

A New York house, which ten years ago employed one hundred travelling salesmen, now does its business entirely by trade paper advertising and correspondence, and its trade is ahead of what it used to be. Others are moving the same way, and in a few years hence the drummer will drum less numerously.

One hundred and one tenders have been received by the Department of Canals in connection with the proposed improvement on the St. Lawrence canal.

The Maritime Chemical Pulp Company's Factory, at Chatham, N. B., is a massive brick building, having two wings, and surmounted by a massive square tower. The structure and machinery cost in the vicinity of three-quarters of a million dollars, and work will soon be commenced. A track will run from Snowball's mill yard to the pulp mill for the transportation of the edgings and other mill refuse, save sawdust. Mill edgings will be converted into pulp for making paper. The Chemical Pulp Co., it is said, holds the patent of a German invention, and can produce newspaper pulp cheaply.

The statistical position of salmon is strong, and as a good demand prevails for the Columbia river and Alaska packs, prices have a very firm support, all the more because of the scarcity and high prices of lobster, mackerel, etc. The available supply of Alaska salmon is very light, and dealers are manifesting considerable interest in the result of the season's pack, which cannot be definitely ascertained for some little time yet. Prices remain as before.

Mr. H. F. Moore, agricultural editor of the London *Times*, has been to Victoria. He thinks that in the near future an immense tide of immigration will set in towards that country. The reason more people have not gone in there during the last three years is due to the fact that Australia, South America and the United States are very much better advertised throughout England than Canada.

The United States Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has sent for information relative to the subject of railroad traffic between the United States and Canada, and as to what course has heretofore been pursued by the department in the matter of allowing the transshipment of goods in sealed cars free of duty, etc.

A series of experiments conducted in Salem, Mass., showed that an arc light of 2000 candle power had the intensity of the light increased about three fold by treating the carbons with a secret liquid preparation. The discovery bids fair to revolutionize the electric lighting business.

The liabilities of Calvert Brothers of Halifax, Eng., woollen factors, who failed recently, amount to £200,000. Their assets amount to £23,000. The firm bought on credit and sold for cash at a sacrifice. John Calvert has absconded, and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Beaver were noticed to be dying generally last spring in the Saddle Lake district N. W. T. Death was not caused by starvation as the animals were fat when found. Some unknown disease was doing the work.

COMMERCIAL.

The steady movement in trade has continued, and though not specially active, a fair distribution of goods in most lines has transpired at prices which have been generally steady. Staple goods have, as a rule, remained without material alteration in values. Some complaints as to payments—as there always will be—but on the whole there has been nothing of a serious character, and, in fact, maturing obligations are met as satisfactorily as could be expected. Of course, the bad weather that has prevailed interferes considerably with the movement of goods in the country, but, after all, trade has been fairly good.

A cable says every detail of the Pacific mail contract is finally settled between the Imperial Government and the Canada Pacific Railway Company. Tenders for three new steamers will be received within a week. The contract stipulates that the service shall commence in eighteen months, the company receiving annually forty five thousand pounds from the Imperial Government and fifteen thousand pounds from the Dominion Government, for a monthly service for ten years from Vancouver to Yokohama and Hong Kong, also calling at Shanghai. A *Times* correspondent urges that the trans-Atlantic service should consist of a special train from London to Plymouth or Milford-haven, and a fast steamer thence to Halifax or Quebec, doing the whole journey in six or seven days.

It is rumored that Portland is to be again made the winter port of Canada. It is to be hoped that the Government, in making any new contract for carrying the mails, will guard against any movement in this direction. Of course much will depend on whether the I. C. R. is improved and sufficiently equipped to accommodate all possible requirements, but surely, the public have a right to expect that a road owned and run by their Government will furnish as good facilities to persons desiring to transact business with it, as a road owned by a private corporation would instinctively supply.

Bradstreet's Report of the week's failures:—

	Week Oct. 12	Prev. week	Weeks corresponding to Oct. 12	Failures for the year to date.
	1888	1888	1887 1886 1885	1888 1887 1886 1885
United States	197	146	190 149 179	7,671 7,310 7,898 9,060
Canada	34	43	25 24 25	1,351 993 959 1,029

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Pro-

vince during the past week.—Isaac T. Winans, Hotel, Truro, assigned to James W. Johnson, Ronald T. McDonald, grocer, New Glasgow, assigned to Alex. Cameron, in trust for his creditors, John P. McCullough, dry goods and clothing, Truro, assigned in trust; Wm. H. Finlay, general store, Springhill, assigned in trust; H. & A. Locke, West India trade, Lockport, assigned in trust.

