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**Editorial Notes.**

The office of the **CANADIAN MANUFACTURER** has been removed to Room No. 5, Mechanics' Institute, corner of Church and Adelaide streets. One stair up, turn to the right.

Hat-making in the New York State prisons has been abolished by the Legislature; and among the hatters both masters and men are jubilant.

A circular from the Ontario Bureau of Industries has been issued by Mr. Blue, asking for information to be used in making up the first monthly report for the season, which it is desired to have ready by about the 10th of May.

A Winnipeg despatch says:—The City Council gave the fire limit by-law the six months' hoist last night (17th inst.). They are determined not to be bulldozed by insurance underwriters, who made no reduction in rates after the equipment of a paid fire brigade and water works, nor would they give assurance of a reduction even with the passage of the fire limit by-law now.

Among other important commercial law decisions reported in our legal columns will be found that of Mr. Justice Rainville, given at Montreal last week in the McCready-Seath case, which has created much interest in business circles there. We make note also of another decision at Montreal by Mr. Justice Jetté, on the question of compelling a bank manager to produce his bank books.

A remarkable feature in the butter market this spring is that prices of this article are higher in Canada than in the States. Western States butter has been brought in for consumption in Toronto, paying four cents duty. In Montreal stocks are low, even the inferior grades being scarce, a most unusual circumstance. Some short time ago Canadian holders unloaded pretty largely upon American operators, who were then eager buyers. The new butter will, however, soon begin to tell on the market.

The Dominion Government certainly did right in refusing to change the law, even to the small extent asked for, so as to permit the temporary warehousing of foreign whiskey in Canada, for the avowed purpose of defeating the American excise laws, for a time. And now Washington experts say that the American revenue will get the prompt payment of fifty million dollars by our refusal, that is, of course, if some other way of evading the law be not found to answer. At last accounts Bermuda had been selected by the whiskey operators as the favored spot, and a brisk business in shipping the extract of corn and rye to Bermuda and return was going on.

Concerning the Levett-Muller system of electric lighting, a trial of which was made recently at Mr. Perkins' Toronto Engine and Boiler Works, corner of Front and Princess-sts., under the direction of Mr. Hamburger, one of our daily contemporaries says:—This is the first display of these new lights made in Canada, and much interest was manifested in it. One of the interesting features about the lights shown last night was that different lights on the same wire could be extinguished or used at will by simply turning on the electricity as one would turn on gas when he wished to use it. These lights were small and gave a perfect, steady light. A larger light was also shown outside the factory.

Since our last issue it has been cabled from London that an arrangement had been made there between the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railways, in virtue of which the war for some time carried on between these rival powers was to cease. But later accounts tell of a rupture of the bargain having occurred, owing to objections raised by the C. P. R. authorities in America. The *Globe's* London correspondent says that the trouble arose in connection with the question as to what was to be done with the Quebec and Ottawa Railway; but some people are of opinion that Vanderbilt, between whom and the Grand Trunk a bitter war is going on, has vetoed the arrangement, and that this is really where the "hidden hand" is to be looked for.

Here is an item of practical interest enough to be made special note of:—Some one in France has made an estimate of the average cost of living among the working classes in that country, and he finds that the expenditures of sixteen families, fairly representative of different orders of laboring people, varied from \$222 to \$600 per annum. House accommodation, as a rule, claimed 15 per cent. of the total expenditure, clothing 16 per cent., and food 61 per cent. 8 per cent. being reserved for miscellaneous purposes. In the matter of food he found that the highest expenditure registered was 72 per