

### Business East. ONTARIO.

C. Fox, grocer, Chalmersville, has sold out.  
Hamilton Oil Co., Hamilton, have sold out.  
T. W. Evans, grocer, Glencoe, has sold out.  
Edwin Lee, hotelkeeper, London, has sold out.  
Wm. Barnes, carpenter, Whithy, has assigned in trust.  
Charles Mickle, cigar manufacturer, Windsor, has sold out.  
E. Decew, hardware merchant, St. Thomas, has sold out.  
R. A. Martin, grocer, Tottenham, has assigned in trust.  
Wm. Buckle, grocer, Guelph, has sold out to Wm. Winstanley.  
Thos. Adams, photographer, Toronto, has sold out to — Lane.  
A. Wetherall & Co., dry goods dealers, Hamilton, have sold out.  
Jos. Reading, bookseller, Wingham, has sold out to J. B. Ferguson.  
E. Overell & Co., booksellers, Hamilton, is offering to compromise.  
Kenneth Cameron, hotelkeeper, Gravenhurst, has sold out to J. Boyd.  
Cnas. Newbarn, hotelkeeper, B-lhaven, has sold out to John Pollock.  
Jesse Williams, hotelkeeper, Waverley, has sold out to S. McWaters.  
Samuel Stover, cigar maker, Windsor, has sold out his store business.  
Eastwood & Barfoot, lithographers, Toronto; called meeting of creditors.  
Watson Kirk, dealer in confectionery, Des-onto, has assigned in trust.  
Walker Bros., hardware merchants, Mark-dale, have assigned in trust.  
Harvey & Co., hardware dealers, Harriston, have sold out to A. Laidley.  
Allan Lamont, hardware merchant, Mount Forest, has assigned in trust.  
Jas. Anderson, harness maker, Owen Sound, has sold out to Moulton & La ten  
Thayer & Ellis, wholesale jewellers, Toronto, have dissolved; each continues alone.  
J. E. Pelkey, dealer in gents' furnishings, Port Arthur, has removed to Winnipeg.  
Abbott & Essery, general storekeepers, Cent-ralia, have dissolved; J. C. Abbott continues.  
Henderson & Mullen, dealers in wall paper, Toronto, have dissolved, and new firm formed under style of Mullen & Muir.

### QUÉBEC.

Hyacinth Delorme, butcher, Montreal, is dead.  
Godbout & Co., traders, Quebec, have dissolved.  
Nap. Picard, hotelkeeper, Lachine, has assigned.  
Tardy & Bissect, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.  
R. Kell & Co., butchers, St. Gabriel, have dissolved.  
Leduc & Langlois, tailors, Montreal, have dissolved.  
A. Laforest, blacksmith, Scotetown, was burned out.  
Z. C. Jolicœur, dry goods dealer, Montreal, has assigned.

Roussin & Frere, liquor dealers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Joseph Michaud, general storekeeper, Fraser-ville, has assigned.

Larivee & Nadeau, dry goods dealers, Mont-real, have assigned.

Edmond Treccurt, general storekeeper, Sher-brooke, has assigned.

C. T. Picard & Co., wholesale jewellers, Montreal, have assigned.

Petry & Beaubien, lumber manufacturers, Lake Weeton, have assigned.

A. Brooner, saloon keeper, Montreal; stock advertised for sale by curators.

N. Mayer & Co., saloon keepers, Montreal, have sold out to Aime Theroux

A. Talbot, general storekeeper, Sherbrooke, stock damaged by fire and water.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

P. G. Fraser, general storekeeper, Pictou, has assigned.

Matthew Archibald, dealer in patent medi-cine, Truro, has assigned.

