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NONETARY IMES TRADE REVIEW. -INSURANCE CHRONICLE-



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At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Montreal, Portland & Boston Railway Co'y, held last week, Messrs. S. T. Willett, Emmons Raymond, Hon. L. Robinson, T. W. Ritchie, R. N. Hall, W. K. Blodgett and Amos Barnes, were elected directors for the ensuing year. Mr. Willett was re-elected President, Mr. R. N. Hall elected Vice-President, and Mr. Lonergan, Secretary-Treasurer.

THE town of Cornwall has decided, we are told, to give a bonus of \$10,000 towards a new enterprise, namely, the erection of a cotton mill at that place. Messrs. Gualt Brothers & Co., of Montreal are to expend some \$200,000 in the erection of such a mill. It will be remembered that some three years ago an extensive cotton mill built there was destroyed by fire.

THE city of Detroit is lighted with gas from Naptha. The illumination is accompiled by the use of a very simple apparatus placed upon the old street lamps, and is much stronger than from ordinary coal gas. The city saves \$15,000 a year by the change. Heating the city by steam from a central boiler, or series of boilers, after the Lockport plan, has also been introduced into Detroit, steam having been turned on some nights ago. It is intended to extend the mains so as to supply factories, &c., as well as private houses.

ALMOST every traveller through the Eastern Townships has come across or had dealings with Peter Smith, of St. Armand, one of the oldest traders in that district, who has been in business 25 or 30 years. He is at present, unfortunately, a sufferer by butter trensactions, and being unable to meet his indebtedness, is offering 50c in the dollar, payable in 4, 8, and 12 months.

TORONTO Street promises to be a gem in the architectural way. Some of the buildings already on it are worthy of the best business quarters of Boston, or the newest parts of Glasgow. Polished Canadian granite and American stone, admirably carved, show well in the partially completed front of the Union Loan and Savings The old-time Provincial Insurance building. building has given place to an ornate structure of brick, stone and granite for the Building & Loan Association, which adorns Court Street as well as Toronto Street. This company having purchased the land on which Rice Lewis & Son's iron store stood, that firm has erected a massive one of double the area, in the rear of the stately old Post Office building, with entrances by gateway from Adelaide and King Streets as well as Toronto St. Surrounded with new block pavement; fitted with hydraulic hoist and six ton scales, it offers room and convenience for large stocks.

An exchange states that the McClary carriage works in London have made a reduction of twenty per cent in the wages of their employees.

The St. John's Que., stone earthenware factory, whose pay list is \$800 a week, gave notice last week of a reduction of 15 per cent in the pay of its potters, whereupon the men determined to strike. Some of them are "sure of situato five years in the Penitentiary.

tions elsewhere," but where we cannot say, as this is the only concern in that province which makes granite ware. The men have been advised, as was to be expected, by the wiseacres in the Potters' Associations of the States and Britain to "hold out."

THE retail dry goods trade on Sparks street, Ottawa, have found it extremely difficult to realize a profit on their goods since Mr. Joseph Metcalfe compromised with his creditors about a year ago, paying a small percentage on his liabilities. Energy and determination, when rightly directed, are very desirable qualities in successful business, but when the great object is to do a large trade regardless of profit, as in this case, the result is not only ruinous to the operator but disastrous in time to all competing houses in the trade. Probably this gentleman has, with his two shops, done more to injure business than any one in the trade in Ottawa for a long time. He is trying to compromise again at 35 per cent., having liabilities of nearly \$15,000, over two-thirds of which sum is due Messrs. Black & Thom. To accept this, or any compromise from a person who made it a practice to borrow accommodation paper and money in sums ranging from \$10 to \$100 from his neighbors, some of whom are not yet paid, and who purchased goods a short time ago when he must have known that he was hopelessly insolvent, is to inflict a wrong for which there can be no justification, even though a man may profess to be pious and to have no intention of wilfully doing wrong. Montreal creditors would, we think, best serve their own and the public interest if they removed this ambitious trader to some other sphere of life.

