

Mr. J. J. Blackmore, of St. Thomas, has been awarded the contract for the heating apparatus of the Hamilton Post office.

This season the Chatham Manufacturing Company have sold one hundred and fifty sleighs to the C. P. R., and are now finishing a carload of wagons for British Columbia.

The landlord has seized the stock and chattels of the London Co-Operative Supply Association.—Darragh & Daly, a St. Catharines firm of furniture dealers, are offering 25 cents on the dollar, secured. If the security is found to be good, the creditors will probably accept.

It is proposed to organize the Campbell Hoop Machine Company in Montreal, with a capital of \$100,000, and a preliminary meeting has been held at which were present a number of leading capitalists, among them being Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, Geo. Brush and others.

The exports for the ten months ended October, 1884, of woollen hosiery and of hosiery mixed with wool, were valued at £392,097, and for the corresponding period last year, £312,932. These figures show a falling off in the exports of cottons, and an increase in the exports of woollens from the British Islands.

The imports of Italy in the first ten months of the year amounted to 1,181,508,806*l*, and the exports to 973,829,733*l*, which was an increase of 31,684,452*l* in the former, and of 27,998,569*l* in the latter. The Customs' receipts, amounting to 146,022,380*l*, left a deficit of 4,712,564*l* compared with last year.

The Royal Canadian Insurance Company will apply, at the next session of Parliament, for authority to reduce its capital stock to \$500,000, in shares of \$25 each, of which sum \$20 shall be paid up and \$5 subject to be called in. Also to amend the company's charter so as to enable them to reduce the number of directors to seven, etc., etc.

The post office department gives notice in the *Canada Gazette* that under arrangements recently concluded, money orders may, on and after 1st January, 1885, be obtained at any money order office in Canada for payment in Portugal, Egypt, Japan, Danish West Indies, Dutch East Indies, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Constantinople, Smyrna, Bermuda, Ceylon, Hong-kong, and all British possessions and colonies in the East and West Indies, Africa, and Australia.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Halifax Herald* writing from St. John's Nfld., observes:—"I met to-day a traveller for a Montreal boot and shoe house, and a well-known brush manufacturer of St. John N.B. Both tell me they have done a good business here. The latter says he has been carefully cultivating business here for twelve years, has sold tens of thousands of dollars worth of goods, but never lost a single cent. A Halifax drummer is a rare sight here."

The sheriff has disposed of the effects of D. H. Scott, a general storekeeper at Meadow Lea, Man.—A Winnipeg undertaker, T. A. Lundy, has assigned.—Rigney Bros., or Wm. Rigney, grocer, Winnipeg, is in embarrassed circumstances being behind in his payments and sued by a creditor. Book debts are placed at \$9,400, a large percentage of which is bad; stock \$2,100. Liabilities about \$5,000; apparent surplus \$7,000. The estate, if wound up, would not pay over thirty cents on the dollar.

In the Province of Quebec we note the following failures. L. O. David, tailor, Buckingham, has failed and assigned, owing about \$3,000; assets estimated at \$2,000. Noel & Ferland, furniture dealers at Montreal, have also failed, and show assets of about \$4,000 to pay an indebtedness of \$5,000. Shuffell & Buck, a firm of soap-makers, also of Montreal have fallen into the

hands of the Assignee. P. A. Bourget, a grocer of St. Joseph de Levis, has assigned to H. A. Bedard, Quebec. At St. Hyacinthe, Devane & Co., a foundry form have failed and assigned. J. A. Dufresne, a tobaccoist at Three Rivers, has failed with small liabilities.

The pilotage returns for the port of Pictou for the year 1884 show a revenue of \$3,437 from steamers and 1,015 from sailing ships. The total is \$407 in excess of that of 1883.

—With the end of the year, La Banque Jacques Cartier will close its branch at St. Remi, Que. La Banque du Peuple will take up the business, which will be under the charge of Mr. C. Bedard.

The Montreal agents of the Glasgow and London Fire Insurance Company announce their removal into more commodious offices in the Federal Bank block, Montreal. The company has also appointed as general agent on the Pacific coast Mr. John Landers, of San Francisco, late agent of the Commercial Fire.

MESSRS. CAMPBELL & Co., lumbermen of Laclute, Que., who we recently reported as endeavoring to compromise at 50 cents, have made an assignment, and a meeting is called for the 13th of January. The liabilities are largely due in Quebec and are estimated at about \$60,000, with assets nominally of \$50,000.

The Montreal stock market has shown but little sign of vitality this week, transactions being very light indeed and confined to a few stocks, principally Montreal, Merchants', Gas and Richelieu. The tone of the market is rather easy. Montreal sold at 187½, Merchant's 108½, Gas 181½, Richelieu 58½, Ontario 104, Toronto 175. The money market presents no special features; call loans are made at 4 to 4½; discount rate, 7 per cent. Wholesale houses are principally engaged in balancing up the year's operations, and the movement of merchandise is limited, travellers being generally off the road. Payments, as a whole, are only fair.

