

We have not yet seen any report of the New Brunswick lumber commission sitting in St. John this week. Quite a number of gentlemen were to give information bearing upon the lumber industry.

We have already mentioned that the Paton Manufacturing Company at Sherbrooke, Que., which is one of the great woolen manufacturing establishments of the Dominion, is erecting a new brick and stone worsted mill. It is nearly completed. The building is 208 by 57 feet, and four stories in height. The company employs at present, in the various buildings, 625 hands, and to run the new mill to its full capacity will require probably 200 men. The new mill is to be used entirely for making fancy worsteds. The Paton Co. make in their present mills tweeds, overcoatings, scarlet and grey military cloth, boot linings, shawls, plaids, and a variety of other goods, whose reputation is fully established.

Our travelling agent, Mr. Oliver, was much taken with St. John, as appears by his letter elsewhere. He sends us a paragraph about J. Harris & Co.'s car works and rolling mill in the city, one of the largest in the Dominion. They give employment to some 300 men in the car works, and from 80 to 100 in the rolling mill. Railway cars of all kinds are constructed there, from a freight to a finely-finished first-class passenger coach. The firm have just completed a large contract for the C.P.R. Co., and have now on hand an order for the Intercolonial Railway, a lot of frost-proof cars, of a special and new style altogether, besides snow-ploughs and cars for the Temiscouata Railway Company.

ABOUT a quarter of a century ago E. A. Cairncross opened a general store at Shakspeare, and for many years did a large business, and succeeded in accumulating a considerable surplus. He was always ambitious, carrying a very large stock, and employing a big staff of clerks to handle it. Last March he got cornered, and had to consult his creditors. His statement then showed liabilities of \$31,000, and nominal assets of \$24,000. An arrangement was then made with creditors that Mr. Cairncross should pay 45 per cent. of their claims, secured by a London firm who took a chattel mortgage. Upon his getting behind with his payments this mortgage has been foreclosed and Mr. C. has assigned.

A DESPATCH from Port Arthur dated Tuesday last, says that what is described as the Antikokan iron range on the north shore of Lake Superior, is now controlled by the Belgian

bank, known as the Societe Generale. The contract between the mine owners and the Belgian bank provides that the bank shall have until November, 1892, to test the deposits. A railway is to be built within the next year, and when so built the owners deed the bank an interest in the mines, and the bank agrees to mine the ore and pay a royalty thereon. A minimum output of 300,000 tons per annum is guaranteed. Great things are said of the ore in the ten miles of length covered. "Blast furnaces and rolling mills are, under the contract, to be erected at Port Arthur." So says the telegram, at any rate.

Who in this city, and outside of it too, does not remember the ruddy face, the silver hair, and the heather accent of John Kay, the carpet man? For many years he has been a familiar figure in our streets, but will now be seen no more. He died on Wednesday last at the ripe age of seventy-five, after a short illness. The memory will go back to the old stand at the corner of King and Yonge, where the sign read Betley & Kay for a score of years. Then the style became Jno. Kay only, and remained so until four years ago when his son, Jno. B. Kay, and C. F. Gordon were admitted into partnership, under the style of Jno. Kay, Son & Co. The deceased was noted for his sterling, upright business qualities, while his genial Scotch nature attracted many to his side. He was a veteran in ocean travel, he and the late Wm. A. Murray having crossed the Atlantic more times than any other Toronto merchants.

A good example finds imitators—sometimes compels them. We do not mean to say that the owners or occupants of the dozen warehouses on Front Street, all the way from Eby & Blain's to Alexander & Anderson's, which have lately been furnished up, have been compelled to this course because of the overshadowing elegance of the Toronto Board of Trade building. But example has doubtless had to do with the welcome improvement. This week the wholesale grocery firm of Sloan & Crowther has removed from the stand it so long occupied on the corner of Front and Church streets, to the excellent warehouse on the corner of Scott and Front, vacated some weeks ago by Eby, Blain & Co. Paint, gilding and plate glass outside, the decorator and upholsterer within, have made a great change in the premises. The firm has three floors, and the premises are 40 feet by 182 in extent, with two shipping doors and plenty of room to do business.

We observe that Mr. Loftus Cuddy, private banker at Amherstburg, removes next month to Cleveland, Ohio, to superintend the business of the Cuddy-Mullen Coal Company of that city, which he organized four years ago, and which has grown to such large proportions as to require his presence in that city, as well as that of Mr. Mullen. Canada has constantly to regret the drain of her desirable men to the United States. The present is a case in point. Mr. Cuddy has been creditably, indeed remarkably, successful in his Amherstburg banking business, but the larger field across the Lakes offers him greater material advantages, and at the New Year he will change his residence. His successors in the banking business at Amherstburg will be Messrs. Falls Brothers, one of whom has been his confidential clerk since 1877, and the other his accountant since 1886. He recommends these gentlemen to his customers and the public.

At the close of November, a committee appointed by the Halifax Board of Trade to consider the Atlantic mail service, reported in favor of a service "of high class speed, but not to the exclusion of other factors in ensuring the permanent success of an efficient service." The report continues as follows: "The possible danger to British connection and the interruption and ultimate extinction of anything approaching to a healthy patriotic sentiment, by acquiescing in the present condition of affairs, are so obvious that reference to these points is hardly necessary. The committee, however, in presenting this phase of the subject to your board, desires to place on record an emphatic protest against the continuance of the Atlantic mail service through a foreign territory, in the face of the excellent facilities existing in commodious seaports within the Dominion." At a meeting of the business men and rate-payers of Summerside, P. E. I., on Friday night last, a resolution, introduced by D. Rogers, M. P. P., seconded by Capt. Jos. Wood, was unanimously carried. It expressed the sympathy of the meeting with the Halifax movement.

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