A "PONEY" steam saw mill is to be started at the head of Stoney Lake, Muskoka, by Dunbar Brothers, and Mr. Milne will erect a grist and sawmill near the same spot in spring.

THREE thousand men are engaged this week in cutting and storing ice from the Hudson River, at Coxsackie, N. Y. Ten houses are already filled with ice from 11 to 14 inches in thickness, and its quality this "harvest" is stated to be as good as any ever gathered there.

CANNING, N. S., on the Bay of Fundy, shows that her exports in 1878 were worth \$211,937, of which \$138,744 represented potatoes, 214,518 having been shipped. Imports value, \$117,661; duty, \$14,175.

WINDSOR N. S., exported \$35,395 worth in the last quarter, of 1878, half of this was plaster Her imports for the same period were valued at \$33,863.

IRON ORE from Snowden township was sent some weeks ago to a leading blast furnace in New York. It was pronounced just the quality to make Bessemer steel.

ON Saturday last, Charles Thompson, alias "Piano Charlie," and Charles Durand alias Clarke, two well-known American thieves, were convicted of robbing several Toronto jewellery shops amid the bustle incident to Christmas week. They were each sentenced at the Assizes to five years in the Penitentiary. FXCISE receipts at Windsor, Ont., for the two past months were :--

Nov., 1878,— \$61,585. Dec., 1878,— \$20,025. Nov., 1877,— 44,833. Dec., 1877,— 49,718. Total decrease for two months, 1878, therefore, \$12,941.

GLASGOW "A B C."—A was an accommodation bill, B bought it, C cashed it, D discounted it, E eyed it, F forged on it, G got it, H h'med at it, I indorsed it, J "jouked to let the jaw gae by it," K kept it, L laughed at it, M misappropriated it, N negotiated it, O offered it, P presented it, Q queried it, R returned it, S sued on it, T took it, U utilised it, V vouched it, W warranted it, X 'xpatiated on it, Y Z, wisehead fashion, pocketed the profits and left the Bank to settle it.

KNOWLTON, Que., boasts a cash store owned by J D. Gilmour, who is claimed to be the first to introduce the system there, and who has lately built new premises for the purpose.

APPLICATION will be made to the Dominion Parliament, to incorporate a Company to build dykes across the Chebogue and other rivers, bays or estuaries, and to reclaim lands wasted or covered by the sea in the County of Yarmouth, N. S.

THE following table from the St. John Globe, presents a record of the shipping on the registry books of the port of St. John, N.B., for each of the past twenty-five years :--

No. of Year. Vessels.	Tons.	Year. Vessels. No. of	Tons.
1854 582		1867 640	186,300
1855 566	110,461	1868 682	
1856 585	135,713	1869 703	
1857 543		1870 734	
1858 497		1871 767	
1859 489		1872 814	246,485
1860 492		1873 806	247,228
1861 486		1874 808	
1862 475		1875 802	269,204
1863 521		1876 805	280,073
1864 570		1877 776	279,636
1865 628	203,783	1878 753	276,272
1866 612	195,199		• • • • •

MR. J. W. Benson, the manufacturer of clocks on Ludgate Hill, London, writes to the *Mail* that the agreement betwixt himself and Mr. John Paterson, whereby the unpaid balance due upon the clock for the St. James Cathedral in this city should be paid upon shipment, has not been kept. Consequently, he says, a balance is still due him upon the clock of \pounds 211 7s. 3d. sterling, for which he asks in vain. Is it not a discredit to the church and the city that such a letter should be possible? If the highest and handsomest spire in the Dominion cannot boast the most accurate clock, that is no good reason why promises made should not be kept.

THE Kingston Chief Engineer of the fire brigade, in his annual report, speaks in warm terms of the excellent working of the system upon which the men are trained; alludes to the recent firemens' tournament in that city, as a result of which a Firemens' Association had been organized. Smoke protectors for the use of the men are recommended; and the efficiency of the brigade would be promoted, it is suggested, by a change in the fire by-law, which would permit assistant-chiefs to be appointed from the department, if approved by the Council. It appears that there were 24 fires in Kingston since March last, and 5 false alarms The aggregate loss was but limited.

