

GAY's distillery, in Elora, was seized by the revenue inspectors last week on the charge that fraudulent returns had been made, and the revenue defrauded.

TIME and again it has been pointed out that the effectiveness and utility of a bankrupt law rests chiefly with creditors. They may, if they will, nullify it, and render it nothing but a dead letter. A good example was set, the other day, in the case of one Henry Penton, an insolvent, of Paris, Ont. His discharge was opposed by the creditors on the ground that he kept no cash-book, and that he had paid his wife \$300, and the Judge withheld it for two years.

A MEETING of the creditors of Messrs. Smith Bros. was held at their place of business on the 17th May, Mr. George Hague, cashier of the bank of Toronto, in the chair. Mr. Mason, the interim assignee, read a report showing the revised liabilities to be \$117,000, and the assets \$16,171 86. The full report was on motion withheld from the press. Messrs. Geo. Hague, A. Manning and W. Lindsay, of Montreal, were appointed inspectors of the estate. Mr. W. H. Beatty on behalf of the firm, offered their notes for 20c in the dollar, payable in 6, 12, 18 and 24 months. The meeting was then adjourned.

AN important reduction in the tolls of the New York State canals has just been made. The charge on wheat has been reduced from 3 mills to 1½ mills; on corn and oats, from 2½ to 1½ mills; barley, peas and beans, from 3 to 1½ mills. These reductions will be beneficial to Western producers, and will expose the carriers by the St. Lawrence route to closer competition than ever before. They also furnish new arguments for the immediate enlargement of our canals, and for giving our great water thoroughfare from the west to the seaboard every possible attraction. An uncommonly large proportion of the flour moving, eastward last season, went by Montreal, which circumstance, no doubt, had great weight in bringing about the reduction of the canal tariff, the object being to keep, at whatever cost, the carrying trade of the west in New York channels of commerce.

**Financial.**

**STOCKS AND MONEY.**

Reported by Blaikie & Alexander, Brokers.

TORONTO, May 18th, 1870.

Stocks have ruled steady and in good demand during the week, with a very fair number of transactions. Some of the leading stocks still show advance on last weeks quotations, but this is in part owing to the near approach of dividend days. Considerable amounts of money are seeking investment, and it still continues to be plentiful, and readily procurable on good commercial paper at from 6 to 7 per cent. Loans or Mortgage can readily be made at 8 per cent. Sterling Exchange is procurable to-day at 109½ to 109¾ for Bank, and 109 to 109¼ for Private.

**Banks.**—Bank of Commerce rules very firm at 114½ to 115 with a good demand. Bank of Toronto and Ontario Bank books are closed for payment half yearly dividend on 1st June of 4 per cent.; Ex-dividend, Toronto would bring 145½ and Ontario probably par. Royal is in somewhat better demand at 62 to 62½, and may be procured at

these figures. Bank of Montreal has shown no further advance on last weeks quotations and is now held at 183. Merchant's shows an advance to 117, at which figure it is held. There is no demand for City, though it can readily be got at 90½ to 91. In Quebec Bank there is nothing doing.

**Sundries.**—Freehold Building Society has closed its books for half yearly dividend of 5 per cent. on 1st June. Canada Permanent rules steady and firm at 134½ to 135, and Western Canada at 125. There is some demand for Provincial Permanent at par, but holders look for better rates. Canada Landed Credit shows an advance, and would now command 96. Insurance stocks are rather heavy with few buyers. Canada Life would bring par. Montreal Telegraph is also rather inactive, buyers offering 155 and holders asking 160.

**Bonds.**—Governments have shown a slight improvement during the week, and are now in better demand. We quote Dominion Stock 107½ to 108½; Sterling Sixes, 104 to 104½; Sterling Fives, 95. Toronto City Bonds are offering at 91. Montreal City Bonds at 99½ to par, and Montreal City 7 per cent. stock at 114½. County Debentures may be obtained at 101½ to 102, and Townships at 95.

**MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.**

Reported by Robert Moat, Broker.

MONTREAL, May 17, 1870.

The transfer books of a number of the leading Banks having closed on the 16th inst. till after the payment of the semi-annual dividend on the 1st June, transactions during the past week have been limited.

**Banks.**—Latest sales of Montreal at 181; books closed. City, books closed. Molsons' sold during the week at par; now held for 101. Merchants' has advanced to 117½, at which price several transactions were to-day effected. Mechanics', 90 to 92. There are buyers of People's at 104, and sellers at 105. Quebec is held at 106; 105 offered. Ontario, transfer books closed; latest sales at 103½ to 103¾. 147½ was offered for Toronto previous to the closing of the books on the 16th inst., without inducing sellers. Royal Canadian is inactive at 61 to 63. Commerce is nominal at 113½ to 114½.

