

THE Lachine Canal was opened for traffic on Tuesday last; the Welland Canal opened on the same day with an immense fleet at Port Dalhousie waiting to get through; and water was let into the Rideau Canal on that day.

A PRINCETON shipper, Mr. Williamson, shipped 500 bushels of barley, 800 bush. of oats and 14,400 bush. of peas to Liverpool the other week.

FARMERS in New Brunswick, living near the coast between Shediac and Buctouche, are using the oyster shells which are deposited in abundance on the shore, sometimes to the extent of twenty feet, as manure for their fields, hauling it several miles. In P. E. Island, this substance is hauled twenty miles, so rich is it regarded as manure. The *Telegraph* of St. John makes the suggestion that the shells may be carried by rail to enrich inland counties.

A MARINE school is proposed to be opened in Yarmouth, N. S., by Lieut. F. Eardley Wilmot, R. N., formerly instructor in the Government school at St. John. The qualifications of Lieut. Wilmot are spoken highly of; and Yarmouth, being an important shipping port, is a likely place for such a school, where masters and mates can obtain instruction in the science of navigation.

It is stated in the *Iron Age* that New Zealand is gaining importance as a market for American manufacturers. A vessel lately left New York for that island with a cargo, among which were the following items: 208 packages of agricultural implements, 23 of manufactures of iron, 180 barrels plaster, 35 pkgs. carriage materials, 340 doors, 66 pkgs., glassware, 72 of clocks, 10,000 feet lumber, 130 cases hardware, 84 packages woodenware, 527 cases furniture, manufactures of wood, blacking, plated ware, organs, canned goods, sewing machines, pumps and lamp-ware.

It is stated that a Philadelphia firm has received the contract for the dredging of the River Neva for a distance of twenty miles between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg, Russia. At present the Neva is not navigable between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg, except to vessels of small tonnage. The contract provides for the dredging of a channel 10 miles long, 280 feet wide and twenty feet in depth, or a total of 3,800,000 cubic yards. The river will then be open to vessels of 1,200 to 1,500 tons burthen. The work must be commenced during the present year, and completed by October 15, 1882. Machinery to the value of \$250,000 has already been ordered, says the *New York Bulletin*, for the work. This contract is probably the result of the visit to the Centennial, two years ago, of a party of Russian engineers.

THE Strathroy Knitting Company lately made an offer of twenty cents in the dollar at six months, secured, and it was accepted. Some creditors, however, prefer to take the company's capital stock at 50c in the dollar in payment of their claims, which they have been allowed to do.

THE firm of James Walker & Co., dealers in

dry goods, &c., at wholesale for a long time in Hamilton, last week offered their creditors thirty-five cents in the dollar, which was refused, and a writ of attachment ordered to be issued. This firm shows indications of having been insolvent for years, and they could only have struggled on so long by reason of the misplaced liberality of creditors, or by extraordinary shifts on the part of the firm.

THE assessors make out the population of Lindsay to be 5,750, an increase over last year of nearly 400. That of Port Hope is found by the same means to be lessened by 390, although the assessable property is greater by \$14,044. St. Thomas claims 6,431 inhabitants, an increase of 477.

NAPANEE has \$4,138 on hand at close of 1877, and her expenditure for that year, exclusive of \$9,400 refunded bank, was \$16,666 66; of which \$5,803 was for school purposes, \$2,292 for salaries, \$2,130 County Council, \$777 for "benevolence" and only \$40 to her board of health. The revenue from taxes was \$16,501.

A VIRGINIA correspondent of the N. Y. Bulletin strongly doubts the good policy of coating the bottom of vessels with coal-tar, and gives it as the experience of bridge-builders there, that to cover timber with coal tar is to rot it speedily and certainly.

THE creditors of Messrs. J. Smith & Company wholesale grocers Montreal, who owe \$72,000, with assets of 29,566, held a meeting last Monday to consider the offer of thirty cents in the dollar which it was decided not to accept rather to sell the assets by auction, which the assignee was instructed to do.

