

Messrs. D. W. Hoegg & Co., Fredericton, N. B., own and operate a large number of factories in that town and other places for picking fish, lobsters, fruits, berries, vegetables, etc. During the past season, although the firm had bought up all the available corn grown along the valley of the St. John River, they were unable to fill half of their orders for this article. They did a big business in the other lines, included in which were 60,000 quarts of blueberries, and many thousand cases of baked beans. During the past season they shipped to Boston over 150,000 pounds of fresh salmon, packed in snow, also some 18,000 cases of herring, and 6,000 cases of lobsters. The firm employs an average of twenty five men and fifteen girls and women at each of their factories.—*Canadian Manufacturer.*

Our manufacturers who are wide awake are not slow in taking advantage of the publicity which a note in our industrial column gives to their enterprise, but some of our Nova Scotian manufacturers want a little more of the American business snap about them. It is the pushing enterprising manufacturers who never lose an opportunity of letting the public know that they are alive and are fully prepared to manufacture and sell certain articles which the public require, that are getting the cream of the business in the Maritime Provinces. Some of our manufacturers should note this and take advantage of THE CRITIC's column of Industrial Notes to keep their business before the people.

A director of the Keely motor says the inventor's friends in Philadelphia have put up over \$100,000 to assist in making experiments. The New York directors of the company have begun a suit to compel Keely to reveal his secret, which suit the Philadelphia directors resist. Keely's friends talk of getting up a company with \$12,000,000 capital stock, part of which would be used in buying out the recalcitrant New Yorkers.

New Orleans is developing the canning of shrimps. It is said that fully 100,000 cans a day are packed there during the season.

## COMMERCIAL.

It is difficult just now to describe the true condition of trade here. Country dealers seem to be willing enough to buy, and city wholesalers and city jobbers to sell, while there is no marked divergence as to values in any line. But the uncertain and fluctuating weather, the absence of snow, and the bad state of the country roads, retard the delivery of goods, and thus hamper the progress of business. Still, in view of the circumstances, it may be considered that transactions have reached a fair volume.

The last of the Allan line of steamers in the St. Lawrence for the season is reported to have been caught in the ice near Sorel, while attempting to make her way down the river to the ocean, and it is feared that unless an unusual thaw occurs speedily, she will be forced to stay there all winter. Hard frost this year has set in more than usually early, and very suddenly, so that it is by no means surprising that some vessels should be unable to continue their contemplated voyages. The harbors along our immediate coasts are not as yet closed up, so far as we have learned, but they may be at any day. In consequence coasting vessels are hurrying their last trips before laying up for the winter. Arrivals and departures of schooners, etc. are, therefore, numerous just now, and many of our wharves present quite a lively appearance. This condition of affairs will pass away in the course of a week or two, and everything will lapse into the usual winter state of quietude.

*Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:*

	Week Nov. 23	Prev. week	Weeks corresponding to Nov. 23—	Failures for the year to date.
	1888	1888	1887 1886 1885	1888 1887 1886 1885
United States..	253	178	153 201 193	8,102 8,504 9,162 10,105
Canada.....	14	21	18 6 19	1,532 1,146 1,056 1,152

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Frank Gallant, hotel, Tignish, P. E. Island, assigned; W. W. Walsh, tailor, Springhill, N. S., assigned to F. W. Emmerson, liabilities about \$3,500; J. Harvey Johnston, genl. store, Springhill, N. S., assigned to A. R. Dickie and Chas. Jones in trust for benefit of creditors; John De Molliter, genl. store, Shelburne, N. S., assigned to Geo. McLean in trust for benefit of creditors; Andrew Doyle, store, Halifax, deceased; H. F. Worrall, commission, Halifax, assigned to Marshall Black and James W. Russell in trust for benefit of creditors; Layton & Quigley, grocers, Amherst, dissolved; A. S. McLean, general store, Summerville, N. S., assigned to A. W. Christie in trust for benefit of creditors; J. J. Brown, blacksmith, Wolfville, offering blacksmith shop for sale.

**DRY GOODS.**—The dry goods market has been rather brisk, and a considerable amount of business—especially in the line of heavy woollen goods for winter wear—has been transacted. Some houses report that they have lately received more orders for woollen goods and flannels than for a long time previously. Much of this increased demand is undoubtedly due to the recent pronounced advance in the price of wool, which plainly foreshadows enhanced values for the manufactured article. There has also been a fair enquiry for plain dress goods, such as cashmeres, serges, etc. Some orders are also coming in for spring hosiery and underwear for future delivery. Country remittances are fair.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—Trade in iron and hardware has of late materially diminished, as is always the case when the cold season arrives. Still, on the whole, there has been a satisfactory fall movement, which was, however, considerably retarded of late by the very bad condition of the roads in the country. There has, for these reasons, been little of interest to report, except that prices of all classes of goods have remained stationary.

