

—An unrivalled debater, Mr. Chamberlain has yet to prove his title to the name of statesman. His one effort in this direction has been by no means successful. No one speaks well of his Bankruptcy Act—not even Mr. Chamberlain himself, who told the Birmingham jewelers on Saturday week: "I regard the Bankruptcy Act very much as Mark Twain regarded his first-born infant. One day he was dandling the child upon his knees, and his wife came in and said, 'Well, Samuel, you can't deny that you love that baby dearly.' 'No,' said Twain, 'I can't admit that, but I don't mind confessing that I do respect the little thing for his father's sake.' (Laughter.) Now, that is precisely my position towards the Bankruptcy Act, and if you can improve in any way the condition of my infant by taking off a limb here and there, or by adding another limb, all I can say is I shall be most happy to assist your efforts"—*Grocers' Review.*

—A new means of distinguishing diamonds from imitations has been invented by the chemist of the Physical Institute at Geneva, Mr. Margott. He uses an aluminum pencil, with which it is possible to make a mark or write upon glass or any other substance containing silicates. Upon such surfaces, which are first moistened, the pencil will leave a perfect white mark of silverlike metallic brilliancy, which cannot be destroyed, even by the use of chemicals. Only diamonds are impermeable to the touch of the new aluminum test. All the other gems contain more or less silicic acid, and the aluminum pencil will, therefore, leave its mark on them.

### STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 24th, 1896.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average price 1894.
Montreal .....	227 1/2	218 1/2	76	225	219	226
Ontario .....	87	80	25	100	80	113
People's .....	115	115	25	116	113 1/2	123
Molson's .....					165	
Toronto .....	241	241	4		240 1/2	250
Jac. Cartier .....	115	115	80			117
Merchants' .....	166 1/2	165 1/2	32	170	165	164 1/2
Commerce .....	138	136 1/2	158	139	137	142 1/2
Union .....						
M. Teleg .....	158	157 1/2	70	160	156	149 1/2
Rich. & Ont .....	98 1/2	93	1295	99	97	70
Street Ry cash .....	194 1/2	191	490			
do new .....	189 1/2	188 1/2	1130			
do ex div .....	190 1/2	188 1/2	990	190	188 1/2	143
do new ex div .....	188	187	1339	186 1/2	186	
Gas .....	206	201	7170	201 1/2	201 1/2	178 1/2
C. Pacific Ry .....	45 1/2	43 1/2	1455	45	44 1/2	67 1/2
Land gr't b'nds .....						
N. West Land .....				67 1/2		
Bell Tele. ....	152 1/2	152	190	154 1/2	152 1/2	

### ELECTRIC FIRE ALARM WANTED.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to the 4th of MAY next for the supply and erecting of an Electrical Fire Alarm for the town of Cobourg, consisting of six boxes, and about six miles of wire; thirteen Electro Mechanical Gongs in firemen's houses, and one large Gong, and twelve Box Indicator. State fully system and style of Boxes; price with and without posts. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

D. H. MINAKER,  
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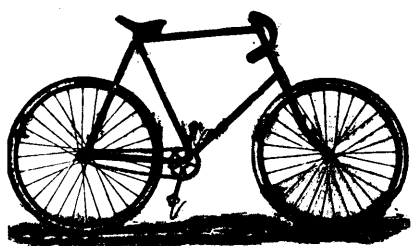
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Ottawa, Ont., 29 and 30 Ontario Chambers, Sparks Street—LAUNCELOT GIBSON, Supt.  
London, Ont., Masonic Temple, Richmond Street—J. T. MERCHANT, Supt.  
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