

collections for the year amounted to \$988,599 as compared with \$839,740 in the fiscal year 1880-81.

A GENTLEMAN giving a lecture to some boys was explaining how no one could live without air. He then said, "You have all heard of a man drowning; how does it happen? The ready answer was, "'Cause he can't swim."

FRANK CURRAN, of Weldford, N. B., a young man who began a general store business only last fall, has left suddenly and unexpectedly. He had been a little free in his habits at times, but his creditors were hardly prepared for such a sudden interruption of his business career.

THE experience in Winnipeg of Mr. W. H. Nagle, publisher, has not been satisfactory. The sheriff has had charge of his premises for a time, but an arrangement was effected and that functionary was finally removed. Mr. Nagle is now trying to dispose of his plant and machinery.

THE Excelsior Stove Co., a large concern in St. Louis, Mo., is negotiating with moneyed men in and about St. Thomas Ont., with a view to the formation of a joint stock company there, to make stoves. If \$75,000 be subscribed the Excelsior Co. offers to subscribe \$25,000.

MR. SCOTT, junior partner of the late planing mill firm of McCartney, Thompson & Scott, of Clinton, Ont., has made an assignment and offers creditors half the amount of their claims. The other members of the firm went to Manitoba a short time ago and left Scott in charge of the concern.

THE firm of Sutherland, Millar & Co., general Stationers, Montreal, has been in some difficulty of late, and at a meeting of creditors held last Tuesday tenders were received for the estate from the partners. The offer of Mr. Sutherland, being the highest, was accepted, and he will carry on the business alone.

THE stock of J. A. Lazure, dry goods merchant, Montreal, whose failure we noted last week, has been sold at auction by order of the assignee, realizing 67½ per cent. C. Derby, of Vankleek Hill, whose failure was noted in a late issue, has been unable to effect a settlement, and the estate is advertised for sale by tender.

THE Treasurer of the Province of Quebec, under authority of the Legislature, is asking tenders for a five per cent. loan of \$1,500,000. The debentures are in amounts of \$500 each and have thirty years to run. Tenders will be received till the 22nd inst., but none below par will be accepted. Payments will be received by instalments.

OWING to a heavy loss made with J. S. Cochrane & Co., Mr. John N. Grant, commission and flour merchant, of Halifax, is in some embarrassment. His liabilities are comparatively small, but the above mentioned loss, together with one made at the time of Moir & Son's failure, has about absorbed his capital.

MESSRS. GADBOIS & CLARK general storekeepers at Rat Portage Man. began business with a small capital a couple of years ago but were too ambitious for a small business, consequently they opened a branch place in Keewatin. Since then they got behind with their creditors, have been slow pay, and lately were sued for \$750. Their success is considered doubtful.

WE are indebted to Hon. C. T. Hulburd, of Brasher Falls, N. Y., late M. C. for St. Lawrence County, for a copy of the annual report for 1881, upon the commerce, immigration and tonnage of the United States, an imposing volume 930 pages.—We have also to thank Hon. A. X. Parker, one of the representatives at Washing-

ton for New York State, for a copy of the Congressional Directory for 1882, compiled by the well-known Ben. Perley Poore.

ONE of the most complete woollen mills in Canada will be that of The Trent Valley Woollen M'fg. Co. at Campbellford, Ont. Nine sets of the latest improved machinery are being fitted into it for the production mainly of plain and fancy flannels, and the output will necessarily be large. The building and all its appointments will be of the most modern and convenient style.

IN 1879, Mr. A. W. E. Thompson left Caledonia and went to Little Current, on Manitoulin Island, where he did not succeed as a general store-keeper. From there he removed to Gore Bay on the same island, with no better success. After a year's trial people up there were not surprised to hear of his failure. Possibly one of the reasons for this is to be found in his fondness for horse-flesh that possessed speed.

THE Dominion Transport Company, which contemplates the carriage and delivery of goods and merchandize of all kinds, by means of vehicles drawn by horses, in all the leading towns and cities of the Dominion, seeks incorporation. The capital is to be \$500,000. Among the names attached to the application are those of the Hon. M. H. Cochrane, Messrs. H. Judah, and W. B. Smith. The chief place of business of the company will be at Montreal.

W. H. BUTLER & Son, shoe and leather men of Ottawa, have assigned to D. R. Larmonth. The senior has been in business in Richmond, near Ottawa, for many years as tanner, etc., and had worked into fair shape. A few years ago he was, unfortunately, led into opening a business in Ottawa, under the management of his son, which has proved a source of loss, and has been the main cause of their present complications. Liabilities not yet ascertained.