"IN Manufacturing shares, says the Boston Commercial Bulletin, reviewing last week's business, Appleton declined from $687\frac{1}{2}$ to 640, Lancaster 710 to 700, Lowell Machine 725 to 650, Washington $67\frac{1}{4}$ to 67; Naumkeag advanced from 77 to $77\frac{1}{2}$; Continental at 40 and Lyman at 70 were unchanged; Lowell Bleachery and Newmarket were passed."

In the midst of active and not always wise Church extension, when in addition to lay "finangelists" like Kimball, and clerical ones like Parsons, soirces, concerts, bazaars and lotteries are resorted to as means to "raise' debts from the shoulders of struggling congregations, it is good news to hear of a parish whose church, costing \$30,000, begun and completed within these last three years, is entirely out of debt. This Canadian church is St. Alphonsus', of Windsor, and its pastor is Rev. Dean Wagner. Dr. Edward Sullivan, formerly, and likely to be again, of St. George's Anglican Church, Montreal, leaves his comfortable Chicago rectorship because his church there is groaning under the incubus of debt. " The financial condition of the church and the burdens which it has imposed, he feels himself unable any longer to carry."

In Ontario the assignments of the week number nine, in Quebec, three, in New Brunswick, three. Of these, two are by grocers, two general dealers, and one dry goods dealer, W. J. Skerry, of this city. The attachments number 35, of which 12 are in Ontario; 14 in Quebec ; six in Nova Scotia ; one in New Brunswick, and two in P. E. Island. Out of the whole number, 12 are against general dealers ; four against grocers ; two against builders, Ino. Morrison, of Montreal, and W. R. Mathieson, of Whitby, while yet another builder, Jacob Bowser, of Halifax, is seeking an extension. Messrs. J. N. Hall & Co., of Montreal, hardware, have been attached, owing some \$40,000, as also Meilleur & Co., stoves, of the same city, and A. Neil, machinist, of three Rivers. Messrs. J. & A. Caie, of Kouchibouguac, N.B., offer 50 cents in the \$, and J. W. Petts, grocer, St. John, has assigned.

WE do not find amongst those relinquishing business this week, traders in any other province than Ontario, which shows eight traders in all closing up or selling out, among them, R. S. Chalmers & Co., hardware, Sarnia, L. Becker, General store, Waterford, and 'Richard son & Black, grocers, Aylmer, Ont. We observe that the wholesale grocery firm of Messrs. Kingan & Kinloch, Montreal, have admitted Mr. W. G. Kinloch to a partnership. Messrs. Cameron & Cowan, founders, Galt, have dissolved, owing, we regret to learn, to Mr. Cameron's ill health.

RECENT years have wrought some strange vicissitudes in the Canadian mercantile world, but scarcely any is more remarkable than the career of the influential Montreal manufacturer, Mr. Clendinneng, against whom insolvency pro-

