

er, alone survives. The deceased gentleman was forty years ago in business in Kingston, with Mr. D. C. Gunn, the firm afterwards becoming M. W. and E. Browne, wharfingers. Latterly, the deceased gentleman had represented various railway interests in Hamilton.

A MONTREAL firm recently chartered the S. S. *Enmore* to take a cargo of 70,000 bushels rye to Antwerp, Belgium. The rate of carriage paid between the two cities being 4s 9d per quarter, and the cost price of the rye being about 59c per bushel. Most of our rye goes to the States for distilling, and some is shipped thence to Britain. We used in former years to send this grain direct to Belgium, and if rates charged for freight can be reduced thus from the 6s charged by our regular lines of steamers, there seems to be a likelihood of our exporting more.

A MEETING of the creditors of Messrs. J. L. Bronsdon & Co., paint and oil dealers, of this city, is called for the 12th inst., and the firm have meantime assigned. The liabilities amount to \$36,608.46; ten of the creditors are Montreal firms and fifteen Toronto. Messrs. A. & C. Zunz, of Charleroi, Belgium, appear for \$1,765; Goodlass, Wall & Co., Liverpool, for \$1,264, and Walker, Parker & Co., for \$322.66. Some of the creditors are secured, fully or in part, and this gives umbrage to the others, who assert that the security was unfairly given at a time when the firm felt it was in difficulty. The firm is said to have recently shown a deficit of \$6,000, but its members worked hard, hoping to convert this into a surplus.

THE people of St. Louis paid inland revenue taxes during May last to the amount of \$479,671, of which \$292,336 was on tobacco, \$115,222 on spirits, \$52,377 on beer, and \$18,244 on cigars. So we gather from the *Brewers', Wine and Spirit Trade Journal*, an attractive-looking monthly, just established in that big city of the great South West.

THE most significant, as well as extensive failure which it has become needful of late to chronicle, is that of Messrs. T. Jas. Claxton & Co., of Montreal, dry goods importers and wholesale dealers, who suspended payment on Monday last, 4th inst. The style of the firm was in former years Thomson, Claxton & Co.; Mr. T. M. Thomson retiring about 1869, when the new firm launched into an extended trade mainly with Ontario, taking up large accounts and for a time seemed to meet with marked success. With the pressure of more difficult recent years came bad debts, commensurate with the earlier expansion; shrinkage of assets; while the illness of the senior partner, remarkable always for his confident energy, has doubtless contributed to the stoppage. The firm had liberal credit and some good friends in Britain where they owe some £60,000 stg; accommodation in four Canadian banks, to the extent of over \$300,000; and their liabilities all told are between \$600,000 and \$700,000. The assets of the house are nominally in excess of its obligations (at one time they had a surplus on paper of hundreds of thousands) but the two last years have played sad havoc with these,

and we venture to say that even with time they cannot pay in full. Religious and charitable enterprises have always found a liberal patron in Mr. Claxton; and these as well as a large circle of personal friends, and numerous retail customers in this and the adjoining Province have reason to regret the difficulties that have culminated in his suspension.

THERE has been a lively time over the estate of Harper Wilson, St. Catharines. The assignee, with assistants, made repeated attempts to get possession, the defending party successfully resisted. A *melee* ensued; pistols were drawn, and it is said a blank shot was fired. Detective Oswald, one of the storming party, received a severe wound on the face. The assignees were ousted after a tough tussle. Warrants were issued for the arrest of several of the defenders.

