

ments on which such paper is used, viz.: Æolian Organ and Cabinet, Celestina, Mandolina Organ, Organina, Harmonette, Ariston, Organetta, Autophone, Euphonia, Musical Casket, Pianister, &c.

With regard to an appeal made to the Governor-in-Council from decision No. 248 of the Customs Department, pronouncing Vermouth bitters or wine dutiable at \$1.90 per I. G. under tariff item No. 425, the ruling in question is confirmed by a ruling of the Treasury Board dated 25th August, 1888.

The following are departmental decisions during July and August last:—

Articles.	Tariff item under which classed.	Rate of duty payable.
Brass weights for scales.....	47	30 p.c.
Fish pumice.....	525	20 p.c.
Huckleberries.....	525	20 p.c.
Insect powder.....	525	20 p.c.
Meerscham pipes, real or genuine.....	525	20 p.c.
Meerscham, artificial or imitation.....	98	35 p.c.
Pears.....	525	20 p.c.
Rape seed.....	525	20 p.c.
Repairs on machinery, either on vessels or otherwise....	243	30 p.c.
Scissors, plated.....	376	30 p.c.
do. not plated.....	227	25 p.c.
Spring wire cotters.....	274	30 p.c.

THE TEA MARKET.

For several weeks there have been indications of increased strength in teas, and this week a distinct advance in prices is reported from abroad. The shipments of Japans are differently estimated at 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 pounds behind those of last year, and we are told that for goods which were sold at \$25 per picul, \$27 is now being asked. In black teas an advance in prices is claimed and a prediction of shortage made; fine grades are scarce and held firm. Lewenz & Hauser's London tea letter of 14th said: "The rise in value of silver and consequent higher eastern exchanges, and the continued low price of common teas in this market, very much tend to strengthen the belief that the present deficiency of 11,000,000 pounds in the shipments from China will reach quite 20,000,000 pounds at the close of the season."

The export from China to London to date compares as follows with the corresponding shipments of last year: Hankow and Shanghai, 38,500,000 pounds against 39,000,000 in 1887; Foochow, 19,000,000 pounds against 28,000,000 in 1887; Canton, Amoy, etc., 9,000,000 pounds against 10,500,000 pounds in 1887. Total, 66,500,000, against 77,500,000 pounds in 1887.

Of Indian teas there appear to be too many and they seem not to have participated in the rise. A cable from Shanghai of date Wednesday, 26th, declares that the supply threatens to be less than last year by some 30,000 half chests, that prices have advanced ten per cent., and that there is a strong demand for fine greens. The effect of all these advices upon Canadian markets is marked. In Montreal enquiry is brisk and the tone of holders firm, but buyers are still hanging back. In Ontario the feeling is upward and an increasing business is reported.

LONDON & ONTARIO INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

But little change is apparent in the course of this company's affairs during its eleventh year, compared with that for the year preceding. New loans made were about the same, and the loans paid off almost exactly the same.

Net earnings were a little larger, leaving, after dividend, \$22,514 to dispose of, instead of the \$19,740 at the previous meeting. One of the most agreeable features of the report probably is that where last year \$21,572 was placed to suspense account and only \$5,000 to reserve, there is this year only \$10,291 deemed needful for suspense, and \$10,000 goes to swell reserve, which shows well for problematical properties. Rates of interest have been generally unchanged, the report says, the threatened higher mortgage rates not proving permanent. A hopeful, but not rose-colored, view is taken of probable results of the harvest. The report was adopted, and the old board of directors re-elected.

—Now that a lively interest has been awakened on the subject of municipal cleanliness by the yellow fever visitation at Jacksonville, the typhoid fever outbreak at Kingston, the smallpox in Buffalo, and some sporadic cases here, it is well to have some elementary causes of disease simply stated, in order that people may take measures to avoid it. Throwing of kitchen slops into streets and lanes is a cause of disease. Leaving vegetable matter to rot in yards and lanes is another. The Philadelphia Record says, on this subject: "That Philadelphia has not been visited by pestilence is not the fault of the department of the city government responsible for the collection of garbage. It is allowed to rot, uncollected, from week to week, in many parts of the city. No doubt to this cause may be largely attributed our late unusual crop of typhoid fever." The World has done good service in giving the opinions and experiences of Toronto medical men on the subject.

