintendent Ellis: The Welland canal will be opened on Monday, May 2nd, for vessels drawing 12 feet, and on and after May 16th a draft of 14 feet will be available throughout. But, say the vessel men, this is not early enough. It should be open by mid-April to accommodate probable traffic.

THE New York Produce Exchange recently amended one of its rules relating to grain so as to read: "Deliveries on contracts for car lots shall be on the basis of 500 bushels to the car for wheat, peas, corn, rye and barley, and 1,000 bushels to the car for oats, excess or deficiency to be settled for at the market price on the day of delivery."

SOME \$218,000 worth of one and two-dollar Dominion Notes, which had been in use by the City and District Savings' Bank during the small-pox epidemic in Montreal, were last week disinfected by the health officers of that city before being sent to Ottawa, the Government officials having demurred to accepting them for cancellation without this precaution.

E. A. SMITH & BROTHER, manufacturers and dealers in kid and goat skins, New York, with factory in Philadelphia, assigned on Monday last. It was one of the oldest houses in the trade, having been formed in 1825 by Adam Smith. The failure caused surprise in "the swamp," but it is now accounted for partly by labor strikes and partly by steady shrinkage in prices.

THREE weeks ago, the last span (545 feet in length) for the Tay Bridge, in Scotland, was successfully floated and placed in position. The contractors are pushing on with the work, and now that the superstructure is erected, work will be less dependent on the weather. The span referred to was waiting at the wharf for several days for suitable weather.

A JOINT stock company is being organized in Windsor to manufacture carriage wood-work, which it is thought will prosper because so close to the necessary woods that Essex furnishes for such purposes. It may be remembered that Amherstburg, in the same county, had a factory of the kind, but that it had the offer of a bonus and left Essex for another county.

WE read in the *Winnipeg Manitoban* that Messrs. G. F. & J. Galt, wholesale grocers of that city, have commenced work on the foundation of a large wholesale warehouse which they propose building on the corner of Princess and Bannatyne streets. It is said also that the Merchants' Bank purposes erecting a block of brick stores on the corner of James and Main streets.

AN engineer from the Department of Public Works, has gone to Rond Eau harbor to see about repairs, etc., to piers and breakwater there, to be prosecuted early in spring. The *Chatham Planet* makes the pertinent suggestion that it would be a boon to Kent and Essex shippers along the river Thames if something were done to improve the navigation of that stream near its mouth.

AT the annual meeting of the Canada Paper Company held in Montreal, on the 8th inst., the following gentlemen were elected directors for the current year:—Messrs. Thos. Logan, Andrew Allan, Robert Anderson, John MacFarlane and Jonathan Hodgson. Mr. Thos. Logan was elected president, Mr. John MacFarlane, vice-president and managing director, and Mr. John G. Young, Secretary-Treasurer.

THE failures in the United Kingdom during the last week in February were more numerous than in same period last year, in the proportion of 124 to 119. There were 97 in England and Wales, 23 in Scotland, 4 in Ireland. In the building trade the failures numbered 16; in the wine and spirit trades, 15; grocery and provision trades, 87, (much less than previous years) hardware and coach trades, 8, which is more than last year.

No wonder that the desire for rest and repose is strong in the breast of a man who has successfully fought the battle of life for nearly half a century. Such is the motive, we are told, that prompts the retirement of Messrs. Davidson & Co., of Kingston, from the foundry and engine works business. They are, therefore, desirous of disposing of their extensive premises known as the Kingston Foundry, and it is to be hoped that a firm so well and favorably known will find successors who will perpetuate its good name.

IN the province of Manitoba, a noteworthy failure is that of Bower, Blackburn & Porter, general storekeepers, of Brandon, who left Kemptville, Ont., in 1881. They have a stock valued at \$25,000, besides other assets. Their general liabilities are about \$20,000. An assignment has been made.—T. J. Lawlor, general storekeeper at Killarney, finding himself overloaded with stock has obtained an extension of fifteen months, without interest. His assets amount to \$21,000 and liabilities to \$14,000. His credits will be continued as formerly by the wholesale houses from whom he has bought.

PUT up the name of Tasker Marvin of New York, as "one of the few, the immortal names" of those who, having failed, afterwards pay their creditors in full. He was a stock speculator in Wall Street, and failed twice in close succession. But he has made money lately, and on Monday delighted his friends and caused the whole Stock Exchange to applaud, by sending word that he was not only ready to pay all his creditors in full, but wanted to settle up as well all accrued interest to date.

SOME Canadian manufacturers, says the *Canadian Gazette*, who exhibited at the Colonial Exhibition, are assuming the right to use the Royal arms as "manufacturers to the Queen," because of the acceptance by her Majesty of one or other of their exhibits. It may be well to point out that it is the rule that warrants of appointment are never granted unless the firms have had orders from the Queen. Such orders were not, it appears, given to any Canadian exhibitors, with the sole exception of one firm, and it will therefore, be seen that this firm alone is entitled to use the Royal arms.

WE note the following important business changes in the Province of Quebec. The firm of W. R. Ross & Co., wholesale grocers, has dissolved, Mr. W. Galbraith retiring, and entering the firm of Carter, Ward & Co., in the same line of business.—Brown, Maile & Giblin, wholesale clothiers, Montreal, have dissolved, the business being continued by J. G. H. Brown & Co.—The extensive business in lumber and woodenware heretofore carried on by E. B. Eddy at Hull, will be hereafter carried on by the E. B. Eddy Manufacturing Co.—J. W. Tester & Co., wholesale confectioners, Montreal, have dissolved.—A. Wills & Co., coffee and spice mills, have also dissolved, Mr. Wills retiring.

THE Yarmouth Steamship Company owns the new steel steamer "Yarmouth," the propellers "Alpha" and "Dominion," and decided, at a meeting of shareholders last week, to increase the capital stock to \$190,000 and acquire the side-wheel steamer "City of St. John." A meeting of the St. John Board of Trade on the 9th declared that whereas the local government only offered a subvention of \$2,000 to the Bay of Fundy route, it should give double that sum, and aid the Yarmouth route as well as that on Minas Basin. Mr. J. F. Robertson, who moved that the board press upon government the giving of \$2,000 additional to the Yarmouth route to get two trips a week, said "it was no use mincing the matter. The trade of St. John was in need of this assistance. We really must have it," said Mr. Robertson emphatically, and his motion carried.

ALL things considered, says the *Ottawa Citizen*, the month of February was a good month for the lumber dealers; the business having probably been stimulated by the growing expectation which is now little short of a fact, that the turn out from the shanties would this season exhibit a decrease of from 25 to perhaps 40 per cent., in the production of our saw logs on account of the rough weather, and the impossibility of getting in and out of the forests. It is the opinion of the *Citizen* that prices of all descriptions of lumber cannot fail to go up. The *Journal* of the 7th contains interviews with leading lumbermen such as J. R. Booth, Perley, Bronson and Pattee, on the injury which the extraordinary snow fall is having on the lumber interests. All agree that the deep snow will enormously reduce the