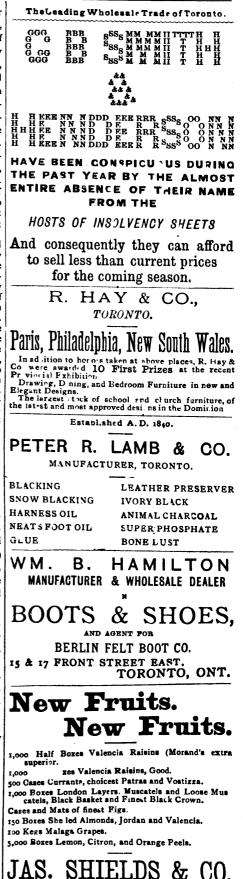
ceedings have been taken. Originally a poor and friendless boy, landing in Montreal, alone, about the time of the Irish famine, by dint of perseverance and innate ability he forced his way on in the world to better things. Self taught, he became a school teacher, next a clerk and finally manager in the foundry of Mr. William Rodden, upon whose retirement Mr. Clendinneng continued the entire business of the foundry. The premises under his management have assumed an extensive and perfect character. Energetic and self-assertive, as well as charitable and an advocate of the poor man's rights, this self-made man became a prominent alderman and a possible M. P. But these times of depression in business brought sad reverses to him. Like many more he bought land and built houses, and handsome ones they were; but having overestimated the progress of the commercial capital and the existence of good times he incurred burdens which have ultimately proved too great for his enlarged ideas. The mental strain of making both ends meet culminated in what appears to his friends temporary aberration of mind. This first exhibited itself in fitfulness and despondency, and latterly in the idea that his friends were deserting him. Under the influence of such a feeling he suddenly gathered together his available funds and went across the line on the gth of the present month; from whence, after a sojourn of three days, he was induced to return, but only to remain three days when again he collected all his available assets and departed. Meantime his estate has been placed in insol-vency, and he was found in London accom-panied by his eldest son. His balance sheet shows a margin of near \$300,000, but the assets are of such a nature that it is improbable that an assignee can pay unsecured creditors anything like in full. The liabilities amount to about \$280,000, and the assets are nominally \$550,000.

-The eighth annual statement of the Metropolitan Loan and Savings Company at Ottawa, shows that its busiless is annually increasing. The net profits for last year were \$40,611, and after the payment of two dividends, equal to 9 per cent. \$7.000 was added to the reserve fund, which is now \$30,000. After the meeting the directors elected Mr. H. V. Noel, President, and James Cunningham, Vice-President.

--The deputation appointed by the National Board of Trade of the United States to the Dominion Board consisted of Messrs. Shanaghan, E. P. Dorr, A. Snow, G. B. Coredon, J. W. Chandler, Hamilton A. Hill, S. F. Corington, J. A Sund, W. M. Egan, G. M. Hare, J. W. Hayes, W. P. McLaren, E. W. Holton, S. P. Thompson and H. Davis. The gentlemen present at the Dominion Board this week, however, are Messrs. Dorr and Hill, Mr. H. Baker, of Buffalo, and Mr. W. H. Cooper, British Consul at that city.

-A Montreal comic paper has a cartoon entitled "The Sickness of Trade." Dr. Mackenzie is leaving the sick chamber, and Sir. John Macdonald, having been called in, applies leeches in the shape of Official Assignces to the already emaciated patient.

-A legal term is thus explained by a Teutonic member of the Canton, Ohio police force:-"Ven I get me out a habeas corpious, I can chust so vell catch a man where he ain't as where he is."



138 Yonge St., and 45 Front-st. Fast, Toronto.



THE TIMES. MONETARY AND TRADE REVIEW. [With which has been inco porated the "Intercolonial Journal of Commerce" of Montreal, the "Trade Re-view" of the same city (in 1870), ard "The Toror to Journal of Commerce.]

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ORONTO, CAN., FRIDAY, JAN. 24. 1879

THE DOMINION BOARD OF TRADE.

The tone of the proceedings of the Dominion Board of Trade, from the outset, indicated that it would take a course different from that which was followed last year. Then, substantially, the Board expressed satisfaction with the existing tariff. But with the change that came over the country on the 17th September last, the Board has kept pace. A disposition was indicated from the start, not to counsel the Government otherwise than in general terms; not to say that this or that rate of duty should, in the opinion of the Board, be considered the measure of the national policy. If, on the question of the sugar duty, there was an apparent departure from this course, it was only apparent; for while the ground was taken that the duty on refined sugars should be five per cent. more than on unrefined. there was no attempt to dictate what the respective duties should be.

