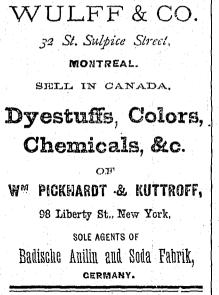
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who guided it for about two years, when it was sold out to two young men named Thurston and Pearce, hitherto in the employ of the company. Its continuance was becoming more and more doubtful, but a local grocer still had confidence enough to prop it from time to time till his total investment amounted to \$2,500, to repay which he is now left with a mortgage on the plant, etc., the two young editors having given it up in despair. The bailiff was in possession of the premises at last accounts. Other liabilities small.

THE reference interpolated in a paragraph of "business changes" in our issue of 23rd ult, to the effect that Harper & Webster, boot and shoe manufacturers, Shediac, N.B., were in difficulty, is, we are credibly informed, without any foundation whatever. In the temporary absence of the compiler of the paragraph in question, we are unable to trace the source of the error; but we hasten to make the correction.

AT THE meeting of certain shareholders of the late Consolidated Bank, held the 29th ult., Mr. J. Macdonald of St. Johns, Que., was chosen to take action on behalf of those represented against the late directors for the recovery of one million dollars. Holders of eleven hundred shares have signed an agreement to contribute one dollar per share to defray the expenses. One or two wealthy Toronto directors will probably be added to the list of defendants at a future meeting.

As far as we have noticed, the City of Guelph, Oni., has been singularly free of insolvencies for the past two or three years; and the few failures that have occurred there might fairly be looked for in even the most prosperous times. But lately we stated that the Sheriff was in possession of the grocery stock of Mr. J. Irvine, who has been in business only a few months, and is generally supposed to have commenced with a capital too small to enable him to succeed against the brisk competition there existing. The stock, we learn, has been sold off, and the store is now closed, presenting another chance for some other to win or lose in the game of retailing.



Largest assortment and greatest variety of NEWEST STYLES selected from the markets of London and Paris for Spring of 1882.

## WAREHOUSE, } 517, 519, 521, 523, MONTREAL.

THE United States built 8,603 miles of railroads in 1880, the largest on record.

THE tonnage of 32 new vessels registered at the port of Halifax, N.S., during the past year was 4,271; vessels transferred from other ports and those registered to November numbered 19. The arrivals of vessels at the port of Halifax from foreign ports during the past year numbered 989, of which 331 were steamers.

THE Chatham Gore (Ont.) checks factory, working 151 days, in 1881 manufactured 43,810 lbs. of checks from 450,331 lbs. of milk. An average of 104 cents per pound was realized for the checks which, after paying all expenses and providing \$100 to be carried forward, left \$3,201.24 for distribution among the patrons.

THE wool clip of the United States for 1880, according to the census, was 155,680,493 lbs., the fleeces averaging nearly  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. each. There were 128,000,000 lbs. imported, nearly double the usual quantity. In Texas and California there are two clips a year. Ohio is the largest producer, California comes next, Michigan ranks third, the proportions being about 25, 17 and 12 million pounds respectively.

REPORTS from Manitoba represent the excitement of the real estate market in Winnipeg as simply indescribable. Quite recently \$900 a front foot was paid for a lot on Main street with a fair frame building on it, and property in that city is rapidly passing from hand to hand. The "boom" extends to every part of the Province. The number of people flocking into the North-West is very great, every hotel in Winnipeg being filled to repletion with guests. The stream of immigration is expected to be very large during the coming season. MR. WILLIAM GUTHRIE of the Regent House, Guelph, has been selling off his stock of dry goods, and announces his intention of clearing out the whole, as he has made arrangements that will otherwise engage his attention very shortly.

THE Mercantile Agency of Dun, Wiman & Co. reports 5,582 failures in the United States during 1881, covering liabilities of 80 millions against 4,735 failures in 1880 of 65 millions. The increase is regarded as small in proportion to the growth of trade and the increase in the number of traders.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Great Western Railway and of the corporations of London and St. Thomas met recently to consider the terms of agreement respecting the London' and Port-Stanley Railway bonds. The result was a compromise, subject to the ratification of the Council, as follows :- New bonds shall be issued-first mortgage bonds to London and St. Thomas for the principal of their first mortgage bonds and interest prior to the lease, less rents received ; second mortgage bonds to London for her second mortgage bonds and six years' interest; third mortgage bonds to London and St. Thomas for half the interest not provided for above, and which was the subject of the dispute. The new bonds will bear six per cent. interest payable semi-annually.

The customs receipts at Montreal for 1881, notwithstanding the heavy smuggling, were \$7,672,268, an increase of \$1,322,478 over 1880. The receipts in St. John, N.B., were \$961,172, an increase of \$116,614 over the previous year and of \$209,617 over those of 1879. The Halifax receipts for the last quarter of the year show an increase of \$64,871, as compared with the corresponding period of 1880. The duties collected at the port of London, Ont., for the last six months were \$298,073, an increase of \$33,970