

now and increased facilities the capacity will be 90 bbls., which means three times that many bbls. of biscuits. Heretofore the Messrs. Hamilton have not been able to fill all their orders, but when their new factory is started they will ship promptly. They will then be in a position to compete with any firm. They intend to employ 50 additional hands, which with their present staff will make 100. The foundation of the new factory will be laid before the frost sets in, and the building completed by April — *Exchange*.

#### CITY CHIMES.

Variety is the spice of life, but the variety of disagreeables that we Halifaxians suffer from in dirty streets is anything but "spicy" or pleasant. We have had all sorts, from sloppiness and muddiness to dustiness, and many are the small ponds in some of our principal sidewalks, caused by the sinking of the flags, thus making a place to hold water. All this is not as it should be, and the sooner it is made as it should be the better.

Last Friday afternoon a merry party of ladies took possession of the dining room of the Sailors' Home, and when the contents of the numerous baskets which they brought with them were spread on the tables in tempting array it looked as if they expected company. If so, they were not disappointed, for at seven o'clock between ninety and a hundred blue-jackets and marines from Her Majesty's ships *Bellerophon*, *Canada* and *Ready*, put in an appearance, and were soon seated round the tables, which had been so abundantly supplied with good things to eat and so tastefully decorated by the ladies. At a request from Mr. Potter, for the men to "give as much gangway as possible," the chairs were drawn in closer and a way made for the young ladies to pass with the tea and coffee. The elderly ladies eat down and took tea with their guests, helping to make the gathering a merry one. After all were satisfied they adjourned to the concert room, where an excellent programme of music and recitations was carried out. It is hard to particularize where all the numbers were good, but the gems of the evening seemed to be the solos by Mrs. S. G. Rigby, both of which were encored, and the solo, "Come Back to Erin," by Mr. McCarthy, R. N., with chorus by the audience. The recitations by Mr. Hanford of the *Bellerophon* were much enjoyed, as was also the duet "Minute Gun at Sea," by Miss McKenzie and Mr. Crawford. After the conclusion of the musical part of the programme, the chairman, Mr. Grant, called upon Mr. Andrews and Sergt. Carpenter of the *Canada* to address the company. Mr. Andrews after saying how much they had enjoyed the tea and entertainment so kindly provided, said there was only one thing he felt sorry for, and that was, he couldn't eat enough cake. Sergt. Carpenter said that they always felt that they had a home in Halifax. Lieut. Murray then made a few remarks. He said that he was sure the sailors would always have a soft spot in their hearts for Halifax ladies especially as there were so many good looking ones, and called upon the men to give three rousing cheers for them, which were given with hearty good will. The proceedings were brought to a close by singing the national anthem.

In the window of the Halifax Piano & Organ Company's warerooms, Hollis Street, are displayed several oil paintings, the work of Harry Gray. The scenes are all well known ones, including Prince's Lodge by moonlight, a view from Point Pleasant and falls west of Halifax. They are to be disposed of by lottery.

The weather has become cool, and the fact is apparent that the fly season is about over. At least the live fly is no longer aggressive. Most of them have retired to the folds of the curtains, where they may end their days in undiscovered peace and quietness after having been as annoying as they could be during the entire fly season to old and young, sparing neither the bald-headed man, or the infant asleep. Now will the careful house-keeper proceed to do her fall cleaning, and will forthwith dislodge all the dead flies from her house.

The W. C. T. U. Coffee Rooms, at the corner of Grafton and Sackville Streets, is a very comfortable place for a lady to go for lunch or dinner at any time. For ladies who come into town from the suburbs and have to remain all day, this place is quite a boon. Dinner is served from half past twelve to two o'clock, and a lunch may be had at any hour. The charge for dinner is twenty-five cents.

Last Friday afternoon a large number of ladies and gentlemen visited the Kindergarten department of the Dartmouth public school, and very much enjoyed the exercises which the little ones went through. This department was opened in May last with Miss Hamilton, formerly of the Model School, Truro, as a teacher. There are now fifty children in attendance, and as the system becomes better known the number will be sure to increase. No time is lost at the Kindergarten, every moment is utilized, but the children are not wearied by the instruction given them, for as soon as the watchful teacher observes signs of uneasiness, the play-work is changed for something else. No one can visit the Kindergarten without benefit to themselves, for older heads than those little ones may learn lessons there. There is to be an occasional visitor's day in the Dartmouth Kindergarten, when parents and others will be invited. Public Kindergartens have been established in St. John, Amherst and Woodstock since May.