On the general subject of duties, Mr. Greene, of Montreal, seconded by Mr. McKechnie, of Dundas, moved :

That in the opinion of this Board the tariff should be so framed as to promote, by effective and judicious protection, the development of the agricultural, mining and manufacturing resources of the country and the encouragement of all such industries as may be carried on with advantage to the country. That in the case of those articles, the growth

and production of foreign countries, which cannot be grown or successfully produced in Canada, the tariff should be so arranged as to promote direct trade with those countries of growth and production, thus placing the distributing business of the Dominion in the hands of Canadian importers and building up the shipping interests of Canada.

That power should be taken to the Government, by order in Council, to meet bounty-protected foreign manufacturers by countervailing duties.

The discussion covered the whole field embraced in the resolution. It is probable that the battle will ultimately be fought in the legislature and in the country, over a comparatively few points. Shall anthracite coal be subject to a duty ? Shall we shut out American flour in the interest of the Canadian miller ? Shall we attempt to force the export trade by way of Halifax at a loss? These are some of the questions on which decided differences of opinion may be expected, and on two of which it was evident from the first the Board was not an unit.

In the end it will be found that geography and nature will assert themselves. That the distance from Chicago to New York is about one thousand miles, while the distance from Chicago to Halifax is over one thousand seven hundred miles, is a fact which we cannot legislate away. There is of course some compensation in the shorter ocean voyage from Halifax to Europe. It is very desirable to make Halifax the Winter port for the Allan line of Ocean steamships; and a suggestion was made that, when the subsidy is renewed, this should be a condition of the grant. In that case, some of the speakers thought, the steamship company would take care that plenty of frieght was sent to Halifax for their vessels. But it is obvious that the Allan Company can exercise no control over the railways; and that the proposed stipulation might involve a large addition to the amount of the subsidy, as compared with what would suffice if the freedom of the company were not interfered with. Freight for Europe will not seek, and cannot be forced into, the route of Halifax, unless that route can successfully compete with others that are open to the choice of shippers. It is the merest folly for any one to delude himself on this point.

When the government has received all the information and advice it can obtain, the responsibility of the national policy to be inaugurated will rest with itself. It labours under the disadvantage of being tendered advice chiefly by persons who are directly interested in a particular line being taken. Advice of this kind will always be regarded with suspicion, and requires to be balanced with something against which the same objection cannot be brought. Still the manufacturers must be allowed credit for resolving only to indicate a general line of action as the one which it is desirable to take; and as that line is coincident with that to which the great body of the electors have pointed, there cannot be any difficulty as to essentials. In the working out of details, difficulties will naturally occur, and the government will be entitled to all the information and unselfish assistance which it may be in the power of any one to afford.

PRODUCTIVE AND NON-PRODUCT IVE CITY TAXES.

A city, regarded as a revenue-producing machine, has to be taken in connection with

limits of the city be excessive, the great object will be to try to avoid them by going outside. No doubt this power of migration is limited. Those who would do business must remain where business is to be done. Churches, to accommodate the population must be in its midst. But in the choice of a situation for a private residence, there is considerable latitude. The tendency of the inhabitants of large cities is to have their private residences outside, where space is ampler and the air purer, where disturbing noises are less, and everything has more an air of repose. To a very large class the choice of a country residence is open; but it is most availed of by persons who use a style of residence that would pay a heavy tax in the city. It is worth while for every city to consider whether it should not make an effort to retain this class of tax-payers. If their private residences and the grounds connected with them be subjected to excessive taxes, these persons will protect themselves by moving where the city tax-gatherer ceases to trouble.

In this connection, the scale on which lawns and gardens can with greatest advantage to the city treasury be taxed, comes up for consideration. It is often said, and always erroneously, that in Ontario, lawns are exempt from taxes. The municipal law contains a direction to the assessor to make the practical value the guide of assessment ; to ascertain what the lawn is worth for the purpose to which it is applied, and take that value as the rule of assessment. How is that value to be ascertained ? We know but one way in which this can be done; and that is to ascertain what the property would rent for. When we get this information, we have the proper basis of assessment ; not merely what the law seems to require, but what true economy dictates. We must never forget, in dealing with house property, that rent is the only source out of which taxes can be paid; and a corporation is not justified in swelling the taxes out of all reasonable proportion to the rent. A fatal mistake was made in ever undertaking to measure values by any other standard than rent. The capital value is no indication of what the property yields. There are people in Chicago who put up. in the most flourishing times, such costly buildings, in business streets, that they did not get a return of more than one or two per cent. on their investments. To make the cost of the buildings, instead of the revenue they produced, the basis of assessment, would have the effect of swallowing up all the revenue; and this, if continued, would be confiscation, pure and simple.

