

THE LEADING WHOLESALE TRADE OF
TORONTO.

Canada Confectionary and Biscuit
Works.

William Hessin,
WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER
AND
BISCUIT MANUFACTURER.

OFFICES AND FACTORY:
No. 7 FRONT STREET,
TORONTO.

R. H. GRAY & CO.,

THE LEADING HOUSE IN TORONTO FOR
PAPER GOODS, all kinds.
GENTS' FURNISHINGS.
TAILORS' TRIMMINGS.
KNITTED WOOL GOODS.
CORSETS AND UNDER-SKIRTS.
HABERDASHERY, and
GENERAL SMALL WARES,
Also the leading Manufactory in Ontario for all kinds of
HOOP-SKIRTS.

Warehouse—43 YONGE STREET.

Messrs. Gordon & McKay, have sold two of their new stores on Front Street, being those to the west of the one intended specially for their own business. They have also purchased a lot west of the buildings mentioned, at the rate of \$105 per foot on Front Street.

IMPORTED goods were entered at St. John, N. B., in 1870, to the value of \$5,889,934, against \$5,237,277 in 1866, and the duties collected were \$851,333 against \$687,374 in the previous year. The exports of goods, the produce of Canada, were \$2,901,232, in 1870, against \$2,715,424 the previous year.

A PROMINENT country merchant, Mr. N. B. Schofield, of Port Dover, proprietor also of stores at Nanticoke, Waterford, Jarvis, Cheapside, Sprigvale, and a branch in Port Dover, has just found it necessary to ask the indulgence of his creditors, while he takes soundings to find how deep or how shallow water he is in. The thing which startled him into suspicion that all was not right about his position, seems to have been the discovery of a deficit of \$3000, the result of three years business in one of his BRANCH STORES (of which he had six, within a radius of fifteen miles, besides his main store!) Hoping that this one was an exception, and that his other establishments could show a better return, he took stock in a second BRANCH STORE, where there had been a fire, and found there also, as he himself states, "a heavy loss." Here was an explanation of his recent shortness for money; and like a sensible man, he resolved first, to put an end to his BRANCH STORES at the earliest practical moment; and

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Notice.

THE undersigned beg to notify the Trade, that they have been appointed Agents for the City of Toronto, and points East, for the sale of Messrs. DOW & CO.'S Celebrated Ales and Porter. All orders will receive prompt attention.

CRAMP, TORRANCES & Co.

For sale, in store and to arrive:—
TEAS,

COFFEES,

SUGARS,

and NEW CROP (1870) FRUITS.

TEAS—Hyson, Young Hyson, Gunpowder, Imperial, Natural Leaf Japan, Oolong, Souchong, and Congou.

COFFEES—Old Government Java, Maracibo, Laguayra and Rio.

SUGARS—Tierces and barrels Scotch Refined. Barrels Bright Porto Rico.

Also, now landing, 25 cases German Cigars,
CRAMP, TORRANCES & CO.,
11-ly 10 Wellington St. East.

BOTTLES! BOTTLES! BOTTLES!

TO HAND ex "MANILLA"

FROM Newcastle-on-Tyne, the following assortment from the Ballast Hill Bottle Works, Sunderland:

75	CRATES	WINE	QUARTS.
59	"	PORTER	DO.
29	"	PALE	QUARTS, STOPPERED.
15	"	PALE	QUARTS.
12	"	PALE	FLASKS, STOPPERED.

Will be sold low to Bottlers and the Trade.

THOMAS GRIFFITH & Co.,

Wholesale Grocers, Wine and Spirit Merchants,

37 & 39 Front Street, Toronto.

second, to ascertain, by a rigid valuation of stock and debts, how far astray they had led him. While we hope, for the sake of the gentleman in question, that he may prove amply solvent, we still are of opinion, that the result of his three years experience, with a chain of seven stores within three townships, will be a far greater loss than he anticipates.