Next Thursday evening will be Halloween, the time when young people will work all the charms, spells, and incantations they know for all they are worth—which is not much—to discover who is to be their partner in life. Devils, vitches, and mischief-makers generally were in former years supposed to be particularly active on Halloween, and the fairies held their

revols all night. It is also All Saints Day, and is observed as such by the Roman Catholic and some other churches. The old idea of witches, devils, etc., is pretty well exploded, but superstitious die hard, and people may be found even in these enlightened days who believe firmly in such things. Halloween is now observed principally by children, who thoroughly enjoy having a large tub half filled with water to bob apples in and take cold by getting their heads all wet. All sorts of fireside amusements are also indulged in, such as roasting nuts and making candy. The deep, dark, and mysterious rites which have to be performed at midnight, all alone, in order to see the face of the "coming man" or woman, who is to be the fate of the one who is seeking to know the future, are out of date with sensible young people, and are fast becoming obsolete. Such tricks as carrying gates away from where they belong, and taking the knockers from doors, as well as cabbage stumping, are no longer regarded as fun, but the two former pastimes are called stealing, and the perpetrators can be punished as thieves. However, notwithstanding the explosion of these old ideas, there is plenty of innocent fun for the children yet on Halloween, and no doubt next Thursday evening will be no exception to the rule, and sounds of revelry will be heard in many homes. We hope the youngsters will all have a good time.

#### COMMERCIAL.

Though the weather of the past week has been unfavorable, still the premonitions of a rapidly approaching winter have been so pronounced and unmistakable that many country dealers have hurried forward their orders, with the result that quite a large volume of trade has been accomplished in all leading lines. While the actual business conditions have not been subjected to much alteration, the week's turnover has been, on the whole, favorable, and gives promise of a fairly healthy fall trade.

Dealers acknowledge that payments have been fair as to promptitude, though not quite as free as all would desire. But is not this always the case?

The Halifax Street Railway has changed proprietorship to a certain extent. That is, the New York capitalists have parted with their shares in the enterprise to a number of monied men living in Windsor and Halifax. The Company, as re-organized, promises greater frequency in the passing by their cars of any given point, extension of lines of rails through several important sections of the city, and is considering the question of substituting electricity as the motive power for horse flesh. These improvements, when carried out, will meet the cordial endorsement of the public.

The Congress of representatives of "The Various Independent Nationalities of the Three (North, Central, and South) Americas," to confer on mutual trade and tariff relations, is of sufficient importance, whatever its immediate results may be, to awaken a lively interest among Canadians. As Canada is not an "independent nationality," she has not been asked to send delegates to this Congress or Conference.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Jas. Crocker, shingle mill, South Farmington, burnt out, loss \$1,000, no insurance; Albert E. Amberman, genl. store, Granville Ferry, assigned to Jacob M. Owen in trust for benefit of creditors; Mrs. Margaret Macaulay, genl. store, River Dennis, assigned to J. A. Macaulay, book debts, notes, judgments, mortgages, etc.; Jas. Fortune, liquors, Halifax, assigned to W. C. Bishop in trust for benefit of creditors; Daniel McDermid, hotel, New Glasgow, sold out to Thos. Beach.

	Week		Prev.		Weeks corresponding to		Failures for the year to date.			
	Oct. 18.	1889	1889	1888	Oct. 18.	1889	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States	205	243	195	195	198	8942	7806	7505	8096	
Canada	41	28	31	34	22	1267	1382	1027	981	

**DRY GOODS.**—In wholesale dry goods business is quiet, owing to the continued fluctuating weather, though orders for fall and winter fabrics have come in more freely. A decided change, however, to colder weather will be necessary in order to give a full impetus to the country trade. Prices are steady for both cotton and woollen goods, and mills are still fairly busy on spring orders. The Liverpool cotton corner continues to attract considerable attention. Though the "combine" has lost ground as regards prices, it has enough capital to hold a majority of the raw staple. A great effort is making to hold back the October deliveries. Cotton that was billed to go by last week's steamers from New York did not arrive, and the steamers had to take other cargo. This clearly shows that the corner on the other side is being sustained by strategy and manipulation, and not by actual scarcity.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—The iron trade has maintained the same general characteristic as when last reported. A very firm feeling is evident, and the signs all point to still higher prices in the near future. Advances from Great Britain fully endorse this, and on the 10th the Birmingham iron masters decided to advance rates on all grades of manufactured iron 10s. per ton. In addition to this there are other reasons for strength. Stocks throughout Canada are almost nil; makers in Great Britain are behind with their orders, and what material there is afloat for this country is already covered by orders placed for future delivery. The lateness of the season, which means an increase of freight on any later supplies arriving and a proportional advance in prices, must also be taken into consideration. Therefore, to say that the market is strong is merely to mention an undeniable fact. On spot, prices on all lines are held firmly with an upward tendency. The movement has been of the average kind. Canada plates are firm. In tin plates the conditions are similar to those of manufactured iron. Advances from the other side are strong, and an advance equivalent to 1s. per bar all round lately took effect on ordinary grade coke and charcoal.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The local flour market continues unchanged with few features to note, and the movement is chiefly confined to a hand to mouth business. Bearholm's cables show no change in the London and Liverpool grain markets. English country markets are generally dearer. The Chicago