We may be quite sure that people who its surroundings. If the taxes within the can help themselves will never allow their

Now the man property to be confiscated. who can afford to live in a costly house surrounded by a lawn, more or less spacious, is precisely the man who is able to protect himself. He is not obliged to have his private residence in the city ; he can go beyond the limits, and can either come in to his business in a private carriage or by rafl.

As the suburban circle enlarges, the railway comes to be more and more relied on. Ten minutes, a quarter of an hour, half an hour ; in this way distances come by degrees to be measured. The city has to compete with the country for this class of house-holders; and as it increases in size it competes more and more at a disadvantage. If lawns were taxed at an imaginary value, less taxes would be got from this class of property than at present. What has made the land on Jarvis Street, in Toronto, dearer than in any other street in the city occupied by private residences? Its fine houses and its lawns. Abolish all the lawns to-morrow and build up the street with a continuous row of houses, and what would happen? The street would lose those attractions to which the land, more than to anything else, owes its great value compared with much other land, equally near the centre of business. The reason that land on University street is worth only about one-third or one-half as much as on Jarvis street, does not arise from inferiority in natural advantages of situation. The lawns of the latter and the rows of inferior houses on the former, cause all the difference in the value of the land on the two streets.

While there remains in the City of Toronto nearly a thousand acres of land in a single block, on which there are no buildings, it is folly to grudge people the possession of lawns. While this large quantity of land lies unused, what is going on outside the city? Let Yorkville, Don Mount, Leslieville, Seaton Village, and Parkdale answer. Why have the inhabitants of these places fied from the city? The fear and the reality of taxes are the true causes. Let us be wise in time, if not even now too late, and not take a step in the arbitrary taxation of lawns and gardens, that will drive away still larger numbers.

A lawn or a garden, in a city, serves one of the purposes of a public square : it affords breathing space, and is valuable on sanitary grounds. In several European cities, enormous expenditures have recently been made to insure additional public squares, one of the purposes of which is secured among us Showing a falling off equal to 29.54 per by private lawns. If we go on building up, cent. in the output of 1878 as compared block by block, without leaving any public with 1873. Corresponding with the desquares, our descendants are not likely to be very grateful for our foresight, when they increase in imports of coal from the States

breathing spaces which ought never to have been closed. Private lawns can never wholly serve the purposes of public squares; but they serve the one valuable purpose of affording an interval of fresh air, which is a public advantage, as its benefits cannot be monopolized by the owner.

If we had to deal with a walled city, where the space was confined, and outside of which no one felt assured of protection, excessive taxes on lawns and gardens, which would now defeat their own object and prove unproductive, might then with equal advantage and propriety be levied; but, under existing circumstances, to levy such taxes would be to lose the substance in grasping at the shadow.

THE COAL TRADE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The quantity of coal raised in Nova Scotia during the year 1877 was 797,496 tons. Of this total

Pictou	"	"	d 340,416 tons 306,477 ''
Cumberland	**	**	107,004 "
Victoria	"	**	2,527 ''
Inverness	**	**	1,072 "

Total 757,496 "

It is stated that we have, outside of foreign capital, about \$14,000,000 invested in coal mines; so that to earn even five per cent. interest upon the capital employed, we should have had to make, upon the 687,-065 tons of Canadian coal sold in 1877, a profit of \$1.02 per ton, which is very far from being the fact. Fourteen millions is a large sum; and before it is possible to be precise about the aggregate earnings necessary to pay an average dividend on it, we should require to know if it is all real, or whether any, and if any, what portion is imaginary capital, such as often appears in railway and other joint stock enterprises. Now is the time when exaggerations of the amount of non-productive capital in enterprises which may be affected by legislation may be expected.

