

swarms. From these he obtained 450 boxes of surplus honey, weighing 3,000 lbs.

SOME one in Halifax has sent us a printed catalogue of fancy goods and general merchandise to the stated value of \$15,000, which were for sale at public auction in that city some days ago. The terms are worth noting and condemning. For purchases of \$200 to 500, six months; over \$500, nine months credit. The stock 'was not brought to Halifax to sell at a profit,' says this too candid circular, but is sent here 'for sale without reserve' and 'you can make your own prices.' Dealers from a distance are still further informed that where their purchases at this sale shall exceed \$200, their travelling expenses coming and going shall be refunded. That's the style: "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." Next to giving goods away for the adornment of the community, this seems about as far as one could go in inducements. We scarcely wonder that our correspondent bitterly says, referring to the slaughtering done there of Western stocks, 'Is it any wonder banks make losses.'

A LIST is given in the St. John N. B., *Telegraph*, of the new vessels registered at that port during 1877. It comprises 1 steamer, 8 ships, 12 barques, 5 brigantines, and schooners etc., to compose the total of 35, the tonnage of which was 23,682 tons. Thirteen of these were built in St. John or its suburbs. In 1876 there were 42 vessels and 1 steamer, tonnage 25,152 tons, and in 1875, 3 steamers and 39 vessels with a tonnage of 23,816 tons registered at that city.

WITHIN the past fortnight, twenty-seven traders are reported as having gone out of business in the Dominion; five of these were grocers, six hotel keepers, and two general dealers. Twelve assignments are noted, four of them by general dealers and two by grocers. There were seventeen attachments issued in that time; seven of them against general dealers, two dry goods men, four grocers. Messrs. Knight & Young, cove keepers, Quebec, have dissolved; Messrs. George Offord & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, Kingston, have dissolved, Mr. Claxton retiring; Henry Hall & Son, shoes, Woodstock, have dissolved. In Montreal, J. T. Hutchison, grocer, has been missing for some days; Messrs. Geo. Childs & Co., wholesale grocers, have dissolved; Messrs. Denoon, Drake & Dods have dissolved, and the firm is now Ramsay, Drake & Dods. In this city, Messrs. Grant Bros., builders, have dissolved; Mr. Francis Rooney, of the wholesale firm of N. & F. Rooney, is dead; W. W. Colwell & Bro., lumber, have assigned; Mr. J. W. C. Bedson, grocer, meets his creditors; an attachment has been issued against Thos. Langton, shoes.

We mentioned, last week, the failure of Mr. J. E. Woodworth, ship-builder, of Kingsport, Nova Scotia. A meeting of his creditors was held at that place on the 10th inst., and a statement presented shewing his liabilities to be over \$86,000 and assets \$71,000. Not a bad showing, so far as figures go, but an examination of the assets offers but little comfort for creditors. The first item on the list is a copper

mine in New Brunswick, \$18,000! The next, notes of Vaughan & Homer, \$19,000 (held, however, by Mr. D. M. Dickie, of Canning, as security for endorsements). It may be well to mention that said Vaughan & Homer were men employed in Woodworth's ship-yard, to whom he recently sold his whole establishment, handing their notes to his friend Dickie as above mentioned. Another item is, "Kingsport town plot," \$2000—cheap at one-fifth of the money; a steamer, \$3,600, held by his brother-in-law. All the property worth anything is held by someone else as security for something or other. His valuable shipping interests, amounting to more than \$50,000, are held by Mr. C. W. Berteau, of New York, to cover \$34,000 worth of drafts which Berteau had accepted and will have to pay. Of course the concern will at once be put into the Insolvent Court, and a stirring up of those doubtful looking transactions will be the consequence. This is a fair sample of the kind of thing that might be done were the Insolvent Act abolished, and no provision made in its place for such transactions.

