

THE New Year's Day issue of the Halifax *Herald* gives a mass of information about Nova Scotia, and represents a great deal of painstaking work. It consists of sixty-four columns. Elsewhere we have noticed the valuable paper of Mr. George Johnson, which appears in its columns.

THE hopes of steel rail makers in Britain are strengthened by orders and enquiries from the United States. This year, up to November 30th, only 5,236 tons of steel rails have been shipped from Great Britain to the United States, as compared with 17,476 tons last year and 63,579 tons in the corresponding period of 1883. The Barrow Company have recently received an order for 10,000 tons for an American railway, and this is regarded as an indication of a revival of the American demand.

A VERY prettily illuminated circular has been issued by Messrs. D. McCall & Co., wholesale millinery dealers, &c. In the course of some remarks upon the trade of this city, the firm in question says: "The enterprising character of the importing and wholesale trade of Toronto cannot fail to strike most forcibly the intelligent observer of this vast field of enterprise. Not only are all leading lines represented, but nearly all have several competitors, and the large majority are of high character and ably managed. Through a wide range of territory dealers have learned to regard Toronto as most desirable purchasing centre."

BUSINESS changes are expected to be numerous at the beginning of a year, but there does not appear to be a great number of them since our last.—A dissolution is announced by the wholesale crockery firm of James A Skinner & Co., Hamilton.—The vinegar manufacturing firm of Haaz Bros., Kingston, has been dissolved. Atkin Haaz will continue as Haaz & Co.—In the same city the business of Thos. Moore & Son, tailors, will be continued by W. J. Moore.—In Brougham, Ont., T. S. Morton takes over the stock of groceries belonging to T. S. Morton.—D. M. Kenzie also in the grocery line at Doon, seeks, perhaps, to better himself by removing to Berlin.—Thos. Barr will hereafter represent what was once the grocery firm of Barr Bros.—A Simcoe tinsmith named T. L. Morgan has sold out.

MR. EDWARD H. GOFF, now resident in the States, who is remembered in Canada as prominent in the Canada Agricultural Insurance Co., has been threatened with proceedings arising out of his connection with that defunct concern. The following certificate of confidence in him appeared the other day in the *N.Y. Times*:—We, the undersigned Directors of the American Electric Manufacturing Company, after a full

examination of the charges recently made against the character of our President, Edward H. Goff, desire to express in the fullest manner our entire confidence in his honesty and integrity, and our belief that those charges emanate entirely from a malignant desire to harm an innocent man. Henry S. Hyde, Springfield, Mass.; H. P. Frost, New-Haven, Conn.; Henry F. Gillig, London, England; Albert B. Chandler, New York City; Chas. B. Whiting, Worcester, Mass.; Silas Gurney, Boston, Mass.; W. H. Baker, New York City; H. W. Burgott, New York City.

A GENERAL order has been issued by the General Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, announcing the changes in the operating department, which come into effect on January 1st. A change of name also takes place and the old Great Western Division will cease to exist. The lines west of Toronto are divided into two districts or divisions. One which includes the G.W.R. main line and all branches of that system south of the G.T.R. main line, and all branches of the Grand Trunk south of the G.W.R. main line, will be known as the Southern Division, and be under the charge of Mr. Chas. Stiff as superintendent, and Mr. R. Lar-mour as assistant, with headquarters at Hamilton and London respectively. The other will include the G.T.R. main line and branches north of the G.W.R. main line and the G.W.R. branches north of the Grand Trunk main line, and will be known as the Northern Division. This will be under the charge of Mr. James Stephenson as superintendent and Mr. W. R. Tiffin as assistant, with headquarters at Montreal and Stratford respectively.

Few business changes of New Year's Day, says the *New York Times*, will excite more genuine regret than the retirement of Egisto P. Fabbri from the firm of Drexel, Morgan & Co. Mr. Fabbri first came to New York from Italy when only 22 years old, a stranger, without capital or friends, and with nothing to aid him but good introductions, good capacity, and strict integrity. He entered the employ of Alsop & Co. the great South American merchants, and rose to be one of its U. S. correspondents. As one of the leading men of Wall street said, "Mr. Fabbri is one of those men of whom it can be truly said that no one in the world is in the slightest degree worse for his having been in it, while many thousands are much better." The new copartnership, under the firm names of Drexel & Co., Philadelphia, and Drexel, Morgan & Co., New York, consists of Messrs. Anthony J. Drexel, J. Pierpont Morgan, J. Hood Wright, George C. Thomas, George S. Bowdoin, Edward F. Stotesbury, James W. Paul, Jr., and Charles H. Coster. Drexel, Harjes & Co., of Paris, will continue unchanged.

On Tuesday, of last week, the annual dinner of the Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association was held at the Windsor hotel, in Montreal, when 226 gentlemen sat down. The president of the D. C. T. A., Mr. R. B. Hutchinson, occupied the chair, and the vice-chairs were occupied by Mr. R. C. Simpson, Vice-President, Messrs. Fred. Birks, Gustave Piche, Ed. Dumaresq and Alex. Gowdey. Among the speakers were Hon. Thomas White, Mr. W. J. Patterson, the Consul of the United States Dr. Anderson, Col. Ora, P. Patten, J. J. Curran, Q. C., Mr. J. A. Cantlie, Mr. Geo. Sumner and Major Fred. Massey. It was a most successful affair and we should be glad if space permitted a fuller account of the proceedings.

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