DRY GOODS.—A fair sorting up business has been done in dry goods, the recent cold weather having stimulated the demand for certain lines of woollen and knitted wear and heavy dress goods. The fall movement has, so far, been fully up to expectations. Travellers through this province report encouragingly as to the prospects for the winter business, and paper maturing, so far, has been generally well met, though a rather large percentage of renewals was sought, and they were usually conceded. This shows that the banks have confidence in the position of the dry goods trade in Nova Scotia at least.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The pig iron market is firm, with a good business doing at the recently quoted advance. Warrants have declined to 40s. Cables quote spot tin at £101 7s. 6d., and Chili bars at £84. Wrought iron pipe has advanced in sympathy with the stronger feeling in iron, and manufacturers have advanced prices. Reports from Great Britain are firmer in tone, and makers have stopped making purchases of raw material. There has been no change in prices.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local demand for flour continues to be good, and the market has been active and steady, with prices tending upwards. A very considerable volume of business has been transacted in this line. The *Mark Lane Express*, in its weekly review of the grain trade, says:—"Decreased deliveries of native wheats, combined with the bad condition of samples, has caused an advance in London of 2s. for finest white wheats, and 1s. for red wheats. Provincial values are also strong. Country flour has advanced 6d. to 1s. Foreign wheats are irregular at an average rise of 9d. in London. Spot wheat in London has advanced 4d. per cental. Corn is quiet. At yesterday's market wheats were very firm; English maintained an advance of 2s., foreign were 1s. to 2s. higher, and best kinds showed a still further rise, 3s. more being paid for Duluth. Flour was 2s. dearer in London, the top price being raised 4s., the quotation standing at 40s. Corn, oats, and linseed were firm." Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, on passage, and for prompt shipment—wheat steadier; corn slow. California wheat, promptly to be shipped, 42s. 9d.; nearly due, 42s. 6d. Liverpool spot wheat firmer; do. corn, upward tendency. California wheat in Liverpool very quiet at 8s. 3d. October, 8s. 3½d. November, 8s. 4½d. December, Liverpool mixed maize quiet at 4s. 8d. November, 4s. 5d. January. Flour in Paris, 41s. 3d. November. Wheat in Paris a turn dearer at 47s. 9d. October, and 48s. November. At Antwerp spot wheat is quiet." The Chicago wheat market has been strong, and prices moved steadily up to \$1.15 November, \$1.16½ December, \$1.15½ May. Corn was strong and active, and advanced about 1c. to 46c. November, 41½c. December, 39½c. May. Oats also improved to 24½c. November, 25½c. December, 29½c. May. In New York the grain markets have been rather slow, caution characterizing movements. Quotations, however, were comparatively steady, figures for wheat being at about \$1.11½ October, \$1.13½ November, \$1.15½ December, \$1.19½ May. Corn 52½c. October, 53½c. November, 53½c. December, 49½c. January, 48½c. May. Oats 30½c. October, 30½c. November, 31½c. December, 32½c. January.

PROVISIONS.—There has been no change in this line sufficiently important to mention. The demand for pork has been fair, and the market fairly active, with a good jobbing business at firm prices. The enquiry for lard has been better, and the movement satisfactory at quotations. In the Liverpool market no change has occurred, except in lard, which was weak, and a decline of 3d. was scored, which brought it to 49s. 3d. Pork was steady at 77s. 6d.; bacon at 47s. to 49s. 6d.; tallow at 28s. The Chicago pork market was stronger, and advanced to \$14.42½ November; \$14.32½ December, \$14.42½ January. The hog market was strong, and prices advanced 10c. to 15c.

BUTTER.—The local trade in butter has continued good, especially for the finest grades, which meet with a ready sale. Messrs. Hodson Bros., of Liverpool, G. B., report:—"The arrivals of American and Canadian continue in small quantities, and are quoted at 80s. to 90s., the latter being only obtainable for choice creamery in firm condition. Finest kiol is quoted at 110s. to 115s.; Irish—Cork firsts, 95s.; seconds, 89s.; thirds, 83s.; fourths, 78s. per cwt."

CHEESE.—There has been no abatement in the strength that has of late signalized the cheese market. Although there is undoubtedly a disposition to discourage any further pushing of the advance, it is evident that the tone is strong so far as this side is concerned. New York made a sharp advance last week, being quoted at 11c., and even more was mentioned. The New York *Commercial Bulletin* says:—"The great avidity shown by the home trade to obtain a supply of cheese, even at the rapidly advancing cost, is one of the remarkable features of the situation. Indeed it is the prime factor stimulating the market at the moment, and some dealers assert that they have never been so driven in meeting orders from all sections of the country dependent upon this locality, as at the present moment. The South, in particular, is a free buyer, and it looks as if there was a rush to make amends for the lull that took place during the yellow fever scare. The general strength of the market is unquestioned, but just how far it extends is the difficult point to determine." A Liverpool, G. B., correspondent writes:—"The market continues quiet, holders being disposed to sell, but buyers not coming forward freely. The best enquiry is for cool August cheese, which has been obtainable at 43s. to 44s., though occasionally 44s. 6d. is required. Julys are more plentiful than Augusts, and prices are rather irregular, ranging from 38s. to 40s. for Western States, and 40s. to 43s. for best New York State and Canadian, the latter being in all cases