

The Joggins railway has received the first consignment of 100 tons of rails. At present 350 men and 65 horses are employed on the line. With five weeks more good weather, the contractor says he is sure the road will be ready for operation by the first of January.

A SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I., firm made one shipment to Boston the other day, consisting of eight carloads of mackerel, containing twenty-five hundred cases. It value was upwards of \$10,000 and it was said to be by far the largest consignment of mackerel ever made from that town.

A NEW \$5 bill, which is said to be the handsomest note now current in Canada, has just been issued by the Bank of Hamilton. The face shows a capital portrait of President John Stuart, and the design upon the back is described by the *Times* as being entirely new and strikingly neat.

NOVA SCOTIA papers are giving full accounts of the country exhibitions now being held in that province. Judging from the printed reports the exhibits were above the average, but there was a noticeable deficiency of agricultural implements. Organ and piano makers seem to have got the inside track on the cultivator men.

AMERICAN buyers are buying up all the gravenstein apples they can. Some 15,000 barrels of No. 1 have, says a maritime exchange of the 7th, been taken out of Nova Scotia within the past fortnight by New York and Boston buyers. This with the business of the English market, tends to advance prices.

We learn that the McClary Manufacturing Company of London, is in receipt of a large order from Glasgow, Scot., for stoves, etc., being a repetition of a similar lot sent early in the season. This and other orders, says a local paper are the outcome of the exhibit sent to the Colonial, from which orders and enquiries from Belgium, Switzerland and Australia have resulted.

A RICH mica mine has been discovered in the Township of Methven, Peterboro County. About two tons have been blasted and one piece of pure mica weighing thirty pounds has been obtained; it has been sent to New York for examination. It is said to be quite pure and white, and the promise is very good. Only six feet in depth has been explored; the mica is found to be better as they go down.

In the Province of Manitoba we note that W. F. Wilson, furniture, Boissevain, contemplates removing to the end of the S. W. extension; Cruthers, Tregent & Co., bankers, Fort Qu'Appelle, are said to be about dissolving; W. B. McArthur, general trader, Minnedosa, contemplates closing his business; G. C. Long & Co., clothing, Winnipeg, advertise giving up business; and E. D. Moore & Co., oils, in the same place, have dissolved.

DOUBTLESS Mr. Jas. Burns the well-known Front st. grocer, in this city, has many friends who will regret to learn of his assignment. He has been fighting hard for some time past to surmount his difficulties but has been seriously handicapped by ill health and was compelled to give up. He lost heavily in sugar some years ago, and a too liberal dispensation of credit did not help matters. Eight years ago his liability to the bank amounted to nearly \$60,000 but he has been enabled to reduce it to \$6,500, this sum, with \$5,500, direct liabilities, constitutes his indebtedness. The assets consist of stock valued at \$3,200 and book debts \$9,000 of which, it is said, not more than \$1,000 can be termed good. The creditors are called together for the 18th.

IN hearing the case of Loggie vs. Alliston at Napanee, Judge Armour referred very severely to Chicago gambling, or as he put it "dealing in pork without any pigs," and said that the government should interfere and put a stop to this most pernicious system. The action was for an account arising out of marginal transaction in pork and wheat in a "bucket shop" kept by the defendant in the early part of the year. A verdict was given for plaintiff.

KENT, N. B., county's lobster catch this season was not up to previous years. H. O'Leary, of Richibucto, who put up 18,000 cases in 1881, 16,000 cases in 1884, and 11,000 cases in 1885, only has canned 8,000 this year. Mr. O'Leary controls nearly twenty factories and he is about starting several others at Gaspé. Lobsters are only worth \$2.50 a case at present. The best catches were made at Point Sapin, North Cape, East Cape, and near Buctouche. Mr. O'Leary ships chiefly to England and France.

A PITTSBURG firm, the Rochester Tumbler Co., announces its intention to give a share of its profits to employees, beginning October 1, 1886. It is proposed to distribute about \$4,000, which will be paid as a bonus for making big wages. The employee earning the largest wage will be given \$150, the second \$125, and so on down to the tenth man, who will receive \$40. The shop making the largest turn will be given \$100, to be divided among the men, and the boy who is not absent a turn gets \$30.

