

THE dry weather on Prince Edward Island is reported to have had a damaging effect on the potato crop which is one of the chief agricultural products there.

THE severe storms which have visited some parts of the Province of Ontario during the past week have proved more or less injurious to the crops. We trust, however, that the seasonable rains which have fallen will be found to have more than counterbalanced this partial loss.

ACCORDING to the annual report of the National Grange, the organization has suffered a severe decline during 1876. Over 9000 granges have gone out of existence, and the membership has fallen off 180,000. In Missouri the memberships was 80,059 in 1875, and only 42.-529 in 1876. The principal decline is in the Western States, where the order is the strongest.

A thirteen feet seam of anthracite coal has been discovered at Mace's Bay, Charlotte County, New Brunswick, twenty eight miles from St. John, the bed cropping out on the shore. It has been inspected by a New York mining Engineer, and analysed by Mr. Harrington of the Canadian Geological survey, who finds in it fifty eight per cent of fixed carbon, about five per cent of volatile combustible matter and thirty-seven per cent of impurities. A company is being formed to work the property, to erect piers &c., at an early date.

COLLECTORS of Customs in Canada are very properly ordered to seize and destroy all obscene publications. It appears that the sale of the *Police Gazette* and *Days' Doings* and such nasty papers was again increasing, and the present order is intended to reach mail matter as well as parcels entered at Customs. There is a fine of \$100 exigible we believe from the sellers or exhibitors of such literature.

THE body of Mr. John Gilmour, of Quebec, whose fate was for some months a mystery, was found in the St. Lawrence a few days ago. The funeral of the lamented gentleman was very largely attended.

AT a meeting of Grand Trunk shareholders, adjourned from April 30th, Capt. Tyler, the chairman, stated that negotiations with the Great Western had not been completed. The Great Western Board refused the proposal for a division of net receipts of the two companies, but proposed a division of net receipts by competitive traffics. Mr. Childers and Capt. Tyler will proceed to Canada in the autumn to settle the question.

MR. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, of St. Francois Xavier street, Montreal, a broker of some years standing, was elected on Tuesday a member of the Regular Stock Exchange Board of that city.

THE syndicate of prominent Montreal gentlemen, formed for the completion of the Windsor Hotel, have at last completed the arrangements to that end, and have secured a loan of \$250,000 with which to finish and furnish that handsome structure.

THE Montreal Packing Company, which for some time back, has shown weakening signs, at last had to succumb. This Company was formed about a year ago with a nominal capital of \$100,000, say one quarter of which was called in. The object was to preserve and can meats for export, which hitherto has proved rather an unprofitable undertaking. The liabilities will reach \$50,000 or more. No statement of the estate has yet been prepared.

MR. J. N. TARBOX, of Hamilton, who, four or five years ago, retired from the firm of Messrs. Wanzer & Co., with the handsome sum of about \$100,000 in cash, has been obliged to ask his creditors to meet him to-day; and as his

are few, it is probably they will grant an extension of time. Some years ago this gentleman invested pretty largely in lumber operations in the county of Perth which thus far have not proven profitable. In addition to this he expended a large amount about two years ago in the Burlington glass factory which is now in fine working order but owing to the condition of that business in United States it has suffered severely by unfair American competition. Our market has been flooded with surplus stocks below cost. This is but another instance where capital although adequate has not been able under existing circumstances, to yield reasonable profit. A few weeks ago a leading daily journal became jubilant over the fact that a woolen manufactory was said to have paid a fifteen per cent. dividend, but at the sametime it was careful not to inform its readers that the previous owner of the concern had failed and left the country, and that the dividend thus paid was on a sum not representing over one fifth the original amount of capital invested.

SINCE our last, two general merchants have sold out, a third gone out of business, a fourth, a dealer in bankrupt stocks in Highgate, has been forcibly closed up. We observe a number of dissolutions, too, by general store men; amongst them Messrs. Allen & Owen of Woodslee, T. H. Race & Co of Arthur, Levy & Cohern. jewellers P. & J. Bonner, gents furnishings Toronto, Dobson & Niblock, groceries, Lindsay. In each of these cases but one partner continues where there were two before, which may be taken as implying a doubt whether the business would support two, also we observe that Messrs. Chipman, Blanchard & Co of Kentville N. S. are about dissolving. A tavernkeeper at Clinton, Mr. Lane, has sold out, and Mr. Draneon of Wiarton wants to quit his business, whether

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