We find in the Halifax Herald the following statement of the quantities of coal raised in Nova Scotia for the nine months ending Sept. 30, in each of the years named :

1873	768,323 tons.
1874	750.740 "
1875	596.215 "
1876	533,235 "
1877	550.010 "
1878	541,338 "

crease, and even exceeding it, we find the

to 934,000 tons in 1878, equal to over 33 per cent. More than half these imports, (55 per cent.) consisted of anthracite coal, of which we are not, as yet, producers. In 1873, there were in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, thirty coal mines in full operation, while in 1878 the number had decreased to twenty-two, and these in only partial operation.

It is important to notice, in dealing with this highly important Nova Scotia industry, that, as the article in question points out, while the production of Canadian coal has thus decreased by nearly 30 per cent., "the output of English coal mines and American coal mines has increased, in the case of the former 10 per cent., and in the case of the latter 5 per cent! In 1873 the output of our coal mines was 1,041,467 tons, the raising of which gave employment to about 5,000 persons, whose monthly pay roll exceeded \$120,000. The transportation of the coal thus raised gave employment to about 3,500 vessels, manned by 23,000 seamen, the monthly pay roll of which would be nearly half a million of dollars. In 1878 the total output for the year will be less than 700,000 tons, and the monthly pay rolls in the mines, we are told, will be less than \$70,000. The ships which in 1873 we were able to employ in moving our coal, are to-day either idle or floating at a loss."

These figures do but illustrate the decline of production and commerce, which has been universal. It is not alone in Nova Scotia coal that there has been a decreased production or sale. Many other industries are in a far worse position, where production has far outrun the demand; but in the case of this coal trade, the production seems happily to have accommodated itself to the diminished demand.

The native coal trade appears to have suffered for the benefit of the foreign; since we imported 334,000 tons more in 1878 than 1873. But how far this foreign trade was profitable to the owners of the toreign mines is a question. We have been paying some \$3,000,000 a year for foreign coal; but to what extent we have helped to build up the mining industry of Pennsylvania is questionable, since it is notorious that enormous amounts of capital invested in coal mines in that State have, for some years, paid no dividends. However this may be, we must assume that it has been possible to obtain foreign coal cheaper than domestic, or it would not have been purchased to the extent it has. The mode of shipment and the cost of freights have no doubt had their share in determining the course of this trade. Of the market for find it necessary to demolish buildings to open to have been from say 600,000 tons in 1873 coal in the valley of the St. Lawrence and

great lakes, the Maritime Journal, (Halifax) says: "Our system of transportation to this market has hitherto been of the most costly and ineffective kind, and though a duty of 50 cents per ton may secure us an entrance into Ontario, we shall not be able long to hold it unless we make our transportation charges so cheap that the duty will not enhance the cost to the Canadian consumer;" since " a duty which remains a tax any length of time will become so burthensome that the vote of the consumers will suffice to carry its repeal through the Legislature."

What prospect is there that this end can be attained? The Journal thinks that steam colliers, built with the special view of carrying coal, can deliver coal at Toronto for \$1 a ton freight. This estimate is based on the experience of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company, whose collier vessels carry coal one hundred miles on the ca for six cents a ton. If, as we see it stated, coal can be raised in Nova Scotia at \$2 a ton, and landed in Toronto at \$3, it would at almost any time, since 1873, have displaced American coal in this market. The suggestion of the Fournal seems to point to the most feasible solution of the questionhow can the Ontario market be secured to the owners of Nova Scotia coal? The battle is to be won, if at all, by an exertion of energy and skill, not by a fatal reliance on legislative aid.

LESSONS OF THE NEW YORK FIRE.

