

Business East.

ONTARIO.

Thos. J. Best, hotel, Toronto, has sold out.
Thomas G. Legalle, Essex Centre, has sold out.

C. Patrick, Grocer, Galt, has assigned in trust.

J. B. Loughram, shoes, Ottawa, has assigned in trust.

Miss N. F. Cook, milliner, Toronto, has closed up.

James Sutherland, grain dealer, Owen Sound, has assigned.

George Elmwood, shoes, Caledonia, has assigned in trust.

Jos. Campton, hotel, Toronto, has sold out to Wm. Kennedy.

Wm. Kennedy has sold out his livery business in Toronto.

James Johnston, hats, etc., Toronto, has assigned in trust.

Gosnell & Sutherland, general store, Westgate, have assigned.

T. P. Blackwell, grocer, London, is in the hands of the sheriff.

George Haskins, hotel, Toronto, has sold out to a man named Hancock.

Kelly & Gillespie, tins, etc., Orangeville, have dissolved. Joseph Kelly continues the business.

Peter McSweyne, tailor, Woodville, has assigned in trust and is offering his creditors 50¢ on the dollar.

Jones & Vanderpool, agricultural implement agents, Toronto, have dissolved. E. Jones continues alone.

Askew & Mians, grist and saw mill, Leamington, have dissolved. The business is now carried on by J. Askew & Son.

QUEBEC.

Elezeur Fiset, shoes, Quebec, has failed.

J. A. I. Craig, Montreal, has been burned out.

J. H. Filiatrault, Valleyfield, has assigned in trust.

Laurier & Quintal, contractors, Montreal, have dissolved.

A. Sicotte, tins, etc., Montreal, is in the hands of the bailiff.

J. F. Dion, general store, Drummondville, has assigned in trust.

G. W. Lambly, general store, Three Rivers, is removing to Waterloo.

Hadden & Beaulien, produce brokers, Montreal, are reported away.

The Phoenix Electrical Light Company, Montreal, have been burned out.

Morrison Bros. & Co., woolen mill, Cowansville, have assigned in trust.

J. W. & G. Waddell, general store, Grece Point, have assigned in trust.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Jos. Conlon, omnibuses, etc., Halifax, is dead.

J. A. Adams, tailor, Spring Hill, is reported away.

Mrs. W. S. Fraser, dry goods, etc., Spring Hill, has assigned.

E. F. Cutlip, of the firm of G. & E. Cutlip, painters, Halifax, is dead.

Wm. Darlyson, general store, Meteghan, has been burned out. Partially insured.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

John A. Edwards, hotel, Fredericton, has been burned out.

Mr. Smith, of the firm of Smith & Murray, dry goods. St. Stephen, is dead.

General Notes.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR advises that the postage on drop letters be reduced from two cents to one cent. The Postmaster-General recommends that the Government assume the same control over the telegraph as over the mails; but in this the President does not concur.

THE old established wholesale patent medicine firm of Northrop & Lyman, Toronto, has merged its business into a joint stock company with a capital of \$100,000. Three old employes of the late firm have been given an interest in the company, and the management remains unchanged.

A NUMBER of capitalists have acquired a lease of the gutta-percha forests of Dutch Guinea for a term of thirty-three years, and have already begun operations there upon an extensive scale. This lease covers one million acres, and the quality of the gum is said to be equal to that of the best East India product.

BILT owns \$47,050,000 in United States registered four per cent. bonds, a draft for the interest on which is mailed to him quarterly from the Treasury. The interest on these bonds amounts as follows:—Per annum, \$1,892,000; per quarter, \$470,500; per \$156,883.33; per day, \$5,156.16; per hour, \$214.84; per minute, \$3.58.

THE managers of the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition at New Orleans, have adopted a design for the main building. It will be fifteen hundred feet long and nine hundred wide, with 1,000,398 square feet of floor space, and will be the largest exposition building ever erected except the one in London in 1862.

THE herring fisheries of Scotland employ nearly half a million of people—one-seventh of her population. The boats represent a money value of \$3,600,000. The annual yield of cured fish has risen from 99,000 barrels in the century to 2,290,000, and has trebled in fifty years, while in the same period the value of the nets has increased 75 per cent.

THE financial article of the *Daily News*, London, Dec. 4, says it is understood that a firm in Shanghai, holding silk to the value of £1,000,000 has failed, or retired from business. It is stated that the firm has been gradually liquidating its affairs. More stoppages of business houses in Shanghai are expected, as the Chinese Banks resolutely refuse to lend money until the war clouds now threatening the country are vanished.

THE report of the Chief of the U. S. Bureau of Statistics shows the value of imports and exports of merchandise during the year amounted \$1,547,000,000, and was larger than any previous year within the history of the country. The excess of exports over imports of merchandise was \$100,658,000. Excess of products of agriculture amounted to \$619,000,000. The exports of products of manufacture amounted to \$112,000,000, against \$103,000,000 in the preceding year.

A CURIOUS case has recently occurred in Hamburg in which the manager of a branch establishment sues his employer for libel by telephone. The manager pretended that he did not hear the message, and obtained a witness to receive the second edition; but as telephone messages can be heard by others than those they are intended for, it is considered that a libel spoken through the telephone is "published," hence the action, the result of which is not without interest to a good many.

COTTONWOOD, it is said, will make four rails in seven to nine years, and maple the same in from eight to ten years. Cottonwood, soft maple and California redwood are regarded by many as the best trees for forest planting when shelter belts around orchards, gardens, barns and stock yards are necessary. Many farmers have learned from sad experience that by cutting down their forests indiscriminately they have made the way clear for chilling, biting winds and frosts to nip their growing fruit.

THERE is a regular system in vogue in the the cotton mills of Rouen, France, which would be worthy of adoption in any country. In addition to the regular wages, there is annually set apart a proportion of the profits of the concern, which is divided among all employes who have completed a period of five year's service. The profits range from 12 to 17 per cent. of the amount of regular wages, half of which is paid in cash and half applied to a fund for the relief of deserving poor among operatives and their families.

THE American Government having taken off the duty on apples, some of the leading fruit dealers in Montreal are agitating for a similar move on the part of the Canadian Government, and it is mooted that a deputation of the trade will wait upon the authorities at Ottawa and lay the matter before them. The trade for some time past has complained of the excessive tariff on imported fruit which Canada does not produce, such as oranges, lemons, etc., and on such kinds it is said a reduction of the present duty will be asked for.

SOME idea of where American sewing machines go to may be had from a statement in the *Sewing Machine Journal* of exports from New York for the week ending November 23rd: To ports in Central and South America and the West Indies, 669 cases. To Hamburg, 1,437; Amsterdam, 253; Antwerp, 161; total to the continent of Europe, 1,851 cases. To Liverpool, 1,073; London, 649; Leith, 501; total to Great Britain, 2,223 cases. Some Canadian exports are probably included in these figures. Very probably part of these exports consisted of Canadian machines, but this is not stated.

ABOUT \$35,000,000 in trade dollars was coined. A large portion of them went to China, where the custom is extensive to melt foreign silver coins into small bars. But there was a big lot which the Chinese never saw. They have unaccountably disappeared. The Secretary of the Treasury has no idea where they are. Careful inquiry in New York has failed to discover any appreciable sums of them. The theory now is that speculators bought them up at 85 cents each during the period when the people were so "floury on" them, and are now holding