

CONSIDERABLE invoices of groceries are being sold this week in Montreal for shipment on opening of navigation.

M McNALLY & TRUDEL, Shippigan, N. B., have given a bill of sale. G. R. Ketchum, of Woodstock, N. B., has had a judgment of \$12,000 recorded against him.

NEW YORK advices indicate a scarcity of good teas in that market, and in reply to enquiries from New York, samples are being forwarded thither by Montreal merchants.

FORTY-SIX grocers and manufacturers of oleomargarine pleaded guilty this week in the New York Court of General Sessions to selling that concoction. The fines imposed amounted to \$4,750, said to be the largest amount ever collected in a criminal court in one day.

THE well-known furniture firm of Messrs. Stahlschmidt & Co., Preston, has received an order for 1,000 desks for the Public Schools of this city. We learn that orders have also been received for office and school furniture from Winnipeg and another large order from a firm in Montreal.

THE paint mill of Messrs. Henderson & Potts, the most extensive establishment of the kind in the Maritime Provinces, was destroyed by fire on Thursday last. The works were situated at the North West Arm, some two-and-a-half miles from Halifax city, and before the fire brigade could arrive the mill was destroyed. The amount of insurance was about \$15,000, the total loss being \$20,000. Messrs. Henderson & Potts intend rebuilding at once, as they have a large and valuable trade throughout the Dominion.

In Toronto there are several failures this week. John Charters has been in business as a grocer for about fifteen years, and in 1883 he claimed surplus capital amounting to \$10,000. Three years afterward he failed and compromised liabilities of \$5,500 at 75 per cent. Even this does not appear to have given him the needed relief, for he has just assigned. —A meeting of creditors has been called to consider the affairs of Wm. Latch, lumber dealer. It appears that for some time he has neglected his business, and it is not surprising that he should become involved.

"PAPA'S boy, and a business boy, too." This was the comment of a gentleman to whom was shown the following letter received by a manufacturing firm in this city from the little son of a customer at one of the extremes of the Dominion. A budding humorist may be chilled and checked of his natural growth by the unfortunate horse-pistol episode he describes. Here is a copy of the letter:

Inclosed please find papas cheque for thirty-three dollars that he owes you, papa is sick and he told me to write this, an I hardly know how but hope its right.

Papa wites funny things for the newspapers an one time a fellow chased hin with a horse pistol when I grow big I wont be funny cause it isent safe. Yours Ec.

An incident of the recent failure of the Maritime Bank is furnished by the *Telegraph*. Shortly before the suspension a Carleton county man returned from California, where he had been for a number of years, with his savings, amounting to \$9,000. It had been the dream and aim of his life to return to Carleton county, buy a good farm, settle there and spend the remainder of his life. While looking for the farm he thought it wise to bank his money. He went to the Maritime Bank agency in Woodstock, and asked them to keep the money for a few days. They said

they would keep it safely for the time named for \$5 50, which he paid. He then went to see the owner of the farm; returned in three days and the bank had failed. Let us hope he will eventually get at least half of it back.

A DISSOLUTION is announced by the wholesale drug house of Elliot & Co., in this city, the senior partner, Mr. William Elliot, retiring and Mr. Robert W. Elliot continuing the business under the old style. Mr Wm. Elliot is one of our oldest and most respected business men, known now as "a father of the drug trade," and will carry into his retirement many good wishes. Mr. Robert Elliot, who has long been among our most public-spirited citizens, will doubtless maintain the reputation and success of the house with which he has been so long connected.

MESSRS. TODHUNTER & MITCHELL, who were mentioned in last issue in connection with an item respecting cream of tartar, explain that the substance we referred to was sold by them strictly in accordance with the Act 49, Vic. cap. 107, sec. 2, sub-sec. 4. It was correctly designated and labelled by them and sold to the trade for what it really was; and there was no fraud or attempt at fraud on their part, nor is there any thing injurious to health in the compound.

PENS at six cents the gross; two dozen for a cent! who would not learn to write? The figure named (25 pfennigs) is the price at which the cheapest German pens can be produced. The *American Register*, of Paris, describes, as among the interesting industrial establishments of Berlin, the steel-pen manufactory of Heintze & Blankertz (11 Gollnowstrasse). With the exception of one in France it is the largest on the Continent, and one or two in England are larger. The Berlin factory produces monthly about 80,000 gross, equal to 1,000,000 gross per annum, or 144,000,000 pens. Of penholders upward of 7,000,000 are turned out annually. The factory employs upwards of 500 people, mostly women.

