

make the same complaint. The merchants of Philadelphia are compelled to do a part of their business in New York for a like reason. It is time, says the *Record*, that common carriers should be compelled to be in fact what they are in name.

It is reported by cable that three large iron works in Middlesbro-on-Tees, have been closed by reason of depression in the iron trade.

WHILE some of the cheese factories in the neighboring district of Beauharnois are making samples of five-pound cheeses for the French market, Mr. D. M. Macpherson is filling in the Williamston factories an order for twenty cheeses weighing 1,200 pounds each for an English firm.

ACCORDING to the *Manitoban*, the C. P. railway crosses the Kicking Horse river no less than nine times in a very short distance. This is done in order to avoid danger from snow-slides. The grade is here the steepest on the road, but it is to be lessened nearly one-half by means of tunnels.

EIGHT months ago, W. M. Dignam, who had been a clerk for his brother, tempted fortune by opening a grocery store on his own account in Stratford. His first purchase was \$1,300 worth, and he paid one-third cash. He has not succeeded in the venture and makes an assignment.

For twenty one years, or thereabout, the firm of Messrs. Brothers has been doing a foundry business in Milton, and making implements &c. for the surrounding farmers. The firm has a considerable plant and real estate, but having done a credit business largely and not collecting sharply they have fallen behind in engagements, their assets, though nominally large, not being of a kind to pay maturing bills. It is said they have between \$8,000 and \$10,000 in farmers' notes under discount. It is probable they will go into liquidation, their creditors are mostly in Hamilton.

MONTREAL furnishes the following additions to the list of failures, &c., for the week:—Thomas Riley, a dealer in hats and caps, has assigned, owing \$3,600.—John Watkin, grocer, offers his creditors 25 cents on the dollar.—E. Rabat, restaurant, is trying to settle at 50 per cent., 35 cents in the dollar cash, 15 cents on time.—Beauchamp & Betowney, dry goods, have assigned, liabilities being estimated at about \$25,000; Mr. Beauchamp failed once before as one of the firm of Barretle & Beauchamp.—Tessier & Connolly, grocers, have made an assignment.—H. F. Poirier, a dry goods man, on St. Catharine street, has assigned.

A FEW days ago a party of gentlemen were discussing high prices in the South during the latter part of the civil war, says the *Marietta Journal*. "I paid \$40 a yard for a suit of gray cotton jeans," said the first speaker; "the suit of clothes cost me \$600 after being cut and made." The biggest trade I made during the war," said No. 2, "was \$30 for a spool of cotton thread." "And I," said the third speaker, "paid \$15 for a shave." "How could a man carry enough change in his pocket to buy anything with?" I ventured to ask. "They stuffed it in their hats, boots, pockets, or most anywhere it would stick," replied No. 1.

A DESPATCH to the *Montreal Star*, dated Winnipeg, 3rd instant, states that Mr. Van Horne has decided to fix grain rates on the C. P. R. for the winter at the low rate of fifty cents per hundred pounds on sound wheat, and for Nos. 2 and 3 frosted eight cents less, from Winnipeg to Montreal and all points east, with a slight increase from other stations.

"The extent of this reduction will be appreciated when it is pointed out that the regular rate on sound wheat from Winnipeg is 62 cents; Brandon 63 cents, and Regina 70 cents. This reduction ranges from 20 to 35 per cent. off fair carrying rates."

We hear of the following business changes among Nova Scotia manufacturers or traders, W. J. Lorraine of Pictou, lumber dealer, James E. Conrad of Spry Bay, trader, James McLeod, jeweller, Kentville, and Murphy & Co., woollen mill proprietors at Antigonish, have assigned, Sinclair Marshall has sold his general stock at Goldenville, J. E. De Wolfe & Co. of Kentville, advertise their stock of groceries to be sold *en bloc*, Douglass & Co., founders, at Halifax, have dissolved.—In New Brunswick, the following are recent items of interests: Barker Brothers, carriage makers, Woodstock, and D. F. Graham, in the same business at Campbellton, have assigned. The Charlottetown (P. E. I.) Pottery Co. advertise their business for sale.

A MAN who earned tip-top wages as a fresco painter in New York, and was, as he says, "never short of money," thought he would like to make an easier living at banking, so he got a position in J. B. Newcomb & Co's., New York banking house, and was made their assistant cashier. His name was Carl B. Kegler. The other day he was arrested for embezzling \$75. When arraigned before the proper authority he said: "I am guilty, I could not live on the salary I received, which was \$7.50 per week. I did not spend any money wrongly but was always short. I took a dollar at a time, intending to pay it back. Some money was coming to me, which I trusted in, but it has not come yet. I do not care now what is done to me." The prisoner added: "I wish to God I had remained at my trade. I would not be here now."

