

RAILWAY ties are now floated in rafts, instead of being loaded on board schooners. Two large rafts, containing 25,000 ties were brought from Bruce peninsula to Sarnia the other day.

DURING the first week of August, the through rate on wheat from Chicago to Liverpool via Montreal was 18c. and via New York 15c. which were the lowest rates ever known.

A FLOUR and feed dealer in this city named J. McRobert, is reported absconded. He began on \$500 in 1875, and for some time did an active business.

THE *Timber Trades Journal* is pleased to learn that arrangements have lately been made between a house in Glasgow and a Canadian mill for a regular supply of pine doors and mouldings, "this being a branch of the Dominion trade which we hope to see greatly developed."

MR. JAMES WATSON, grocer, Goderich, a number of years in business, was at one time supposed to be in good position. But a few years ago he failed, and now he has for the second time got into trouble. The sheriff has disposed of his stock.

THE out-put of coal in Cape Breton is increasing fast, says our correspondent, and the consequent enlarged pay list is beginning to tell favorably upon the trade of the two towns, Sydney and North Sydney. The price of coal continues low, however, and the mine owners profits extremely small.

THE first shipment of Canadian phosphates from the Buckingham mines to Bordeaux, France, being a lot of 500 tons will shortly be despatched. The mines are the property of "La Compagnie Francaise des Phosphates du Canada," and Mr. C. O. Perrault, French Vice-Consul and the company's agent, is now endeavoring to secure freight therefor.

By a recent letter from Nova Scotia we learn that the visit to that Province of Mr. Desjardins and other directors of the La Banque Jacques Cartier resulted in the sale of the International mine (long the property of the bank) to New York parties, whose representative among our Bluenose friends is Mr. Robt. Belloni, who was the lessee of the mine. The purchasers are, we understand, the same parties who own the Block House mine, which Mr. Belloni is now working.

ANOTHER tailor, this time A. McKenzie of Montreal, has left for green fields and pastures new, leaving his creditors to mourn his absence. Two seizures have already been put in; one for rent, and the other by his principal creditor, to whom he is indebted some \$1,100. His assets are very slim, about \$600 or \$700 worth of stock, and a few book debts of very uncertain value. His books are in bad shape, so that it has been impossible thus far to ascertain the amount of his liabilities.

AS ESTATES are now manipulated, small dividends are the rule. That of Mrs. Hunking, a St. Mary's milliner, was entirely eaten up with expenses. Her goods were sold at one-fifth their cost, and when the party in charge were settled with, rent, taxes etc. paid, the creditors found themselves in debt to the trustee who dis-

posed of the stock. They would have done much better to make Mrs. H. a present of stock and allowed her to continue, if she was a trustworthy person.

WHEN the firm of Crittenden & Jamieson was formed in Moorfield in 1878, the former put into the business about \$1,600 worth of goods and about \$1,000 in money obtained from his father. The junior partner also contributed \$1,000 in money. The firm had a good reputation in their own locality, and up to the time of their failure had done a good business. A few days ago they called a meeting of creditors with the intention of asking an extension of time, but as some houses pressed hard for payment the firm decided to assign. A surplus of \$5,000 is shown, but not in a tangible form; besides, their real estate will all be claimed by relatives, so that creditors need not count on that in making an estimate of assets.

MONTREAL imports for July show an increase of \$225,445 over the corresponding month of last year, the total value reaching \$3,399,026, as compared with \$3,673,581. There is a noticeable increase in the importations of dry goods, but not sufficient to warrant any fear of overstocking. In woollen goods the increase is \$131,738, in silks, \$53,764, but cottons show a decrease of \$10,119, a fact not surprising, considering our own increasing manufacture.

WE have received from the authorities of the Quebec Provincial Exhibition a circular stating that 15 to 18 acres additional space in Mount Royal Park, Montreal has been secured for this year's show. A very large new building is in course of erection for agricultural machinery, to drive which, steam power and four lines of shafting will be furnished. Besides this, Machinery Hall will be provided with two lines of shafting.

