

HOW HAVE YOU FOUND BUSINESS.

From Barrie we hear that: "Trade is considered dull this season, but a large quantity of produce is being brought in and finds ready sale. Building operations have been more lively this summer, here, than for four or five years past."

At Haliburton, on the Midland Railway, 50 miles back of Lindsay, the condition of things is thus described: "Trade in this locality is only fair. The settlement with the Canadian Land and Emigration Company in regard to their taxes seems to have given people the blues. Crops were fair but prices are low."

From Gananoque, a general dealer writes us that: "Our manufacturers here are well satisfied with the year's business. The merchants of the town are not complaining as to the state of trade. On the whole I think we have nothing to complain of in this section."

At Black Creek, in the county of Welland, Mr. Isaac H. Allen does business in timber, principally white oak. He has found it "very dull this season, owing to the low freights on the lakes and canals, being no encouragement to vessel and boatmen to build or repair. General store business has been fair."

"If business has not been up to the standard of 'good times,' we think Shelburne has nothing to complain of as compared with other places, say Messrs. E. Berwick & Co., general merchants, Grey County. And there is a marked improvement this month, over last. We look for a good trade between now and Christmas, especially if we should be fortunate enough to have good roads either for sleighs or waggons, which we have not now."

Mr. Isaac Wenger, an experienced general dealer, at Ayton, in Grey County, thinks that: "Considering depression in prices of grain, cattle and farmer's produce, business is fair. Farmers have been careful not to get deeply into debt, a most commendable caution. We have probably not sold quite as many dollars' worth of goods as in some years, still the bulk of goods put out has been about as large as in former years, for goods have been considerably cheaper this year."

A country merchant in Bruce county writes on the 19th inst.: "Since about the first of May trade has been very good in this locality, and although the prospects for the coming winter are by no means as promising as we could wish, yet we have every reason to expect better times than we had last winter. One thing certain they cannot be worse. For the past two weeks the roads have been almost impassable, and as a consequence money hard to get. Still, book accounts are likely to be

fairly squared up by the 1st January. The dairying interests in this part are being pushed forward with good success." A grocer in the adjoining county, not thirty miles away, tells a very different story, for Mr. T. Stanbury, of Clinton, declares that in his experience, "business was never worse in this part of the county," than now—Nov. 20th,

The secretary of the Hopewell Woollen Mills Co., limited, Pictou county, Nova Scotia, replies: "To your question as to the state of trade I may remark that the early part of the season was exceptionally dull, and remittances behind, but with the exception of our customers who depend on the fisheries, which are very poor this year, we note a decided improvement and a better feeling."

Messrs. E. Cogswell & Co., manufacturers, of Sackville, N. B., say: "We have found business fairly good during the past few months, and fully up to the average, but there is still ample room for improvement. Trade generally in this locality is dull and the outlook not as satisfactory as we could desire. However we really have not much cause for complaint."

From Dublin, Ont., Messrs. Jos. Kidd & Son, general merchant write: "Trade for past season will roll up to the average as to turn over, but money has been exceptionally slow in coming in. But we are looking forward to more seasonable weather and good sleighing, when business will revive very materially all around."

Dodd & Rogers, importers of hardware in Charlottetown, P.E.I., speak their mind thus: "Business is now very dull here; payments are slow, and the farmers feel bad over the very low prices for produce. Potatoes are selling in some parts of the county for 10c. per bushel; pork at 3½ to 4½c. per lb. Several failures are already reported among country merchants. Bad all over, the National Policy does not seem to do us any good. But quite the reverse, and as we said before, it is a huge political blunder, and is certainly a curse to the best interest of P. E. Island."

Maynooth and Bancroft are both in the back districts of Hastings County, where iron ore and timber are objects of interest, Mr. E. J. Cassell, has stores at both places. He writes: "On the whole, business has been fair, during the greater part of this year, but for the past three weeks decidedly flat, owing to the almost impassable state of the roads, and to the prevailing low price of produce, but as some of the lumbermen are making active preparations, the outlook for the coming winter is more cheerful. As usual, credits are too long and too freely given. Our branch at Maynooth shows an improvement over last year."

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