The exports of velvets, plushes, silk and silk-union tissues and ribbons from the consular district of Crefeld, Rhenish Prussia, to the United States during the first nine months of the year show a diminution of 4,896,273 marks, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The exports amounted to a total of 11,216,193 marks, as against 16,112,466 in the first nine months of 1884. Details are appended below:

	1885.	1884.
	Marks.	Marks.
Plush	1,194,333	1,965,152
Ribbons	65,421	449,757
Pure Silk tissues	481,350	775,685
Silk union tissues	1,830,609	2,681,757
Velvets	7,640,870	10,240,115

A PROMINENT wholesale house sends us the Wingham letter whose contents we print below. Wonder if the writer intends its concluding sentence to be taken in its literal sense or merely, as it were, "in a Pickwickian sense:"

WINGHAM, Oct. 31st, 1885.

SIR,—Letter to hand and contents noted. Would say, keep the goods, as I don't want to have you risk them on me. I can buy other places without giving that security, and to just as good advantage. I have made a practice of paying cash in 30 days in my short business experience and have never yet had a letter wishing me to give security except yours. Now, I will say that I won't accept the goods at all and will buy elsewhere. So don't send as I will never pay you. I am a bad egg.

The firm adds: "The writer of the enclosed most delightfully fresh production, is 18 years of age, on which account one can afford to smile at the amount of presumption displayed. Have no doubt the young man can obtain all the goods he wants without furnishing secur-

ity, but the question remains, Why should such things be possible?"

HERE is another man who writes himself down an inexperienced ass in business matters, by refusing to furnish a wholesale house, from which he asks credit for the first time, the ordinary business requirement of a reference. Being a bookseller he should have known better, but it is true that a man may be

"Deep versed in books
But shallow in himself."

as seems to be the case with the person who writes the precious post card whose contents we copy below. He is manifestly not deep versed in spelling:

MIDLAND Nov 3rd 1885

To—

In reply to yours of Nov 2; if you want reference, go and look for it; I ges you will have your hands full finding it, the person who runs your firm, or at least this part of it, is a fine specimen of a buisness man; to keep a person waiting for about ten days when I have goods promised to customers. You will kindly cancell all my orders; in case I am a dead beet, and if you instute a serch and find all right, cancell all orders just the same; you are no use to me I cant depend upon you;

yours truly

THE creditors of A. J. Masters, dealer in picture frames and fancy goods in this city, met yesterday at the office of Thomson & Henderson. Appearances indicate that the estate will be a poor one, for Masters gave, on the day before calling the meeting, a chattel mortgage on the stock to his late partner, Brooks. Liabilities are to United States as well as Toronto parties.—Fraser & Sons, photographers, of this city, have made an assignment to E. R. C. Clarkson.

SOMETHING like a wave of dissatisfaction with their lot appears to have swept over Ontario traders; perhaps the dull October was too much for their patience, and they determined to get out of business: At St. Mary's, Sarah Guest sells out to E. C. Kinsman, and R. D. White at Pictou, sells his grocery stock to A. H. White. W. C. Killop has gone out of the store keeping at Consecon; at Temperanceville, D. Johnston has sold his little shop to Wm. Butter, and at Waterdown, Balfour Bro. sold stock to a Toronto man named W. H. Whittemore; C. Meredith, of Guelph, advertises his candy stock, &c., for sale; R. R. Hasket sold out his grocery at Lucan. The drug business of J. D. Wilson, at Bothwell, has been disposed of; three publishers, C. R. Patience, at Ingersoll, Wm. Barr, of Windsor, and J. G. Hands, of Collingwood, are among those who have sold out. There appears to be trouble in the internal economy of Woltz Bros.' firm in Toronto, a sale of their business is reported.

REFERRING to the defalcation on the part of Clarke, the cashier of the Union Bank of Halifax, a correspondent in that city, writing on the 20th ultimo., before our issue of the 23rd reached him says: "About the *irregularity*, to use a euphemism of the day, to the extent of \$33,000. I do not find it honored to the extent of an item in your general summary. Is it that these things have become so common that even papers devoted to monetary subjects have come to regard them with indifference? Surely not. It is a sad state of matters. Within the last ten or twelve years four or five bank cashiers in Nova Scotia have been dismissed for official misconduct, involving the loss of many thousands, but not one was criminally prosecuted. The loss of situation and character was perhaps considered punishment enough, but I am afraid, judging from results, that this is a mistake. Sympathy for