THE months of January and May are periods when general business arrangements are made. We notice quite a number of dissolutions in Montreal, among important firms. Such as Haegen & Gnaedinger, wholesale furriers, which will hereafter be known as L. Gnaedinger Son & Co.; W. D. McLaren & Co., retail grocers, Mr. Wm. Elliott, the junior partner will continue in his own name; Mr. Charles Garth has retired from the firm of C. Garth & Co., Plumbers; Messrs. Alex. Wills & Co., coffee & spice mills, and T. & G. Labatt, importers, have also dissolved. In Quebec we notice the dissolution of Messrs. Beling, Mills & Pitt, brought about by the troubles of Mr. Beling in Europe. In this city, the old and well known house of Buntin Bros. & Co., paper makers and stationers, is dissolved, by the retirement of Mr. Geo. Boyd. Messrs Buntin & Reid continuing under the old style.

THE annual meeting of the Hamilton & North Western Railway Company, was held on the 7th inst. In the absence of Mr. Stuart the president, in England it was decided to adjourn the meeting after the election of Directors. Directors for the ensuing year were elected as under. Messrs. John Stuart, E. Gurney, W. Hendrie, John Proctor, James Turner, Wm. Copp, P. W. Dayfoot and Mr. Leggat, leaving one vacancy. Mr. Stuart was unanimously re-elected President, and Mr. Edward Gurney, Vice President.

M. E. PARK a general dealer of Cornwall, has assigned with indebtedness of nearly \$6,000. He opened business in quite a modest way two or three years ago as an auctioneer and commission merchant, and ultimately blossomed out into general storekeeping, but his efforts have not been crowned with success.

JOHN MOXLEY who started business in Ottawa about three months ago as a dealer in pictures, has suddenly taken his departure, leaving a morning landlord and several friends to inherit his estate, provided they can find anything worth while, which is exceedingly doubtful.

JUST three years ago this month, Messrs. Rodier, Hearn & Co., began business as wholesale grocers of Montreal, under auspicious circumstances. They have just been put into insolvency. Some months ago Mr. Hearn died, and the firm have met with reverses in the shape of bad debts &c., and are said to be considerably interested in the failure of J. Smith & Co., in which firm Mr. Rodier was formerly a partner. Their liabilities are stated to be about fifty thousand dollars, about half of which is indirect.

THE broken Direct Cable has been picked up and the break found on the 2nd inst., by the cable steamer *Minia*, to exist about latitude 42, 36.40 N., longitude 64, 49.30 W. The cable had been cut with an axe.

MR. ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, manager of the Bank of British North America was presented in Brantford by the citizens with an illuminated address and a beautiful silver dinner and dessert service valued at about \$1,000.

AN appropriation of \$8,000 was made by the Montreal City Council on Monday last, for fitting out four patrol vans and horses, with 12 attending constables. This precaution is deemed necessary in view of the outrages lately perpetrated in the outlying parts of the city. Motions to increase the police force were voted down.

Messrs. Smith & Barnes have 5,000,000 feet of logs in the streams at Cocaigne and Shediac, N. B. E. J. Smith, has 4,000,000 feet; W. J. M. Hanington, has 6,000,000 feet; Marcus Bateman has 1,000,000 feet; Geo. Bateman has nearly 1,000,000. This is all stream-driven and ready for cutting, and the mills thereabout are said to be all at work.

ON Saturday morning last, there was launched from Mr. A. Russell's shipyard, Levis, opposite Quebec, a new floating dock, of superior construction; 225 feet long, by 52 feet wide. Mr. Russell is now preparing the bed, and the dock is to be ready for work in another week.

THE assessors in Hamilton have reached the following figures as to value of property in that city: real property, total value, \$12,682,948; personal property, \$2,191,340; amount returned as income, \$592,530. Population is found by the assessors to be 33,511.

DURING the week ending 8th inst. we hear of eighteen attachments being issued, two of them against general store keepers; eight assignments were made, two by general dealers. Six traders sold out voluntarily, and two were sold out for