

hesitate, has just been accomplished by a Canadian firm. The steamship *Hooper*, next to the *Great Eastern*, the largest freight ship in the world, capacity of 4,900 tons, has just been loaded at Boston, by Messrs. W. P. Howland & Co., of this city, with 150,000 bushels of grain, the largest single cargo ever shipped, we believe, by one firm. The insurance upon it reached \$220,000. The enormous capacity of this vessel may be gathered from the fact that besides this great quantity of grain, it was found possible to put on board of the *Hooper* 500 head of cattle, 800 sheep, 5,000 sacks of flour, and several hundred tons of other freight.

A LETTER from Watford, Ont., tells us that there are now six of the merchants of that village, who sell for cash alone. They like the system greatly, and our informant says they are thriving at it. The latest addition to their number, Campbell Bros., grocers, etc., began on the 1st inst., as cash merchants, stating that they found, even after all their care and restriction of credits, they still made losses.—During the past year Messrs. A. T. Harshaw & Co., of Napanee, have done good services in educating the people in cash dealing, and we believe they are reaping their reward by an increasing trade. So satisfactory has been their experience in buying and selling for cash that they have been compelled to move their goods into larger premises and they have purchased one of the best shops in the town.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been taken by the citizens of Toronto in the litigation between Mr. J. E. Smith, Collector of Customs of this port, and ex-alderman Close. Suits are brought by Mr. Smith in the Court of Chancery against Mr. Close, for what the plaintiff alleges to be his interest in land speculations in Parkdale and portions of Toronto, that were conducted in Mr. Close's name. The interest in these suits has been increased by the unenviable notoriety that the Collector of Customs has gained, since the commencement of litigation, in connection with the Custom House defalcations. The court has given decision in Mr. Smith's favor. This establishes the point that he is entitled to an interest in the speculations referred to. It now becomes a matter for the Master of the Court of Chancery to take the accounts between the parties, and among other questions will have to be decided the advisability of realizing at the present time upon lands unsold. The amount involved is very considerable, though it is impossible to say until the lands have been sold what Mr. Smith will have gained by these suits.

We find ten attachments issued against Ontario traders within the week, only two general dealers among them, Malcolm Campbell of Mildmay and T. Brabazon of Seagrave; six in Quebec, three in Nova Scotia, three in New Brunswick, and one in P. E. Island. Only three assignments in Quebec and Ontario, five in New Brunswick and one in Nova Scotia. A fire in Clinton has burned out R. Callender & Co. and half a dozen other traders. R. A. McAllister & Co. of this city, knitted goods, are offering 75c

in the \$; J. E. Arthurs, dry goods, Milton, has been attached; also Wm. Whytal, leather, Halifax, and J. F. Terreo, Arichat, general dealer, E. O. Lesperance, hardware and groceries, Sherbrooke, Pierre Valin, shoes, Three Rivers, and H. W. French, commission, Quebec. Demand for assignment has been made upon Jas. McKenzie, dry goods, Sydney, C. B. John W. Fisher, trader, and Henry Gorrie, tailor, St. John, have assigned. Among the traders who have sold out are Hugh Wilson of Victoria Road, and W. & A. Smith, Mount Forest, general store. Mr. Henry Brown, hardware dealer, St. Thomas, has gone out of business; so have W. T. Holden, druggist, Dutton, John Risdon, stoves, Wallacetown, Mrs. Thompson, milliner, Bothwell. Chas. Carney of Walter's Falls is selling off; Mr. J. W. Peddie, dry goods dealer, of Windsor, is leaving that place to engage in business on a larger scale in London.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE IRREGULARITIES.

