

It is reported that 2,000 head of sheep and 800 head of cattle were shipped from Montreal this week, for the English market.

The old buildings in Montreal, formerly used as a lying-in-hospital, is being transformed into a club for working men, and will be occupied on 1st prox. There are now three hundred names on the membership roll of the working-men's club.

A SPECIAL cable telegram says that the Grand Trunk accounts for the past half year show a sufficient net revenue to pay the preference, debenture stocks, charges, and to carry forward £2,300.

A BY-LAW to grant \$25,000 to the Nipissing Railway Extension project has been carried by a large majority at Minden. On the other hand, the Credit Valley Railway bonus by-law, granting \$8,000 for station grounds at Ingersoll, was defeated by 152 to 36.

THE death is announced of two well-known merchants of Halifax, Mr. W. L. Black, formerly of the firm of Black Bros. & Co., hardware and ship chandlery merchants, and a wealthy man, and of Mr. T. A. S. DeWolf, formerly a Commission merchant.

A Halifax paper announces the arrival in that city of a deputation of the wives and daughters of *habitans* from the Province of Quebec for the purpose of selling their useful and ornamental bead work, a branch of manufacture in which these ladies excel.

THIS appears to be a season of low water in the North-West. Navigation on the Red River has been troublesome because of the low water; Lake Superior is two feet lower than usual; the water of Lake Winnipeg nearly four feet below its usual level; and the Mississippi lower than for many years past.

ELEVEN large loads of railway iron, to lay the track of the Pacific Railway from Emerson to Roseau, are unloading at the former place, and business is active at that point. Building material is in demand. The material for a warehouse has just been received there from Minneapolis, Minn., and a 12,000 bushel grain store is just completed.

A WEEK ago, one of the largest fleets which has ever arrived at that port was in harbour at Buffalo. The entries between the 13th and 19th insts. did not fall far short of a hundred vessels, many of them belonging to the large class of heavy carriers. The vessels lay three and four abreast, on both sides of the stream, for some distance. The demand for canal boats and storage was great.

ADVICES of the 20th, from Prince Edward Island, state that the crops there have been secured in excellent condition, and they are generally reported to be of good quality and rather above the ordinary yield. The wheat crop—especially the early wheat—is more plentiful and better in quality than it has been for several years past. The oat crop, too, is said to be above the average, though the price is low.

THE value to the lake shipping of the Signal Service was markedly observable during the recent storms. Vessel captains can not go far

now without finding the signals, and when seen, they are heeded, for they have commended themselves. It is probably within the truth to say that property enough was saved in one week, as a direct result of the signal system, to pay the total expenses of the entire service for two years.

THERE is a sugar cane plantation of five acres at Grimsby, which is attracting attention as a new industry in Canada. Mr. Wellington, the grower, has succeeded in making excellent syrup from the plant. Mr. Mallory, a colored gentleman from Hamilton, having had experience in sugar making in the South, set right to work and made a quantity, which is pronounced as being excellent.

It was with feelings not at all correctly represented by his name, that Mr. J. Z. Bliss, of Amherst, N. S., discovered, on the evening of election day that during his absence in the interests of his party, his office had been entered and a cash box stolen, containing \$250 in money and \$3,000 in notes. A man and two women have been arrested on suspicion of the robbery.

FOLLOWING is a list of saltwater craft lost during the month of July, this year. Sailing vessels:—26 English, 15 American, 6 Norwegian, 4 French, 3 German, 3 Italian, 2 Russian, 1 Bolivian, 1 Danish, 1 Spanish, 1 Greek, 1 Dutch, 1 Portuguese, and 5 of which the nationality is unknown. Total 70, including four vessels reported missing. And of steamers—9 English, 1 American, 1 Mexican; total, 11. In this number are included 2 steamers reported missing.

CONSIGNMENTS of apples from the States are very frequent this season, Charlotte and Oswego sending them across to Kingston and down to Montreal. In the latter city, says the *Star* of last Saturday, the market is completely glutted with some 6,000 barrels of both American and Canadian apples, and prices are remarkably low. Canadian stock sells at \$1.75 to 1.90 per barrel in round lots, and American at \$1.25 to \$1.50.

Messrs. Healy, Whitman & Co., a firm of commission merchants in Halifax have offered a composition of 33½ per cent. on time, secured, which their creditors will probably accept, as the estate would prove a poor one to wind up in bankruptcy. It is now evident that the business has been insolvent for a year or two past, but the good reputation and credit of the partners, coupled with economy in their expenditure, enabled them to keep out of trouble till now. Heavy losses in connection with lobster packing in Newfoundland are the immediate cause of their suspension, but the elements of failure have been developing for some time past.

THE total value of Cheese exported from the United States during the year ended June 30th, 1877, was \$12,729,615, nearly all from New York, which shipped 103,251,661 pounds. Between January 1st and Sept. 10th of the present year, the amount of cheese exported from New York was 102,588,693 pounds, against 81,005,416 for the corresponding period of 1877. The increase in Butter exports is not so striking, the shipments from New York amounting to 16,004,234 pounds between Jan. 1st and Sept.

10th, 1878, against 13,581,291 pounds for the corresponding period of last year.

THE Quebec City Council, in committee of the whole, decided to recommend the adoption of the report made by the city engineer, upon the progress of the work upon the North Shore Railway, and the payment to the Government of \$257,000. This, with \$143,000 previously paid over, makes a total of \$400,000, including the claim of \$100,000 against the Government for the land acquired by it at the Palais. So that when the amount recommended by the Committee shall have been handed over to the Government, the latter will have received from the Corporation, equivalent to half a million dollars, or one-half the city's subscription to the road.

FROM the annual statement of the trade of the United Kingdom for 1877 it appears that the total value of the exports and imports last year was £646,765,702, against £631,931,305 in 1876, £655,551,900 in 1875, £667,733,165 in 1874, and £682,292,137 in 1873. The value of the imports in 1877 was £394,419,682 of which £304,865,684 was from foreign countries, and £89,553,899 from British possessions. The value of the exports was £252,346,020, of which £176,593,870 was to foreign countries and £75,752,150 to British possessions. The value of the exports of British produce was £198,893,065, and of foreign and colonial produce £53,452,955.

THE manufacture of castor oil is an important industry with the inhabitants of Southern Illinois. The bean from which it is extracted is cultivated to a very large extent, enough being raised in St. Clair County alone to produce something like 300,000 gallons annually. The unctuous substance, it is contended, possesses qualities which are only equalled by that imported from oriental countries, such as the West Indies, Brazil, and Spain. The utility of this oil is not confined solely to medicine, its lubricating and illuminating qualities are not lost sight of. The proprietors of sugar mills on the Peru plantations apply it to their machinery, while the authorities of Lima use it as a substitute for gas in the lighting of their streets.

A LETTER, of which the following is a copy was lately received by an assignee in one of our cities from an aggrieved and indignant creditor.

"DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of the insolvent A. W. —& Co., and have to give you notice that inclosed Draft must be paid in full, as said goods was got on July the 27 78, and that said draft was presented only about a Week before they got Insolvent, and so the dont got a right to Buy those goods, and for to accept said draft, when they found that a whrit was aboud served on them, and it is one of the bigesd frawghts in existense ass far I can sees, by giving this your proper attention you will obligd.

Yours Respectively."

THE large shipping firm of James Duncan & Co., of Charlottetown, P. E. I., is reported in trouble, being under many advances from some of the banks in that city, one of which was pressing for settlement. This firm is one of the