SUCCESS OF AMERICAN ELECTRICIANS.—The London *Times* publishes an exhaustive article on telegraphic progress, and laments the inaction of English electricians. Recent experiments were successfully made whereby four messages—two in each direction—were transmitted simultaneously between London and Liverpool. The invention which made this feat possible was the work of an American, and the *Times* naturally wants to know what English electricians are about, and of what use to practical telegraphy is the Society of Telegraphic Engineers, when American inventors are allowed to carry off the honors. England is called the birthplace of the electric telegraph by virtue of Charles Morrison having invented, in 1753, what he called "An Expeditious Method of Conveying Intelligence," which was a clumsy apparatus requiring a separate wire for every letter of the alphabet, but the Morse instrument, the duplex and quadruplex telegraph, the type-printing instrument and the telephone are all American inventions. It will be seen that "honors are easy" between the two countries as regards the establishment and operating of the great telegraphic lines of the world, England furnishing most of the capital and America all of the brains.

#### G. B. SMITH & HENDERSON, Wholesale Dry Goods, 43 Yonge St.

at the opening of their sixth season in the Toronto business, wish to inform their patrons in particular and the balance of Ontario retail merchants in general, that the rapid increase of their rising business (which is now an established fact) has not been brought about in the usual way by which it is now generally known so many wholesale houses of this country have to their sorrow built up large sales, that is, by opening supply accounts or, which amounts to the same thing, giving large credit to weak men and "kiting" with their notes—but it has been brought about by untiring efforts on the part of G. B. S. & H. in searching all the manufacturing centres of the world with the cash to pay wherever the best value was to be had, and their selecting for customers only those merchants who have a reputation for paying promptly and cultivating a business with those who prove themselves to be as good as reputed.

It has become quite a common saying of late years that the retail trade of Canada is all rotten and that it is like taking a leap in the dark doing a credit business with them, but we have no hesitation in branding such a statement as a slander on the larger portion of the retail trade of this Province. People who shut their eyes and leap against a rock, have no right to say there is no safe landing beside the rock, for we can show by our books that our losses for the last five seasons, cutting the worst of times, have not been more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one per cent. on the gross amount of our sales for those seasons, and during the year 1877 our names have not appeared but three times on lists of creditors of insolvent estates, and these only for small amounts.

We make these statements to the retail merchants of Ontario to explain the cause of our showing so many lines less than current prices, and to show that the statements so freely made by our opponents, that we cannot continue to sell at such price are fabrications of jealous minds.

G. B. SMITH & HENDERSON.

The Leading Wholesale Trade of Toronto.

LAYER RAISINS,  
LONDON LAYERS,  
LOOSE MUSCATEL,  
BASKET RAISINS,  
CROWN RAISINS,  
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**W. RAMSAY & CO.,**

Cor. Front and Scott Street,  
TORONTO.

**WM. B. HAMILTON**

(Late CHILDS & HAMILTON),

MANUFACTURER & WHOLESALE DEALER

**BOOTS & SHOES,**

15 & 17 FRONT STREET EAST,  
TORONTO, ONT.

**PETER R. LAMB & CO.,**

**MANUFACTURERS**

TORONTO, ONT.

Blackening, Glue,  
Snow Blackening, Ivory Black,  
Leather Preserver, Animal Charcoal  
Harness Oil, Super Phosphate  
Neat's Foot Oil, Bone Dust.

**FINE FRUITS  
& VEGETABLES.**

Cases California PEACHES, 3 lb. cans.

" Apricots, "  
" Pears, "  
" Plums, "  
" Grapes, "  
" Nectarines, "

Cases Niagara Peaches, 2 lb. cans.

" Corn, "

Cases Oyster Bay Asparagus.

The above goods are all of the finest quality, and packed especially for our trade

**JAS. SHIELDS & CO.**

**CLAPPERTON'S SEWING COTTON**

Extra Quality, Six Cord,

ALL NUMBERS,

For Hand and Machine Sewing.

RETAIL TRADE SUPPLIED BY

**Hird, Fyfe, Ross & Co.,**

Sole Agents for the Dominion,  
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