### Trade Gravity Shifting from England to the United States.

Herr von Neumann Spallart undertook recently, in the Deutsche Rundschau, of Berlin, to prove that the center gravity of the world's commerce is gradually shifting from England through Germany to the United States. The statistics quoted by him in proof of his theory would seem to bear out the conclusions he has reached. He shows that while in 1868 the share of Great Britain in the world's commerce was 24 per cent, it had fallen in 1882 to 19.5 per cent " and that of the total foreign commerce of Great Britain and the continent in 1868, Great Britain is credited with 34.5 per cent and in 1882 only 29. In 1868 Great Britain produced 53.6 per cent of the coal mined in the world; in 1883 only 40.7 per cent. In 1868 British productions of pig iron amounted to 44.1 per cent of the total, while it was 39.1 per cent in 1883. Taking next the article of cotton, we find that from 1856 to 1860 England consumed 60.3 per cent of all raw cotton manufactured abroad, and the continent of Europe 39.7 per cent, but in 1883 the cotton trade of Great Britain fell off to 52.3 per cent, while that of the continent had risen to 47.7 per cent. The total decline in British manufactures he estimates at the rate of 1 per cent per annum for the past seven years.

He holds that the statistics cited by him indicate that the center of gravity of the world's commerce is slowly drifting from Great Britain towards Germany, and that it will ultimately rest in the United States. On the other hand Mr. Goshen, the ablest English authority, contends that there has been no decline in the quantity of goods manufactured in Great Britain, but that, in point of fact, there has been a visible increase; that the apparent decline has been in the total values, because of the lower prices manufacturers have been getting for their commodities, and they have sought to compensate for small profits by increased production. But Herr Neumann is probably right when he says that the center of gravity of the world's commerce will ultimately be fixed in

the United States, at least so far as the two greatest of all industries, those of cotton and iron, are concerned. The intimate connection between the industries of Great Britain and those of the United States was never better stated than by the late Earl Beaconsfield, who in speaking just before his fall from office of the stagnation of trade at that time in England, said that business would not revive until there was a revival of industries in the United States. It is difficult for some persons to appreciate the extent to which England is dependent on the United States. England is one vast workshop. She does not raise enough breadstuffs and provisions to feed her swarming population. Even when her harvest is a good one she needs 30,000,000 bushels of wheat to make up the deficiency in the home product. She needs also from foreign sources an enormous supply of other provisions. If any embargo were placed on the export of provisions and breadstuffs in the United States in such years of scarcity as England experienced from 1877 to 1882 the price of these commodities would rise very considerably in that country. Stop the export of raw cotton to England from the United States and the output of yarn and piece goods of the annual value of \$900,000,000 would be nearly brought to a standstill, as it was during our civil war, until new cotton-fields were opened in Europe and India. At that time all Lancashire was clamoring for bread.

Lord Beaconsfield was, therefore, right in saying that the prosperity of England was largely dependent on the prosperity—and, we may add, the friendship—of the United States. But England cannot hope to control indefinitely the products of iron and cotton. With respect to these she is destined, sooner or later, to find, under a judicious modification of our tariff laws, a formidable rival in the United States, and principally in the southern section of them, where furnaces and rolling mills are even now being established in the midst of all the raw materials that enter into the production of iron and steel, and where cotton-mills are being planted in the midst of the cotton-fields. It will take a long period to transfer from one nation to another industries long established among a people who have obtained command of the world's markets, but that time must inevitably arrive. As in England, our staple industries are destined to be those of iron and cotton. As in all England, our prosperity is built upon these two bases—the iron that enters into all industries, and the cotton that clothes the world. But with us there are other factors that are to be taken into account. England has to spend large sums annually in buying breadstuffs and provisions to meet the needs of her industrial population. We can not only feed all our own people from the products of our soil, but we can also supply from our surplus a heavy British or continental demand. This, conjoined to the fact that the raw materials of iron and cotton goods are in abundance close to the place of manufacture, gives us a double advantage, and justifies the production of Herr Neumann that, in the shifting of the center of gravity of the world's commerce, which he alleges is now slowly going on, the United States will attract a large, if not a controlling share of the great staple industries upon which the wealth and prosperity of a people are founded.—*The Chicago Journal of Commerce.*