As we announced last week, irregularities have been discovered in the Toronto Custom House by investigation of the Assistant Commissioner of Customs, which have occasioned the suspension of the Collector, Mr. James E. Smith, and the Chief Clerk, Mr. Chas. Mackay. These officers were suspended on the 28th ult., and Mr. John Douglas, surveyor at the port, was placed in temporary charge as acting Collector. A more thorough inspection is to be made by Mr. Mewburn of the departmental staff; but meantime it is understood that a deficit was found in the cash at the Toronto Custom House amounting to between \$19,000 and \$20,000; besides which worthless cheques to the amount of \$1,380 were discovered to have been "held over." Part of the deficiency arose some years ago, say about 1874, and Mr. Mackay, who acted as cashier for the collector, was admittedly behind in his accounts at that time to the extent of \$3,200, which he could not account for except by supposing that he had lost the amount by robbery or mistake. The deficiency has been increased year by year since, partly by amounts taken from the revenue by the Collector, and by other means which it has not yet been possible to discover, until the total defalcation reached the sum we have mentioned. The Collector and his cashier were enabled, we are told, to conceal this deficiency by using the moneys received on certain days to cover the collections of previous days.

And by the ingenious plan of closing the cash book at one o'clock of each day, the sums received between one and four p. m. could be used, and "post entries" made for them when it was convenient. If the whole sum deficient, the collector has made good to the government \$8,000, and promises, it is said, to make further restitution, although, according to his own story, he has only "borrowed" \$4,000 from Her Majesty. There is room, we should say, for the change of system in keeping the Customs accounts at this point, which is promised. Until the result of full investigation is made known, it is premature to pronounce upon the accused officials. But if what is reported be proved true, the very least that can be done is to dismiss them.

—The stock market during the past week has been irregular, but the movement generally favorable. A buoyant tone prevailed on Mon-

day, when the transfer books of the leading banks were re-opened and settlements were satisfactory. The highest points of the week were reached on Tuesday, when the Bank of Montreal stock reached 145½, Merchants Bank, 91½, and the Montreal Telegraph Co., 100. The last named stock has been the feature of the week, large purchases having been made from 91 to 100, and it is generally believed that a clique is buying stock to get a controlling interest and effect a radical change in the directorate at the next election in January. The attempt, however, will probably prove futile, and from the names rumor mentions as the choice of those aiming to acquire control, the opinion is probably well-founded that the interests of the Company are quite as safe under the present directorate. On Wednesday, the market for all stocks was weaker and on Thursday there was little change except in Montreal Telegraph, which was again up at 100 with large transactions, but closed weak at 98½ to 98¾; Bank of Montreal is firmer at 144½; Ontario at 72½; Toronto sold up to 121 and closed at 125 bid, and 126 asked; Merchants steady at 91; Commerce weaker at 118½; City Gas Co. steady at 121.

The Leading Wholesale Trade in Toronto.

Bryce, McMurrich & Co

We are offering a large line of

CANADIAN TWEEDS

AT CONSIDERABLY

Less than Cost of Manufacture.

ALSO

White & Grey Blankets

At very close quotations.

**34 Yonge Street,
TORONTO.**

GGG	BBB	SSS	MM	MM	TTTT	HH
G G	B B	S S	M M	M M	T T	H H
G G	B B	S S	M M	M M	T T	H H
G G	B B	S S	M M	M M	T T	H H
GGG	BBB	SSS	MM	MM	TTTT	HH



H	H	E	E	N	N	N	D	D	E	E	R	R	S	S	S	O	O	N	N	N
H	H	E	E	N	N	N	D	D	E	E	R	R	S	S	S	O	O	N	N	N
H	H	E	E	N	N	N	D	D	E	E	R	R	S	S	S	O	O	N	N	N
H	H	E	E	N	N	N	D	D	E	E	R	R	S	S	S	O	O	N	N	N

Have commenced their great semi-annual stock-taking sale.

G. B. S. & H. have made it a cardinal principle in their business to select their customers from among those merchants who have a reputation for prompt paying, and to give them goods at less than current prices, and to drop them when they get slow pay. The result of this system has been to draw around them the merchants who sell largely for cash, while the long-credit ones naturally drift away; but it is evidently the cash trades that respond most promptly to the touch of better times, for the business of G. B. S. & H., which is supported principally by merchants doing cash trades, has increased this fall fully 33 per cent. over last fall.

G. B. S. & H.—Special drives in all kinds of Dress Stuffs.