

Knight, Peere and Wilson shipped five car loads of hogs and one of cattle to Toronto from Portage la Prairie last week.

We learn from the *Collingwood Bulletin* that the grain trade via that port this season is better than it has been for years. Not a week passes without ten or twelve schooners bringing in cargoes of corn or other grain and the elevator is kept running night and day.

DIMENSION timber around Lake Michigan and interior Wisconsin has improved in value. Timber, joists and scantling at all Lake Michigan points, says the *North-western Lumberman*, are now (14th inst) worth 25 cents per thousand more than they were two weeks ago.

The Atlantic Pulp & Paper Co. has given notice of application for incorporation. The applicants are C. Riordon, Meritton; J. G. Riordon, Toronto; W. J. Douglas, Toronto; J. R. Barber, Georgetown, and C. C. Springer, Boston, with head office at Toronto. Capital, \$300,000.

The new fifty dollar notes of the Merchants' Bank of Canada have a portrait of the president, Mr. Andrew Allan, on the right end, and one of Lord Dufferin on the other. The hundred dollar notes also bear the portrait of Mr. Allan and on the other end of the note a vignette of the Queen.

A good reason why type-writers will hardly become common in China is that the Chinese alphabet contains about thirty thousand characters, and the man who thinks of constructing a Chinese type-writer will have to make it the size of a fifty-horse-power threshing machine and run it by steam.

The numbers of farm live stock in Ontario are: Horses, 569,649; cattle, 2,018,173; sheep, 1,610,949; hogs, 860,125; and poultry, 6,968,915. The number of sheep is 144,666 less than last year; in each of the other classes there is an increase. The wool clip is 5,547,867 lbs., being 690,480 less than the average of four years.

The Berthier beet root sugar works are to be disposed of by sheriff's sale on the 2nd of October next. The *Herald* says that the factory will likely be purchased either by the Banque Industrielle de Paris or by a Canadian syndicate which has lately been formed, with Mr. Louis Tranchemontagne, of Berthier, as president.

The average wages of farm hands for the province is \$158 with board and \$251 without board, per year; and \$17.06 with board and \$26.64 without board per month of the seeding and harvesting season. These figures are slightly lower than last year's. The rate of wages of domestic servants is \$1.52 per week; last year's rate was \$1.51.

In a trial at Bay City, Mich., last week, Maxon's new patent hoop machine showed a capacity of 44 hoops per minute, Elm logs from three inches to three feet in diameter are taken from the water, barked and put into the machine, where a saw is gauged to cut hoops out of logs any width or thickness. These hoops are as smooth as if planed, and are not steamed.

The Protection Police & Fire Patrol Company of Canada (Limited), capital stock \$50,000, has been granted letters patent for the establishment of an organized system of uniformed night watchmen in cities and towns for the protection of buildings, and for fire patrol duties, with electric call boxes in all cities and towns in the Dominion. It proposes the employment of confidential and special agents and the storage and receiving of valuables for safe keeping.

In the Philadelphia and Boston markets, according to advices of Saturday last, furniture makers are having a hard time, the business being apparently overdone and the profits cut. Several failures are reported in Boston. The trade is getting shy of expensive woods and elaborate styles, and is buying more medium quality and cheap wood. Ash oak, cheap cherry, and culled mahogany are in request in the Quaker City.

THE direct liabilities of G. Boivin, boot and shoe manufacturer, Montreal, whose failure we noted last week, foot up to about \$40,000, and an apparent surplus is claimed of \$9,000. A meeting of creditors will be held in a few days, at which it is expected Mr. Boivin will submit a cash offer of about 40 cents, but in all likelihood the creditors will hold out for 50 cents in the dollar. It is understood a prospective partner will advance the cash.

A COMPLAINT is made by the *St. John Globe* that there is a very large quantity of American silver in circulation in parts of N. B. along the St. John river and near the boundary, and that journal calls upon traders to set their face against taking it at par. About four-fifths of the coin in current use between Woodstock and Little Falls, on both sides of the river, is American. This, according to the *Globe*, taken at its face value has driven out the British silver, as a baser coin will always do when it gets the opportunity.

FAILURES for the Province of Quebec not noted elsewhere are as follows, since last report: At St. Justin de Newton, P. J. Lalonde, general store, has failed owing \$3,300. — H. H. Smith, general store, Bedford, has assigned. — J. Fradette, general store, St. Prime, has surrendered his estate. — N. R. Mudge, foundry supplies, Montreal, has assigned on demand, as also has J. Dastous, a small cigar man of same city. — J. D. Tellier, grocer, Sorel, has failed owing \$6,000. He previously compromised in 1883, and estate will realize poorly.