MESSRS. BOWMAN & Co. who ran a grist mill at Otterville, seem to have all along had hard work to make ends meet and have at last assigned.—Wm. Grassick, harness maker, Lucknow, after settling liabilities of \$2,700, payable in instalments over three years, has moved off to Manitoba.—A grocer at Woodstock, John McIntyre, has for years been irregular in his habits. Lately he left his business mostly to the charge of his nephew and gave but little attention to it. He has been compelled to assign.

A LONG-ESTABLISHED bookseller at Peterboro, John I. Davidson, has been somewhat unfortunate having made his second failure. The first occurring two years ago when he compromised liabilities of \$6000 for \$3000. Since then he has been assisted by friends. In order to save them trouble he sold out his business to Mr. D. Davis for \$1,200. Of this sum rent and borrowed money absorbed \$1,000. The balance of the purchase was in the shape of a note which was handed over to his principal creditor, Messrs. Campbell & Son in this city.

SOME \$40,000 worth of various stocks was disposed of by public auction at Halifax on Wednesday. Glace Bay Mining Company shares of par value of \$100 sold at 32 per cent, Halifax Gas Light Company, par value \$40, at 139½; Nova Scotia Sugar Refinery brought 83½; Star Manufacturing Company, 99½; People's Bank, 115; Union Bank, 117½; Merchants Bank of Halifax, 141; Pictou Marine Railway, 91½; Halifax Fire Insurance Company, 125½; Beliveau Albertite and Oil Company, 10 per cent; and Commercial Bank of Windsor, 134.

SENATOR FABRE has been appointed agent of Canada in France. What the precise nature of his duties will be is not stated, but there is no doubt that Canada suffers from not having in

foreign countries agents in the nature of consuls. The English consular service may nominally be at our disposal, but English consular agents know nothing about Canada, its wants and capabilities. We do not doubt that M. Fabre may be made useful to Canada in France, and should the experiment succeed, it may lead to an extension of such agents to other foreign countries.

WE regret to have to record this week the sudden demise on the morning of the 5th inst. of Mr. Robert Esdaile, for forty years in active business at Montreal as a leading grain and commission merchant. He was largely instrumental in the formation of the Montreal Corn Exchange, of which he held the position of president for seven years. He also was an active member of the Board of Trade, his connection with that body dating from 1843. Mr. Esdaile was universally esteemed, and his death makes another gap in the recently much diminished list of names so intimately associated with Montreal's commercial history.

THE article which appears in to-day's issue entitled "Butcher's Meat," treats of a subject which possesses interest for very many at the present moment. It will be well for us to learn where we are extravagant, and how we can live more cheaply and yet just as comfortably. People on day wages and with limited incomes cannot fare sumptuously on chops for breakfast, steak and green peas for dinner, and strawberries *ad lib* for tea, even in this favored land, day after day. A series of articles on household economy and the like, will, we trust, prove of service to some of our readers.

AT the bottom of nearly every case of defalcation and embezzlement committed, says the *Philadelphia Record*, by men holding positions of trust in banks or in other institutions or employments where large sums of money are handled there is found one principal cause of dereliction. First, the defaulter or embezzler speculates; then he steals to make good his speculations. It would be a good rule for merchants, bankers and others who must take large risks based upon the fidelity of employees to require positive information at frequent intervals in reference to their operations in stocks or other forms of genteel gambling. No business house is quite inside the line of safety when its cashier or confidential clerk has a fancy for "puts" and "calls," and for buying and selling stocks or goods of any kind on margins.

IT gives us pleasure to find a Canadian firm of engravers and lithographers in the field with designs for Christmas and New-Year cards, 1882-3, which are novel and meritorious beyond the common. Messrs. Rolph, Smith & Co. have prepared specimens of forty eight designs which must commend themselves to all lovers of Canada. There are 12 cards representing Canadian birds; 12 Canadian wild flowers; and 12 Canadian house plants, some of the latter two dozens conventionalized by a truly artistic hand. Then there are 3 which show Canadian berries—very attractive cards they are—and 9 which illustrate our scenery, *not*, we are glad to say the usual winter scenes alone, or even mostly. Some of these bird and flower cards are worthy of Prang, and we shall be astonished if they do not sell freely, on their merits, in the United States.

HERE is a co-operative movement that may well commend itself to our wholesale dealers: about 200 of the employees of Jordan Marsh & Co. of Boston, a large dry goods house, having formed an organization for the purpose—at the suggestion of the firm—contributed \$10 each to a fund for sending on a European tour a few of their number selected by lot. One Monday evening,