TOO MANY MIDDLE MEN.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, in a glance at the financial history of the past year, thus incidentally touches upon a feature of modern trade, which, though of great interest, has not received due attention:

"Merchants who have held intermediate positions in the exchange of commodities, have in many cases realized a collapse or shrinkage of their business, that they have too often ascribed to wrong causes; and failing to discover the fact that they were useless supernumeraries, have struggled on against inevitable fate until their avocations were either completely gone or the sphere of their operations greatly narrowed."

Our cotemporary has here hit the nail square on the head. There can be no doubt that the ranks of those who stand between the producer and consumer, have outgrown the business of exchanging commodities, and to this fact is largely attributed the lugubrious reports which so frequently greet us of "dull trade," "hard times," etc. Statistics show a gradual but steady expansion of the commerce of the country, but there are so many more men now engaged in mercantile pursuits in our large cities, in proportion to producers, than in former years, and the various departments of trade are, in consequence, so "cut up," that there are oftentimes individual reports of dulness, that are not warranted by a careful survey of the whole field.

This over crowding of the ranks of merchants,

commission dealers, brokers, clerks and middle men, is one of the consequences of the war, which brought into circulation a vast volume of irredeemable currency, giving rise to an era of wild speculation and discontent with the old and slower methods of accretion. Young men in great numbers deserted rural districts, leaving behind them the certain means, with industry and economy, of an ultimate competence, for the uncertain means of a livelihood in an overcrowded city. In a country like ours, where all, or nearly all, are educated, where the road to wealth and distinction is open to all aspirants, and where every young man considers himself a genius, having a special mission to fulfil in the most exalted sphere of society, this gravitation to those peculiar fields of enterprise where genius is supposed to shine most conspicuously, and to reap its certain rewards, is rather natural. But the worst feature of this migratory disposition is, that these new comers, when over-borne in the sharp competition which they are obliged to encounter, or when unsuccessful from whatever cause, seldom retrace their steps, preferring a life of obscurity and ill-requited toil in subordinate positions, to one of independence and competence in a broader and more useful sphere. With his back once turned upon the old homestead, and located in a city, the young man from the country, if he fail, as he inevitably does fail in three times out of four, to realize his brilliant views of fame or fortune, has rarely the heart to acknowledge his failure, or to retrieve its consequences by returning to his early associations and pursuits. He prefers rather the drudgery and dependence of a clerkship, to swell the ranks of those superfluous middle men and speculators who absorb the earnings of honest labor and oppress both the producer and consumer. It is difficult to suggest any method by which this popular prejudice against honest industry in the mechanical and agricultural departments,—pursuits in every way worthy of the highest esteem and ambition of the American people,—can be overcome. Time alone can correct this, as well as other evils which may be said to be outgrowths of the stirring times of the decade which has just closed. A particularly favorite resort of men, unsuccessful in mercantile and other pursuits, is the brokerage business, a department that is more clogged, perhaps, than any other, by useless supernumeraries. In a country where the best of land is accessible to all who choose to occupy it, with the reasonable assurance of an ultimate competence, it seems passing strange that such vast numbers prefer to eke out an indigent existence in the over-crowded cities, with little hope of ever improving their condition.—*N. Y. Shipping List.*

OIL MATTERS AT PETROLIA.

(From our Own Correspondent)

PETROLIA, Jan. 23, 1871.

Matters here are about the same as at last report. Crude still keeping down, with no great demand. The idea that refiners are trying to corner it is erroneous. The home consumption being supplied fully, and the export firms not running their full capacity, has brought the price down. The fact that the prices of refined and crude oil in the United States is going up, owing to the production there being on the decrease, must eventually give an impetus to our markets here. The production of crude for the last eight days has not exceeded 6,000 barrels; the shipments are considerably less. The developing business is rather slack as it naturally is at this time of the year. Sales of all kinds of oil lands are dull, with no quotations. The export firms are doing about half their capacity, and other refiners (not pressed with orders) are doing about one third their usual business.

Every one interested in the oil trade is anxious to have the duty removed from it, for the inquisitorial interference of the Inland Revenue Department, hinders, to a great extent, foreign capital being invested in the business.