

THE St. John, N.B., *Globe* says:—During the past summer S. S. Mayes, of Carleton, has taken over 500 tons of plumbago from the mine near the falls. It is shipped to the United States and Montreal, and brings a good price.

A GROCERS' Guild has been formed in Kingston, and the constitution of a similar association in this city has been adopted. The President is Mr. Jas. Crawford; Secretary Mr. J. Gilbert. The new Guild will endeavor to stamp out the giving of Xmas presents to customers and to regulate prices.

OUR attention has been directed to the inaccuracy of the paragraph in last issue referring to the Guelph Carriage Top Company. We are told by a well-informed correspondent that "but one, a dividend of 12 cents on the dollar, has been declared, and that all the estate is likely to aggregate for creditors is 15 or 16 cents on the dollar."

THE first five-masted schooner ever built, the "Gov. Ames," has been successfully launched at Waldoboro, Maine. She is 265 feet long, 1689 tons, and built at a cost of \$80,000. She will be employed in the coal trade, and ply between Baltimore and Providence, Rhode Island.

MR. C. J. BRYDGES, land commissioner of the Hudson Bay Company, reports that the company has sold as much farming lands so far this year as it did in the preceding five years. The company also sold a much larger amount of Winnipeg property this year than in any year since the "boom."

THE farm of N. Coughlin, near Ethel in Grey county, consisting of one hundred acres, has been sold to Robert Dilworth for \$2,500, for a grazing farm.—Mr. Wm. Forrest has disposed of 100 acres of his farm on the 8th concession, Elma, to Mr. Wm. Little, of the 10th line, for \$4,800.

A LEADING grocer in conversation with a reporter of the *Brantford Courier*, a day or so ago, advanced the statement that the quality of butter brought into that city at the present time is exceedingly poor. "In fact," he stated, "there is hardly a good half pound to be bought for love or money, and I have the greatest possible difficulty in supplying customers who complain every day."

ACCORDING to the *Quebec Chronicle* very general surprise was expressed on the fact becoming known that Mr. E. C. Barrow, manager of the branch of the Banque du Peuple in that city, had resigned his charge and been temporarily replaced by Mr. P. B.

Dumoulin, of the agency at St. Roch's. The change, says that journal, was all the more startling as it was generally understood that Mr. Barrow had succeeded in building up a very good business for his bank.

A HALIFAX publisher is engaged on a directory of the Province of Nova Scotia, to contain the names of all the males in the province over 20 years old, also of all the females in business. The last directory of this kind was published 18 years ago and is now out of date.

IN the Far West, Peter Megan, a sawmill owner near Selkirk, is reported to have absconded leaving behind him considerable unpaid debts.—The sheriff is in possession of Fraser & Cos.' grocery store at Winnipeg, and unsecured creditors will it is said get little or nothing.

A. Ross & Co., wholesale dealers in woollens on a limited scale in this city, have suspended payment. Insufficient capital is said to have been the principal difficulty.—A Yonge st. hatter in this city, J. Perry by name, having failed to carry out an extension granted him last May, has now assigned.

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland, is agitated over the street lighting question, and the new City Council is engaged in discussing the merits of electricity vs. gas. The electric light company tenders at \$130 per lamp, while the gas company offers to supply Bray's large gas lamp with three burners for \$40 per annum. Both rates seem high to dwellers in Canadian cities.

THE storm of last week on the Atlantic was exceptionally severe. A considerable number of lives were lost, and ships and steamers are arriving at Halifax and other ports crippled and generally used up. The practical value of oil bags in keeping down heavy seas around vessels was demonstrated in more than one instance, and the wonder is that they are not universally used.

FOR the second time, the extensive barns of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph have been burned. The last fire took place on Monday evening of this week. None of the animals were lost, happily, but the loss will reach at least \$16,000, and possibly \$20,000. There is no insurance, for since the dispute which arose some months ago with the insurance companies over the interpretation of a policy on the Asylum buildings at London, among others, the Ontario Government has carried its own insurance. It is believed that the fire was incendiary, and Messrs. Archibald Blue and John Winchester have been appointed to investigate its causes.

THE man who prays that God will make him honest in his business transactions needs watching. He may forget to pray once in a while. We don't pray for that which we have.—*Martha's Vineyard Herald*.

HALIFAX has a new steam fire engine, an Amoskeag, from Manchester, N.H., having decided in favor of this make and against the Canadian engine of J. D. Ronald's make. The trials of the new machine have been satisfactory.

THE old established wholesale clothing firm of Livingston, Johnston & Co., in this city, has been dissolved by the retirement of Mr. L. M. Livingston. The remaining partners, Messrs. Wm. R. Johnston and Herbert Langlois will continue the business at the old premises, under the style of W. R. Johnston & Co.

SOMEbody writes to the *Montreal Herald* that the following proposition has been addressed to the City Council by Messrs. Craig & Sons: to light the city according to Mr. Badger's specifications at a reduction of \$426,400 for a ten-year contract on the Royal Electric Co. prices.

SEVERAL small Ontario harness makers and saddlers have been kicking over the financial traces and have been pulled up by creditors. Robert Black, a saddler in Guelph, has assigned; so has Geo. Maquirk, a harness dealer at Mono Road. F. E. Jackson, in the same line at Tilbury Centre, is offering to compromise. Creditors seem disposed to accept 65 cents; if this is not forthcoming an assignment will likely follow.

HALIFAX builders say that more houses were erected this year than for the previous three years together. If Halifax could get rid of the numerous rookeries that disfigure blocks in the very centre of the city and erect rows of brick dwellings for the respectable working classes of her population, it would be a great blessing, and Halifax capitalists would get better returns for their money than that yielded by bank deposit receipts.

THOUGH the submarine cable from Halifax to Bermuda was tendered for some time ago, the work has not yet been commenced. The question has been asked in the British House of Commons when the line would be completed, and the answer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was that there were circumstances connected with the tenders which caused a delay, but that he hoped the work would soon be commenced.

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