Now that the Saskatchewan Coal Mine squabble is about over and the property taken out of the hands of the court, work is likely to go on. The property has been leased to E. D. Moore, of Winnipeg, who, the *Sun* learns, is going to push it vigorously. A contract for the mining of coal has been let to two practical miners, who start for the mine in a few days with a large outfit. They will employ from 120 to 130 men, and have contracted to turn out 250 tons of coal a day. This will be sent all along the line of the C. P. R. and delivered in Winnipeg at a figure not to exceed \$6.50. The coal is said to be excellent.

At the annual general meeting of the Retail Grocers' Association held in Montreal on the 7th inst., a lively discussion took place, the substance of which was that jobbers and manufacturers sell to customers, and also that unjust combination at present exist in the wholesale trade regulating the prices and terms at which staple articles must be sold. The meeting was instructed to petition the wholesale trade and manufacturers to remedy these glaring abuses. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Mr. George Graham; vice-president, Mr. Thos. Gauthier; secretary, Mr. A. Fraser.

SINCE our last issue the following traders are reported as being in trouble. E. Downs & Co., furniture dealers in London have assigned owing about \$1,600. An offer of 25 cents on the dollar has been made and will probably be accepted.—At Dunnville, the general store firm of C. B. Griffin & Co., has called a meeting of creditors.—Cummer & Anderson, tinsmiths, at Wallaceburg, have only been in business a short time, but although steady and good workmen they had no capital and have now assigned.—A bailiff has taken possession of Bradshaw Bros., general store at Arkona, and the Bradshaws have gone to the lumber district, to which they are better suited than to a general store.—Geo. Helson, boot and shoe dealer at Ashburnham has made an assignment.—A firm of florists in London,

named R. P. West & Co., has absconded.—When Fish & Henry started the fancy goods business in this city last April they had a capital of \$250. It is hardly likely that they have any left now. An assignment is announced.—A carriage maker named Wm. A. McClyment at Wingham, has assigned.—A. Roberts general store, Wapella, Man.; H. F. Iddiols, safe maker, St. John, N. B., and W. I. Slipp, general trader at Woodstock, N. B., have assigned.

THE list of failures in the Province of Quebec for the past fortnight is as follows:—C. Nantel, blacksmith, Ile Bizard, has assigned. L. Trudeau, grocer, Montreal, has been closed up by creditors. At Sherrington, C. Gagne, general store, has compromised at 65 cents. Chamard & Co., hotel, Murray Bay, have failed, they have been unsuccessful at Montreal and elsewhere in the past. Louis Simoneau, general store, Arthabaska Station, is insolvent. N. Friedman, clothier, Lachine, has assigned, as also have C. H. Taber, storekeeper, Quio; P. Dauplaise, contractor, St. Francois du Lac; C. Lemaire, general store, Ste. Madeleine, and Louis Rouillard, St. Thomas de Pierreville.

THE Italian Government has issued a call for an international competitive trial of machine seed sowers. It is to take place under the auspices of the Minister of Agriculture at Foggia, a city 124 miles northeast from Naples. It will begin on the 20th inst. and close on the 30th of November. Inventors, manufacturers and agents, domestic and foreign may compete. Machines will be admitted which sow seed in lines and broadcast, also those which, beside seed-sowing, scatter manure. The prizes will include diplomas and medals and purchases of the machinery declared to be the best. Machines entered must undergo all the tests. Awards will not be made until the seed distributed during the trial has sprouted.

ACCORDING to the Collingwood *Bulletin* the through freight on the Northern and Northwestern Railway, this season, has been better than any season during the last fifteen years, with the exception of 1878. This year 2,500,872 bushels of American grain, representing 5,005 carloads, were received at that port, and it is expected that 3,500,000 bushels will be received for the whole season. Besides this several million feet of lumber passed through from the north shore. It is interesting to note that in 1878 a great trade in through grain was done, which was followed by a period of good times. The *Bulletin* hopes that this present movement, which undoubtedly represents the realization on the accumulated surplus of several years, denotes another period of good times.

At present, when telegraph messages are sent from the United States to Brazil, they must first be cabled to Europe, and sent from there to their destination. This is not only a very roundabout method but also very expensive, each word costing \$2.06 for its transmission. A new enterprise has been organized in New York to lay a direct cable to Venezuela and Brazil. It is called the Pedro Segundo American Telegraph and Cable Company, and has a capital of \$2,500,000. The Imperial Government of Brazil and Republic of Venezuela have both, says the *Scientific American*, granted very favorable concessions to the new company. Its cable will be over 4,000 miles long, and is being made in England. It will probably be completed in a few weeks, and will be laid as soon as the equinoctial storms are over.