WITH respect to the extension of the Intercolonial Railway along the front of the city of Halifax, this will probably come in the future if the merchants grant right of way through their properties. Meantime some properties have been purchased and steps are being taken to carry out the programme to cover which the appropriation by Parliament is sufficient. The line is to be carried from Richmond along the lower side of Water st., into the south end of the Imperial Navy yard, the naval authorities having granted nearly an acre of the yard. The line will be continued along the water front, and a terminus with over 1,000 feet of deep water frontage, will be made with the wharves. No appropriation has yet been made by Government to cover the elevator and further extension of the harbor.

A MEETING of the creditors of G. C. Egan & Co., dry goods merchants of Ottawa, was held in Montreal on Tuesday, at which an offer of sixty cents on the dollar was made with security. The business liabilities of the firm are about \$13,000 with assets, mostly in stock, of nominally \$15,000 but Mrs. Egan appears on the sheet as a creditor for \$5,000 and Mr. Egan senr. for about \$2,000 which claims, it is understood, will be kept in abeyance till the composition is paid off, if above offer be accepted. The meeting was adjourned

till the 21st. to consider the offer, and in the meantime the firm has made an assignment. The larger creditors are favorable to accepting the sixty cents.

Two active and obliging young men named Murphy & Callen, opened a grocery shop on Yonge St., opposite College Avenue, nearly a year ago. They were fair salesmen, just out of their time, and had each \$500 in money to put into the business. This money, it is said, was supplied by their relatives, and with it they succeeded in getting \$1,800 worth of goods. Twelve months' experience has taught them, however, that it needs something more than civil salesmanship to make successful merchants; and that whether customers come in or not, rent, fuel, light, taxes, interest, wear-and-tear are expenses that "go on forever." They got behind in their payments; an offer to pay one half their debts as in full was refused; they have assigned and the business will be wound up.

IN last week's issue the assignment was announced of Mr. James Carrie of St. Thomas. This must have been a matter of surprise to those who had known that gentleman as a successful retailer, in former days. It is but four or five years since he sold out his retail business and came to Toronto, purposing to put his capital into a wholesale business here. This was not done, but he invested part of it in a hat and cap establishment in London. Next he opened in 1879 a new retail store in St. Thomas—having settled with the party to whom his former business there had been sold—being regarded worth a good surplus, and did a business the first year of some \$40,000. But he overweighed himself with stock and did not conduct his affairs with proper system. The result was that he became embarrassed, and some days ago, instead of consulting with his largest creditors, took legal advice and offered 75c. in the \$, showing liabilities of \$14,000, with assets in stock and book debts of \$17,000.

WE find in the *Quebec Chronicle*, a comparative statement of timber, masts, bowsprits, spars, staves, &c., measured and culled at that port this season to 12th inst.:

	1879.	1880.	1881.
Waney White			
Pine .....	965,650	1,049,358	1,170,627
White Pine ..	1,926,016	2,723,868	3,765,810
Rod Pine .....	529,540	676,780	711,465
Oak .....	610,789	984,281	1,739,040
Elm .....	274,680	734,264	856,081
Ash .....	47,123	201,286	296,426
Basswood ..	280	206	3,856
Butternut ..	70	493	1,027
Tamarac ....	6,654	20,872	9,168
Birch & Maple	120,003	554,653	127,716
Masts & Bowsprits .....	50 pcs	.....	.....
Spars .....	3 pcs	21 pcs	.....
Std Staves ..	76.9.0.8	12.3.0.6	186.3.0.14
W.I. Staves ..	117.1.3.27	224.909.1.9	301.6.0.25
Brl. Staves ..	.....	.....	.....

COMMERCIAL travellers are getting, in the opinion of an Eastern journal, as wise as serpents, but that paper carefully omits to add that they are harmless as doves. "Finding that business men hide on the arrival of trains to escape them, the salesmen have