A NEW YORK merchant received an account sent by a Cincinnati house in which there was an error of four cents. The latter wrote about it, says the *Dry Goods Chronicle*. The postage on the letter was 25 cents, payable on delivery. Indignant at such a payment, and determined to punish the New York merchant, the Cincinnati house inclosed him by mail a package containing several old papers, on which the New York merchant had to pay \$2 postage. The New York merchant returned by mail a package, the postage on which cost the Cincinnati house \$5. This was continued to the benefit of the Post Office fund to the extent of \$80, when the Cincinnati house sent by mail the "log book" of a ship, for which the New York merchant paid \$17 in postage and gave in that he was beaten.

At the Corngreaves Works of the New British Iron Company, an extraordinary event occurred a few days since. A heavy piece of scrap—a malt mill—was broken up under a steam hammer, and as the mill fell to pieces, a large quantity of gold and silver coins was scattered about the works. The mill had evidently been used as a money box by some past possessor. The forgermen naturally scrambled for the money, and it is stated that they gathered up something like one hundred pounds. The company might have laid claim to the treasure-trove, but on the matter being reported to Mr. Allan, he announced that the men might keep their findings. Certainly, unless each man individually owned to the sum he had picked up, it would have been very difficult to recover the money.

THE Canadian Pacific Telegraph, which has now some seventeen offices scattered all over this city, having found its previous head office, corner of Church and Colborne streets, too limited in accommodation, has this month removed to more roomy quarters at No. 7 Wellington St. East, Toronto. Here a series of four stories, 27 feet by 76, has been fitted up, and the needed space obtained. The apartments of the superintendent Mr. Homer Pingle, is to the left of the entrance and is neatly furnished, communicating by a window in the glass partition with the receiving office. The delivery department is at the back and is fitted with Bunnell's registering call system, by which customers may ring for messengers. On the next floor is the operating room, a spacious and light apartment, with tables for 36 operators. The third floor is devoted to the purposes of a battery room, while the fourth is occupied by the care taker. As the company is now offering greater facilities for telegraphy, through the extension of its own wires and the desirable American connections it has formed, an increased business may naturally be expected. Opposition telegraphy, like opposition in any other line of business, stimulates traffic, and the C. P. R. is in a better position than ever in Toronto to handle what business is offered.

THE river Trent has for many a day been known as furnishing valuable water power. At its mouth, and at the head of the beautiful Bay of Quinte, stands Trenton, incorporated as a town in 1881, with a population of 3,042 and a property valuation of \$460,540. In two years the population had grown to 4,224 and is now probably 5,000. The value of property was last year \$878,250 and the municipality owed \$67,823 bearing six per cent. interest. Within the corporate limits of the town a substantial dam has lately been built at a cost of \$70,000. Gilmour & Co., and the town, each expending half that sum. The dam gives a head of 17 feet. The corporation intends to utilize a portion of the power for water works, and will offer the rest to manufacturers on advantageous terms to locate there and establish various industries. All manufacturers who purchase water power will be entitled to the use of the bridge newly built over the dam. The town corporation intends to use a portion of the power as a motor for electric light, with the view of lighting the streets by electricity. The early completion of the Murray canal making it a lake port, the Central Ontario railway tapping the rich mineral deposits on the north, with an almost certain connection with the Canadian Pacific railway, says the *Intelligencer*, justifies the inhabitants of the town to hope for bright things in the future.

WE resume the catalogue of names of traders in the Dominion in embarrassment. Wm. Heal, wagon-maker, Bond Head, is reported to have left the country. Quite a number of persons have claims against him.—The sheriff took possession of the saw works of S. H. Pockock & Co., Hamilton, under power of chattel mortgage.—Alex. Wilson & Son, general storekeepers, Caledonia, are again in difficulties. In 1883 they settled with creditors by paying 50 per cent of their debts. Just now they are endeavoring to effect another compromise, and have meantime assigned.—The business affairs of H. C. Leirch, tailor at Hespler, are becoming entangled. Several writs have been served upon him and it is not unlikely that he will assign in a few days.—In St. Catharines, John Lawrie & Co., for many years engaged in the flour and feed trade, have failed, with liabilities close upon \$30,000.—