

the innocent has also probably a good deal to do with it. In the case of Clarke, his father a respected citizen and said to be well off, has become security for his erring son, the condition I understand being, that he pay interest on the amount during his life and that the principal be paid after his death out of his estate. He is an old man, verging on eighty years."

ANOTHER of the commercial land marks of Montreal has been removed by death. Mr. Wm. Darling passed away on Sunday last, at his residence, Hochelaga, near that city, to the sorrow of a large family connection and an extensive circle of friends and acquaintances. The deceased gentleman was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, sixty-six years ago, and came to Canada in 1840, establishing himself in the iron and hardware trade, with which, he has ever since then been connected. His firm was highly successful, as it deserved to be, for its principal was a man of honesty, of thoroughness and of determination, and it became widely known throughout Canada. So wide was the experience of William Darling, so well up was he in the French code and in English civil procedure, and so thoroughly aware of the wants of the mercantile body that he was described as having the best knowledge of insolvency law of any man in the Dominion. And he was largely consulted in framing the Insolvency Act of 1875. For several years he held the presidency of the Montreal Board of Trade, and the Dominion Board of Trade chose him for its vice-president. He was a director of the Merchants Bank of Canada, and prominent in Church affairs and in other directions requiring clear-headedness and public spirit. His was an active and a useful life; his sons and successors have reason to be proud of his memory, and may well follow his example of intelligent industry, diligence and probity. The chief mourners at the funeral on Tuesday were his four sons, William and James of Montreal, Andrew and Thomas of the Toronto House, his brother, Thomas Darling, of Montreal, and Henry W. Darling of this city. The pall bearers were Messrs. Andrew Allan, George Hague, James Croil, James Robertson, J. Kerry and Jonathan Hodgson.

TORONTO was among the first places on this continent to use coal gas for illuminating purposes. As far back as 1842, Albert Furniss had gas works in Toronto and charged \$5.00 per 1,000 feet for it. Great changes have come about since that day, changes in the extent and condition of the city and in the uses of coal gas as well. Not only is the present gas a better illuminant at one-fourth the price, but we use it instead of steam in engines, instead of wood or coal for summer stoves, and it is

not unlikely that we may use it soon for house-heating. Probably no impost laid upon *pater-familias* more often occasions disturbance than the gas bill. How often is it complained of as exorbitant, how rarely is its amount less than one expects? In fact, the use of gas is so agreeable a luxury that one rarely discerns at the time of using it how much he uses. The Consumers' Gas Co. is being threatened with opposition, which may be all right; it is also roundly abused in print as a bloated monopoly, which sort of abuse is sure to be popular. But let us at any rate see what it is doing for the public. In 1848, when the works were taken over from Mr. Furniss, the price of gas in Toronto was reduced from \$5 to \$4; a meter-rent was charged which has since been abolished; by 1877 the price had been voluntarily brought down to \$2.50 net, and repeated reductions since have brought the price to \$1.10 to \$1.25 per 1,000 feet, net, according to the quantity used. This is undoubtedly cheap gas, cheaper than twenty out of twenty-two other cities in America furnish it, and if the Consumers' Co. can make, out of gas at such a price, the money alleged by its revilers, it may be complimented on its ingenuity but certainly cannot be fairly accused of extortion upon the public. One thing is tolerably clear, that so long as the company in question keeps the price of its gas the lowest (except Pittsburg) in America, the less likelihood, or indeed need, will there be of an opposition company.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Nov. 4th, 1885.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average '84.
Montreal.....	277½	205	155	206½	205½	190
Ontario.....	112	107½	152	112	109	110
Peoples.....	77	72	10		72	44
Molson.....	124	119	30	124	119	110
Toronto.....	191	188	267	190	189	174
Jac. Cartier.....	75	64	24	72	66	
Merchants.....	119	118	601	119	118	111
Commerce.....	131	130	640	130½	129	117½
Union.....	61	45		60	45	
Montreal Tel....	129	127½	325	129	128	111
Rich. & Ont.....	60½	59½	403	60½	60	58
City Passenger..	131½	123	4981	125½	125	116
Gas.....	195½	193½	3651	195½	195	175½
C. Pacific R. R..	51½	49½	600	51	50	45
N. W. Land.....	45	42	200	45	42	39½
Montreal.....ad	202½	200½	435	202	201	185

—The Midland and North Shore Lumber Co's mill at Parry Sound closed down for the season last Thursday. The season's cut was a large one.

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