From Glasgow warrants are cabled at 40s 10d. to 41s. At Middlesborough No. 3 foundry G. M. B. is quoted at 33s. 6d. Late London cables are:—“Spot tin £100 17s 3d. to £101; 3 months futures £101 15s. to £101 17s. 6d.; Chili bars, spot, £78; do. futures £77 15s.; G. M. B. copper £77 15s. to £78; soft Spanish lead £13 2s 6d.” Philadelphia—“The iron trade has not improved since last week, owing to the uncertainty in the minds of the larger manufacturers and consumers as to the probable volume of new business that is to come in during December and January. The market is strong, but not as active as was anticipated in the early part of the month. An improvement will probably begin early in December, when it is expected that new business will set in for the winter. A great deal of business for bridge building material is predicted, and some large contracts for ship work have just been placed. Contracts were recently made by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for 45,000 tons of rails at \$28, and these have been followed by 20,000 tons for southern roads. More orders are coming.”

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The Flour market has been quiet. The demand was slow and business dull owing apparently to the fact that buyers generally have ample supplies on hand, and the indications are that there will be no improvement in business for some time to come. After the close of the year we look for a reaction and better prices. That seems at least to be the tone of the whole American commercial press. In cornmeal the market is very steady. Oatmeal is gradually advancing. Mill feeds are abundant at present, but will be scarcer and higher a little later on, as many of the millers are now shutting down, they are only losing money in running, as wheat costs a good deal more than flour will sell for. Oats are opening unexpectedly high, the crop throughout the Dominion of Canada is considerably above an average, in fact the oat crop of the world is above an average, and yet oats are selling here to day at 5 to 6 cts. above last year's prices at this time. Hay is both poor and scarce and high, but there must be a good average crop, and later on we look for lower prices. Bearbohm's cable says:—“Cargoes off coast, wheat steadier, corn nil; do. en passage and for shipment, wheat steady, corn quiet. Liverpool wheat and corn, spot, firmer; do. mixed maize 4s. 9d.; do. California wheat firmer at 8s. 2½d. November and December, 8s. 3d. January and February. Do. mixed maize 4s. 8½d. November; 4s. 9d. December; 4s. 7½d., new, December; 4s. 6½d. January; 4s. 8½d., old January; 4s. 4½d. February; 4s. 4d. March and April. French country markets quiet. Wheat and flour in Paris firm. The former at 6s. 3d. for December.” There has been a stronger tone to the Chicago market which was active and prices advanced to \$1.08½ December, \$1.07½ January, \$1.11½ May. Corn was fairly active and improved somewhat, standing at 38½c. December, 37½c. January, 38½c. May. Oats were steady at 26½c. December, 30½c. May. At the seaboard wheat was stronger and advanced ½c. to ¾c. At Toledo, Detroit and Milwaukee wheat has been very strong with an advancing tendency.

**PROVISIONS.**—There has been no improvement in the local provision market. The demand for pork in small lots has been fair both on local and country accounts. The market is fairly active and firm with a good jobbing business. For lard there was a moderate demand at steady prices, and the movement has been fair. Tallow is scarce and firm. In the Liverpool provision market lard was weaker and declined 6d. to 16s 3d. Pork closed at 82s. 6d. and bacon at 45s. to 47s. The feeling in the Chicago provision market was weaker and pork declined 5c. to 7½c. to \$14.47½ December and January, and \$14.72½ May. On the other hand lard was stronger and advanced 2½c. to \$8.22½ December, \$8.17½ January, \$8.32½ May. The hog market was steady.

**BUTTER.**—The market has continued quiet and featureless, with trade restricted to local wants. These call chiefly for best grades, which realise full prices. Stocks of finest are light. The Montreal *Gazette* says that the season just closed “has contributed the smallest total exports for many years. The total exports were only 16,628 packages against 66,313 in 1887, 54,282 in 1886, 65,545 in 1885, 108,137 in 1884, 92,764 in 1883, 64,620 in 1882, 130,484 in 1881, and 194,366 in 1880. Compared with the years preceding 1880 there likewise appears a heavy shrinkage.” It would be more satisfactory, of course, if the net weights of the above quantities of butter were given, as “packages” vary in size, and, consequently, in weight, but with all due allowance for these variations, it is evident that the export butter trade of Canada has steadily and materially fallen off in a long series of years. Several causes have combined to produce this result. One is that much more milk has been turned into cheese than formerly. Again, the habit that our farmers have acquired of “holding” their butter in the hope of better prices, till it had lost its first, fresh, nutty flavor, has doubtless helped to this result. Of course we cannot expect to send our butter to England to rival the products of Holland, Belgian, German and French dairies, which are brought in fresh every day from the farm, but we might and ought to do far better than we do. Besides this we export a considerable proportion of the butter that we send abroad to the United States. If due care was taken in making and packing butter, and if it was promptly shipped to market as soon as ready, it would compete successfully with much of the butter made south and west of us, and realise far better returns to its makers than by the methods now pursued.

**CHEESE** maintains a very firm attitude and holders show no disposition to shade. On the contrary they anticipate obtaining higher figures as the season advances. The English demand is very active accompanied by decidedly higher prices. The Liverpool public cable has shot up 4s. per cwt. during the past few days to 54s., while actual sales of finest Canadian September have been made in Liverpool and London at 56s. to 58s. The English are rapidly acquiring a taste for American cheese generally—especially for Canadian—to the exclusion of English and other makes.

**APPLES.**—The shipments of apples from all parts of Canada continue very large and reports of how they are faring in England are quite satisfac-