The trade in phosphate, at Aylmer, Que., has been larger this season than was expected, and would have been larger still had the roads not been so difficult, from heavy rains. The total amount shipped from the mines this year was 22,143 tons, of which this county furnished 20,353 tons. At the High Rock 1,100 tons remain on hand, while at several of the other mines large quantities have been held over. The prices, says the *Times*, have not been so good as former years, but the decrease in the price of labor has more than counterbalanced this falling off. On the whole the season has been favorable to those engaged in the trade.

The *Boston Journal* reports a manufacturer as saying:—"I know of a mill which sells all its best goods without distinctive marks in order that they may be sold as foreign goods. We can make them much cheaper than they can be imported, and I know by actual experience that they are just as valuable, as well made, and of as fine colors as the imported. None but those in the trade know it, and it is for the interest of most of them to let it be understood that the best American goods are imported. For instance, there are goods that can be sold at \$2.50 per yard, but many tailors will dispose of them as foreign goods at \$4 per yard."

The receipts from shipping on the Suez Canal in November amounted to 4,230,000 francs, against 4,704,832*l* in the same month of 1883, and 4,373,083*l* in 1882. The total returns for the first eleven months in each year were 57,937,152*l* in 1884, 60,685,726*l* in 1883, and 55,678,815*l* in 1882. The number of ships that passed through the canal in the last two years was almost stationary, or 3,057 in 1884, against 3,066 in 1883. The falling off in the receipts

this year is due to the reduction of 50 centimes per ton in the tolls on the 1st January last, and the abolition of pilotage dues since the 1st July. A further reduction of 50 centimes per ton will be made from the 1st of January next.

The affairs of J. C. Kemp & Co., patent medicine manufacturers, etc., Montreal, are turning out very badly, and at a meeting held on the 22nd inst. the liabilities were stated at \$45,000 to \$50,000, while the assets will only be about \$7,000, figures vastly different to those first given to the public. Mr. Kemp is in the States and is not likely to return, while his partner, Mr. Derrick, who was at the meeting, seemed to treat the matter as a huge joke. The affairs of the concern seem to have been very loosely conducted, and there will be but a small dividend for the creditors. A committee consisting of Messrs. Crombie, Stanley, Parsons, and Sawyer was appointed to liquidate the concern.

ANOTHER of the ornaments of the Ontario Bar has been removed by death. James Bethune, Q.C., breathed his last on Thursday, the 18th instant, after a short illness, from typhoid fever, and was buried on Monday last. A large assemblage, including many of the Bench and Bar, attended his funeral, the pall-bearers being Judges Burton, Patterson, Osler, and Rose, Christopher Robinson, Q.C., James MacLennan, Q.C., Charles Moss, Q.C., and A. B. Aylesworth. In the prime of life—45 years of age—having won distinction in the Legislature as well as in the legal profession, the career thus cut short was a most promising one. Rev. D. J. Macdonald fitly described the character of the deceased gentleman as one characterized by great simplicity and unaffectedness, by great singleness of purpose and purity of aim, affectionate and faithful.

SPEAKING of an auction sale of mining shares in St. John on a recent date the *Globe* of that city says: "The coolness of the auctioneer, the lack of animation on the part of bidders, and the prices realized made it appear as if it was an every day occurrence, and that to own an interest in the gold mines of Nova Scotia was like winning an elephant at a lottery. Mr. A. J. Armstrong first put up 3-16th shares of 103 areas in the Montague, N. S., gold claims, and it was sold for \$5.25; 3-20ths of the allotted stock of the Lochabar Gold Mining Co., for \$1.25; 3 club shares Copper Prince Mining Co., for 25c.; 1-32nd in the Clarke Patent Palece Car and the patents thereof, 25c.; and the same interest in the Clarke Patent Cattle Car, 25c.; Book debts, for \$5.25. The purchaser took all the right, title and interest of T. Sherman Peters in the above properties.

We have received a copy of the illustrated catalogue and price list of the Galt Edge Tool and Carriage Spring Works, which have been established for forty years, and the products of which have taken honors at the Centennial Exposition and the New South Wales Exhibition, as well as in some forty different Canadian shows before and since. The book is an admirable specimen of typography and engraving. The illustrations are by Ralph Smith & Co., the printing by the Caxton Press and the paper resembles that produced by the Toronto Paper Mfg. Co. Colored and gilt pictures of axes, adzes, chisels, hammers, draw-knives, cooper's tools, picks and crowbars abound, while some twenty pages of the pamphlet are devoted to descriptions and illustrations of carriage springs and gears, the product of this factory. Messrs. Warnock & Co are to be congratulated on the steady growth of their business. Their goods, we believe, continue to deserve the character given them in Philadelphia in 1876, viz., that they are "of excellent design and superior workmanship."