EIGHTEEN attachments, among them Elisha Card, of Windsor, N.S., and John P. McFarlane, of Margaree, N.S.; D. Bisson, Jr., Paspebiac, Que.; M. Nulty, Belleville; E. S. Shaw, Goodwood; R. C. Mills, Renfrew, storekeepers. Of traders who have assigned, we notice the Toronto names of Thos. Bryce & Brother, lumbermen, who were involved through Jos. Dick; J. L. Bronsdon & Co., paints and oils; also M. A. Pennington & Co., paints, &c., Hamilton, who owe largely in Montreal, and whose estate is not expected to yield 50c in the \$. A demand to assign has been made upon Edgar D. Rogers, dry goods, St. Catharines; the old Belleville hardware firm of Jas. Glass & Co., ask for an extension of time; E. Laing, a Berlin shoe dealer, offered 40c in the \$. B. Sherrin & Co., grocers of Brampton, have sold out to A. McBride; John Shaw, a London grocer, is giving up business. Robert Brown, a Charlottetown grocer, offers 50c in the \$.

At the recent meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, papers were read by Messrs. Thos. Macfarlane, of Acton Vale, Que., and W. Hamilton Merritt, of St. Catharines, Ont. In consequence of an invitation from the following members of the Institute residing in Montreal, Messrs. T. Sterry Hunt, B. F. Harrington, H. T. Borey, J. F. Torrance, and an address from citizens and officials of Montreal, signed by the Mayor, the Chancellor of McGill University, the Sheriff, Sir. Alex. T. Galt, and other influential parties, the next meeting of the Institute will be held in Montreal in September.

THE first cargo of Canadian Oats offered in the Halifax market, were sold last week at auction, and very good prices were obtained. The whole cargo sold for 41c. a 38c.

THE following gentlemen were elected Directors of the Canada Southern Railway Company for the current year:—Messrs. W. H. Vanderbilt, Cornelius Vanderbilt, James Tillinghast, E. D. Worcester, Augustus Schell, Samuel F. Barger, Sidney Dillon, W. L. Scott, E. A. Wickes. This leaves the Board unchanged in membership from last year.

On the 2nd June, all the iron mills in Pittsburgh closed their doors, with one exception, in consequence of a strike of employees. The

strike affects also the coal diggers in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and from 40,000 to 50,000 hands will thus be idle.

GRAIN receipts at N. R. R. elevator, Collingwood, for May: wheat, 293,611 bushels; corn, 390,216; peas, 400; total, 689,227.

INGENIOUS is the American rogue. A poultry speculator in Warren County, Pa., buys chickens in the country, and writes out a receipt for the farmer to sign. The point of his pencil invariably breaks off just before the signature is reached, and he produces a fountain pen from his pocket. The body of the receipt is written in pencil, and the farmer's name in ink. When the speculator goes to town he erases all the pencil marks, and writes out in ink a promissory note for \$100 or \$150, and has it discounted by a bank.

—The Union Bank of Lower Canada declares a dividend of two per cent. for the half year.

—The Consolidated Bank meeting has been held and the reduction of its stock authorized by the shareholders. We shall comment next week on this institution.

—Customs receipts at Montreal for May were \$275,327.35 against \$324,434.52 for the corresponding month last year, a decrease of \$49,107.17. The receipts from January 1st to May 31st, have been \$1,875,983.43 against \$1,476,413.65 last year, an increase of \$399,569.78. Total exports from January 1st to April 30th are \$1,109,390 against \$1,145,216 in the corresponding period of 1878, being a decrease of \$35,826.

—The following statement, compiled for the *Montreal Herald*, shows the value of the leading articles imported into Montreal during the past eleven years, to be as follows:

Year.	Value.
1868	\$22,917,904
1869	24,097,648
1870	31,524,861
1871	35,504,334
1872	45,675,016
1873	49,714,179
1874	44,027,704
1875	35,106,948
1876	28,890,836
1877	27,986,985
1878	25,094,134

The exports in 1877 from Montreal are put down at \$22,901,825, of which over \$12,000,000 were produced in Canada. In 1878 the exports amounted to \$21,660,989, of which \$14,000,000 were produced in Canada.

The Leading Wholesale Trade of Toronto.

WM. B. HAMILTON

MANUFACTURER & WHOLESALE DEALER

IN

Boots and Shoes,

15 & 17 FRONT STREET EAST,
TORONTO, ONT.