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At a recent meeting of railway managers in St. John, N.B., Manager Burpee offered \$100,000 for the Fredericton railway, but this was declined by Mr. Temple, who appears to be the principal owner of this line. He was willing to sell, but asked between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

"TRADE dollars" are at a discount of about fifteen per cent in parts of the United States. Banks and other institutions refuse to take them except at a considerable reduction.—Coal dealers in this city have advanced prices of Anthracite from \$6.10 to \$6.25 for furnace; and from \$6.25 to \$6.50 for stove coal.

It is rumored that the Northern Railway will shortly begin the construction of an extension from Gravenhurst to South-east Bay on Lake Nipissing. There appears to be a large area of superior timber-land in the vicinity of the bay; the total cut last winter is not less than one million cubic feet. A number of farms have already been taken up.

Mr. H. McNaughton of Yarmouth, N.S., has discovered in the course of a year that there is not enough business in that place to make a living for himself and family at the bakery business; nevertheless he is endeavoring to settle with his creditors, with the view of making a fresh trial. Liabilities about \$1000; assets nominally about \$700.

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**BUFFALO**

—AND—

**FANCY ROBES.****GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING.**

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—SELECTED FOR—

**FALL TRADE, 1883.**

E. T. RIORDAN & Bro., hardware brokers, Toronto, recently assigned in trust, and one of the partners is reported to have left for parts unknown. They commenced business only about a year ago.—John Howlett & Co., builders, Parkdale, Ont., have also assigned in trust.—E. W. Rosevear, dealer in boots and shoes, Orangeville, have been sold out by the sheriff.

Messrs. Nichols & Co., of Chicago, who closed out all their deals during the late trouble consequent on the failure of McGeoch & Co., have decided to call another meeting of their creditors, which leads to the supposition that they are unable to pay in full. A number of Montreal merchants are interested in this estate through a local broker, whose Chicago agents were Messrs. Nichols & Co.

The corner-stone of the Halifax Sugar Refinery at Woodside, Dartmouth, N.S., was laid last Tuesday by Mrs. Geo. Gordon Dustan, wife of one of the foremost promoters, in the presence of about 500 people. Mr. Dustan was supposed by many to have accomplished his mission on the establishment of the present tariff. The public will not be surprised, however, at his coming more practically into view. Better late than never.

At the adjourned meeting of creditors of H. G. Levetus, this city, Jewellery importer and manufacturer of optical instruments, previously referred to, he showed liabilities of \$65,000, with assets about \$35,000. Levetus, who attributes his difficulty mainly to losses in Manitoba, offered 25c unsecured in 6, 12 and 18 months, or 17½c cash. The meeting was disposed to accept the 17½c, and gave Mr. Levetus until the 16th July to get the signatures of the other creditors. The estate shows about 50c on the dollar, estimating the assets at cost, but the stock is said to be very poor, and the books have also been loosely kept.

Mr. DAVID BURKE, of Hamilton, Ont., general manager of the Life Association of Canada during the last half dozen years, is about to take up his residence in Montreal as manager of the New York Life Assurance Co., which has concluded to re-open business in Canada. Mr. Burke was formerly connected with the New York Life under the management of his brother, the late Walter Burke of this city, well-known as one of the most successful life insurance managers in this country.

There appear to be good prospects at last of an agreement among the insurance companies by which paying rates may be secured. A Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association has been formed, with the following gentlemen as officers: G. F. C. Smith of the Liverpool and London and Globe, president; James Taylor of the Caledonian and J. J. Kenny of the Western, vice-presidents, and Robt. McLean, secretary. Tariffs for the different Provinces and districts are under advisement. As in the past, it will probably be found difficult to accomplish all that is desired without some means of detecting and adjudging upon cases of violation of the tariffs.

The Quebec Government has at length taken a step in the right direction, by dismissing a number of supernumeraries whose salaries could ill be spared from the resonant public chest. At such a time as this, when willing hearts and hands are wanted to help with the opening up of our new territories, such a step, although probably not agreeable to the parties chiefly concerned, will doubtless prove to be a blessing for those who are made of the right stuff. We hail this long-looked-for indication that the honest and high-minded treasurer is determined to make the country "live within its means." It is to be hoped that this is merely the beginning of a series of economical reforms.