**Sundries.**—Montreal Telegraph was to-day sold at 160. City Passenger Railway is asked for at 117½. For City Gas, 150 would be paid; no sellers. Canadian Navigation is dull at 90 to 92. Richelieu would command 140; held at 145. Exchange is firm for Bank Bills at 9½ to 9¾. Money continues very easy.

**BANK OF ENGLAND, April 20.**—The return for the week gives the following results when compared with the previous week:

Rest.....	£3,108,520..	Increase.	£ 9,376
Public Deposits...	7,660,221..	Decrease.	367,507
Other Deposits.....	16,976,618..	Increase.	1,065,092

On the other side of the account:  
Gov't Securities £12,827,812.. No alteration.  
Other " 18,342,298 ..Decrease. £927,498  
Notes unempl'd...10,607,355..Increase. 186,875

The amount of notes in circulation is £23,364,225, being a decrease of £386,615; and the stock of bullion in both departments is £19,923,793, showing a decrease of £142,655 when compared with the preceding return.

**NEW YORK MONEY MARKET, May 13.**—Business, outside of stocks, generally is very slow and failures continue, among which we note that of Peabody & Cummings, one of the most prominent houses in Eastport, Me. Money on call continues very easy, borrowers being liberally supplied at 4 and 5 per cent., with the bulk of the business at the former rate. Discounts on choice names are readily met at 6 to 7 per cent., with exceptional transactions at 5½ per cent. No. 2 pass slowly at 7 to 12 per cent.

**TORONTO STOCK MARKET.**

Reported by Pellatt & Osler, Brokers.

A moderate business has been transacted in the Share market during the past week. The demand continues large for the leading Stocks, and prices have further advanced. Government Securities, which have been very heavy for some weeks past, are again sought after, and considerable sales have been made at quoted rates.

**Banks.**—Limited sales of Montreal at 181 have occurred, at which rate there is an active demand; holders, however, are firm at 183. British is asked for at 107, but none to be had. Ontario sold freely in the early part of the week at 103½ and 103¾; books are now closed for payment of dividend 1st June, stock offering at par ex-dividend. A small sale of Toronto was made at 150; books closed for dividend 1st June; a limited amount can be had at 146 ex-dividend. Royal Canadian has sold during the week at slightly advancing rates, 61½, 61¾, and 62; the latter rate would still be paid. Transactions in Commerce have been limited; small sales have been made at 11½ and 114½; holders generally ask 115. Merchants' have been dealt in at an advance on our last quotations, sales having taken place at 116, 116½, 117½, and 117¾. No transactions in Quebec; 105 would be paid. There are buyers of Molsons' at par, but no stock on market. City has been dealt in at 91, 91½ and 90, closing at 91. Buyers offer 104 for Du Peuple; none on market. Jacques Cartier is in demand at 110½, with none on market. Buyers would pay 90 for Mechanics'; none on market. Union is in good demand at 107; none offering.

**Debentures.**—The demand for Canada has improved, and sales have been made of "Fives" at 94½ and 95; "Sixes" at 104½, and Dominion Stock at 108. Small sales of Toronto at 91, at which rate they are still offering. County have not been offered for sale for some time; 102 would readily be paid for favorite Counties.

**Sundries.**—The market is entirely bare of City Gas; 115 would be paid. British America Assurance is very heavy, and in no demand, at 73 to 74. Nothing doing in Western Assurance; small lots can be had at 80½. No Canada Life Assurance offering. Last sales of Canada Permanent Building Society at 135, at which rates small lots of the stock are still procurable. Western Canada Building Society sold at 125, and is in demand at this rate; not a share on the market. Small sales of Freehold Building Society at 125 and 125½; books now closed for payment of 5 per cent. dividend 1st prox. No Huron and Erie Savings and Loan Society on market; 115 would readily be paid. Small lots of Union Building Society are offering at 112½. Buyers of Montreal Telegraph Company at 155, and sellers at 160 respectively. No Canada Landed Credit Company on market; 96 would be paid. Mortgages are readily taken at 8 per cent.

**GOLD IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.**—The latest advices from the Peace River (British Columbia) gold diggings are favorable. The dust is fine, and resembles that of Australia. Assays \$17.50 per ounce. The miners are confident that it is the best mining region outside of California and Australia. The district is extensive, and new discoveries are daily reported.

**COTTON FACTORY.**—The St. John Globe says: "The buildings at Little River, put up for a paper mill, are being converted into a cotton factory. Mr. Caukin, formerly of the Mispick factory, is putting in a large quantity of machinery, imported from England. Two or three machines are already at work, and when all are in working order, employment will be given to a number of hands. For the present, nothing but warps will be manufactured. They command a ready sale, and find a market in the Province."