—Considering the reckless way in which some people rush into debt—when credit is cheap—and the shamelessness with which some refuse to pay when they are able, one can understand the sort of righteous rage with which a creditor will pursue a person who has been long in his debt, and the vengeful satisfaction he will take in even sending the debtor to prison. But revenge, though sweet, is not permitted to be exercised in that barbaric way in these days. Nova Scotia has not yet abolished imprisonment for debt, and though some of the more enlightened legislators of that Province have for years tried to enact laws looking to the abolition of such a relic of the dark ages, they have not yet succeeded. A Halifax paper of recent date says the debtors' room in the county jail was empty one night for the first time in seven years, but early next morning a hapless debtor was imprisoned for a small amount.

—According to the Kingston News the United States demand for Canadian phosphate is brisk. A firm at Marquette, Mich., have asked the Little Rapids mine to ship them 5,000 tons, 80 per cent. apatite. The proprietors of the Buckingham mines say that the demand far exceeds the supply, and that the Americans have at last found out that German phosphates are simply the Canadian material adulterated and reshipped.

—The injunction obtained by the Western Union Telegraph Company to restrain the New Brunswick Railway Company from allowing the Canadian Pacific Company to erect telegraph poles along their track, has been sustained with costs by the New Brunswick courts.

—A marked increase in the number of failures in Great Britain during 1887 is evident from the report for that year of the British Inspector-General of Bankruptcy. It is, besides, noteworthy that there is an increase in the amount of liabilities, and at the same time a decrease in the assets, along with an augmentation of the cost of administration. On the whole it would appear that the law is working very well, and the Inspector expresses satisfaction with it. The London Economist, in criticising the very full statistics in the report, considers "that the proper lesson to be derived from them is, that it is now time to strengthen the Act where it is shown to be weak, and to close up any loopholes for fraudulent bankrupts that may have been discovered in it."

—The value of the coal fields around Nanaimo and Comox, on Vancouver Island, is well known. It now appears, according to the Victoria Times, that the Queen Charlotte Islands, still further to the north, possess coal. A prospector there has found specimens of bituminous coal resembling anthracite in color and texture, on the Yakoun River, Graham Island, between Massett and Skidegate, and elsewhere. Mr. W. E. Robertson, the explorer in question, believes that the Queen Charlotte group will prove to be the richest carboniferous formation on the Pacific coast. In the course of his exploration numerous small tracts of agricultural lands were discovered, which are capable of producing everything that can be grown on Vancouver Island.

—Work is to be actively prosecuted next spring, it appears, in the coal fields of Queen's County, New Brunswick. These coal deposits are stated to cover an area in that county of 120 square miles. It begins on the shore of Grand Lake, at Flower's Cove, some 30 miles N. E. from Fredericton, and extends up a few miles above the mouth of Salmon River and thence back to the head waters of Little River near Chipman P. O. All over this area, says the St. John Telegraph, coal is found at a depth of from 5' to 30 feet from the surface, and in a bed of an average of from three to four feet in thickness. The total known deposit, measured in tons, cannot be less than a hundred million tons.

—A legal firm in Halifax has been suspended from the privileges of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society for six months, for alleged unprofessional conduct in agreeing with a collector of debts to divide with him fees and remunerations received for legal business connected with the collection of debts. But we are told of some legal firms thereabout which made no division but kept the total amount of debts collected. And yet they were not suspended from any society.

—Advices from Prince Edward Island show that the potato crop is suffering from the continuance of wet weather, and the early varieties of that vegetable are rotting in the ground. The kinds which suffer most are the Early Rose and Beauty of Hebron. The late potatoes are not suffering to the same extent.

—Would-be customer—"Will you trust me for a few things for a couple of days?" Grocer—"Come around in a couple of days and I will." Would-be customer—"But I will have the money then." Grocer—"Then is when I would trust you."—Time.