A SEIZURE before judgment for \$50,936 has been taken by Wm. Cooper, in his capacity of liquidator of the Colonial Building and Investment Association, against Messrs. John and James Fletcher, of Rigaud. This is the sequel of a prior judgment for \$47,000 obtained against John Fletcher in 1881, the plaintiff alleging that the person last named made an illegal transfer of his assets to his son, James Fletcher, who disposed of them to no less than 72 different persons, — asking that this transfer be declared void and that the property be seized from the hands of all into whose possession it has now come.

DUPUIS, BRIEN, COUTLEE & Co., a firm of retail dry goods men doing a large business in the east end of Montreal, under the pretentious style of "The Great Dominion Syndicate," have got into embarrassment, and made an assignment. The firm is composed of ten partners, all formerly dry goods clerks, who pooled their little savings two years ago and bought the business formerly carried on by A. Labelle, who was unsuccessful. The purchase was made from a Mr. Robert, on terms very favorable to the latter, and it is understood that their suspension is principally due to pressure by Mr. Robert. The liabilities of the firm foot up to about \$118,000, and they are represented as claiming a surplus, in stock and debts, of \$18,000. They have a notion that they can pay in full, with time, but we think the probability of this may be fairly questioned. Some \$30,000 to \$40,000 of their liabilities is due to two houses.

A LONDON journal says of employees who attempt to speculate with any legitimate savings they may have made, "That clerks, with their limited experience and still more limited means, can ever expect to make money by speculating, is one of those things which proves the credulity of the human mind; and those young men would undoubtedly be saved from a great deal of worry and vexation if they could only penetrate to the actual opinion of the stockbrokers who listen to their parrot-chatter about stocks with straight faces, and good-naturedly consent to be pestered with their unprofitable and trivial transactions."

SOME time during last fall, the firm of Summers & Co., retail dry goods dealers in this city, claimed a surplus of from \$8,000 to \$10,000. Their position to-day is altered, the liabilities amounting to about \$12,000 and assets \$9,000. The concern has been in business since 1879. At a more recent date the style was Summers & Husband, both partners having been clerks in a large King street dry goods store. Upon dissolving, in 1882, Summers continued alone, and has been trading as Summers & Co. until his failure, just announced. He never, it is said, found his comparatively small capital to interfere with his credit, there being no lack of wholesalers ever ready to sell him goods.

WE learn from the *Manitoulin Expositor* that Squaw Island is at present the centre of the fishing industry in the Georgian Bay. Two firms are operating there. There are forty-six skiffs and one tug permanently employed at the station; and the steamer "Northern Belle" makes semi-weekly trips for fish, and the tugs "Clark" and "Myrtie" call three times per week between them. During the four months' fishing season there is a resident population on the island of about 160 people, consisting of fishermen and their families. Up to 25th ult. one firm alone shipped nearly 400 tons fresh and 40 tons of salt fish. That the fishery is likewise profitable to the men engaged in catching will be readily believed from the statement that up to the 25th July three men with one skiff caught \$1,300 worth and that three other men in one week got 9,000 fish." The fish is shipped mainly to Buffalo and Detroit.

ABOUT three years ago a competent salesman named J. Pittman, left a lucrative situation in the retail dry goods store of T. Thompson & Sons, on King street, in this city, to begin business on his own account. He possessed little, if any, means of his own but claimed to be backed by a moneyed man and found no difficulty in obtaining all the goods he desired to begin his experiment. In May last a brief connection was formed with a well-to-do resident of King, Ont., but although the partnership was duly registered it existed for just one day. Overtures were then made to a second person, but with no better success. Neither investor "liked the look of things," and Pittman is now asking an extension of time, showing assets of \$38,000 and liabilities of four thousand less. As an illustration of the "nerve" displayed by Pittman in ordering goods and the eagerness of some firms to sell, we are told that he placed with a German house an order for £3000 worth of mantles which, however, were wisely never shipped. The assets are composed of stock and book debts. A goodly portion of the liabilities is due to Toronto firms, one of which has, we learn, expressed a willingness to accept 75 cents on the dollar and close out the account. Experience dearly bought but just as likely to be repeated in the first budding storekeeper having glowing prospects but not much cash.