

advertises to sell his grocery and quit the business, and in Mount Forest, E. Sherwood, grocer, has sold out. Among general dealers, Mr. Patrick Struthers of Carleton Place is about selling out, and Mr. H. Lamport of Vittoria has done so, while the stock of A. C. Campbell, of Woodville is advertised for auction, and at Humberstone Mr. A. R. Robertson has sold out. Mr. M. Dwyer, of Galt has given up the hotel business. Mr. Pat McGrath, in the same business at Mitchell, has sold out to J. Flaherty; at Petrolia, C. A. Hand has sold his hotel business and J. T. McKay parts with his hostelry to J. Johnston. D. Ferguson, Milliner, Strathroy, is selling off and removing to Sarnia. J. P. Thompson, dealer in shoes at London, offers to sell out. In Toronto, a long-established and well-known tobacconist on King street, Mr. James Spooner, has sold out, his lease having expired; James McDonald and Peter Burnett, in the same business, have sold their stocks, and E. Seale has had his merchandise sold by a bailiff.

Mr. HICKSON objects, in vigorous terms, to the tenor of the report presented to the House by the select committee on interprovincial trade, blaming the Grand Trunk Railway for delays in transport of goods and recommending a line of propellers from Lake Ontario to Point Levi. Mr. Hickson declares that such delays have been rare on the Grand Trunk and were occasioned in the instances quoted by the unusual severity of last winter and not by any incapacity of the railway to carry all the traffic.

SEVERAL important English Companies have held their meetings and declared dividends during the month: Charles Cammell & Co. (Limited) Cyclops Steel and Iron,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; Wm. Jessop & Sons (Lim.), Brightside Steelworks, 10 per cent.; Sanderson Bros & Co. (Limited) steel, 6 per cent, on the half of the capital embarked in America. and 10 per cent. on the English capital; Samuel Newbould & Co. (Limited), files, &c., 10 per cent.; Martin, Hall & Co. (Limited), silver and electroplate, bonus of 5 per cent., the dividend for the last three years having averaged  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

SIR MICHAEL BASS, made world-wide famous through "Bass's Ale," will doubtless be remembered longer for his charities than for his breweries. In addition to supporting liberally all benevolent works in Derby, he has presented to the town a fine park, public baths, and a free library, at a cost to himself of about \$250,000. To the town of Burton he has given two churches with parsonages, schools and endowments, valued at more than \$350,000, and an institute and club-house worth \$200,000. To Rangemore he has given a church and auxiliary institutions costing \$65,000 and many other places have received rich gifts from his bounty.

SOME years ago a young man, who then kept store on the Canadian side of the Sault Ste. Marie, allowed several workmen to get some distance into his books. As they had no property he could not seize anything to sell, and they left the Canadian for the Michigan side of the river, bidding him to do his worst. He was not disposed to let them off so easily, however, and followed them to an inland village in Michigan, where he applied to a magistrate for assistance in the collection of his debt. The "jedge" heard his story, thought the matter over carefully, and then decided that such flagrant offenders against commercial morality ought not to be allowed to go unpunished. He had the absconding debtors arrested, and questioned as to their liability, which, to do them justice they never thought of repudiating, being disposed to flout the "jedge" as they had formerly done the

creditor. The former, however was a man of resources, and he ordered them to be sent to gaol until the debt they had acknowledged was paid. Seeing that he meant business, the defaulters actually did pay up rather than be put in prison and by this summary process the Canadian merchant came to his own again. When he went to thank the "jedge" and take his leave, the latter remarked:—"Young man don't you make any mistake about that ere business. That air justice, but that ain't the law of Michigan." Whether the defaulters ever appealed against such a decision does not appear.

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