According to Mr. J. W. Harrison, Chief of the Board of Fire Underwriters, New York is the worst built city in the world. If this be true, there is great danger of its bad style of buildings being imitated very generally on this part of the continent. The rule is that, in the construction of buildings, little besides appearances is taken into account ; and the result is "showy" exteriors, with feeble walls and every facility for fire to spread. Contracts are often let at figures ranging all the way down to fifty per cent. below the architect's estimates; and the result is scamped work and dangerous struc-The elevator shafts, left untrapped, tures. act as funnels for the spread of the flames; ventilators, which do not ventilate, hollow columns and hollow walls have the same Sometimes the staircases have been effect. floored over, and the firemen are unable to ascend to the top of the building. Party walls are too thin, and what is called the half mansard-a plaster partition in the upper story-offers no obstruction to the progress of a fire. Spans of too great width, without arches, are another source of dan-

ger. Iron fronts are absolutely condemned, both by Mr. Harrison and Mr. Leopold Eidlitz, an architect of great experience. The latter asserts in round terms that no building is more unsafe than one with an iron front and iron beams; for when the building becomes heated the beams and columns expand, and the structure falls like a house of cards. One authority aptly describes so called iron buildings as "forests of timber, with a tight jacket of iron, which shuts the fire in and the firemen out."

The teaching of this fire, like that of the great fire of Chicago, is that the safest material for use in buildings is solid brick. And these buildings are much safer with arches than with beams in front. An exceptionally wide span is always dangerous, and once a fire starts, there is no hope of saving the building; the most that can be done is to prevent the fire spreading.

The fire laws all over this continent are extremely defective compared with those of the great cities of Europe. In Paris, Vienna, Berlin, and other cities, all blocks are required to have a hollow square in which the fire engines can operate. The rule here is that the centre of the block is choked up with wooden structures as dangerous as they are hideous. An open square, made common to a whole business block, would be a great improvement in Canadian cities and would offer an important check to the progress of fire. In a sanitary point of view, the gain would not be less.

The showy, sham, fine, dangerous, buildings of New York are insured at rates so low as to be out of all proportion to the risk; the companies fearing to lose the showy, unsafe business. When a building is provided with a steam pump and a fire department of its own, the insurance companies allow a deduction of twenty per cent. for these elements of supposed safety. But too often they lean on a broken reed; for the chances are that these appliances are allowed to fall into disuse. In the words of Mr. Harrison, "The insurance men have to keep constant watch over the landlords, and it seems as if there were no limit to the recklessness of business men" in all that concerns danger from fire. Still it is obvious that in this matter of building reform, the fire underwriters have an important part to play. Will they have the courage to play it ?

"CHANGES AND CHANCES OF TRADE."

As illustrating the changes and chances young men who to-day particular of Canadian trade during fourteen years, a comparison of 1864 with 1878 is full of interest to mercantile readers. Out of well as before, and be wary.

1,144 firms doing business in Montreal fourteen years ago, only about a third are traceable as being in business at the close of last year. After actual count, there are 767 which would be hard to find to day. Many have been closed up by death or by insolvency ; a goodly number have retired from business without successors, as if it were scarcely worth while continuing; and a few firms have changed their firm name, or have been turned into Joint Stock Companies. The members of the remainder of the 767 found refuge in assigneeships, the Government Service, and in situations of different kinds.

In looking still further at the firms in business in 1864, we find that out of 62 firms rated as worth \$100,000 and over, 421 per cent. have disappeared; while out of 152 rated as worth \$25000 and over, only 38 per cent. are missing, which is an indication that ample capital is not the only requisite for success in business. But what of the rest? Of the goo rated under \$25000, about 76 per cent. have disappeared. Many a comet appeared among these, on the business horizon, to gratify the sanguine desire of some loving parent or darling uncle, only to disappear, leaving the " backer " a wiser but not a wealthier man. Amongst this fleet we can recall many a trim craft which started out with a fair wind end bright weather, leaving the old hulks far astern for the time ; but carrying too much sail or too little ballast, for the inevitable gale, the result was disaster. The banks of the stream of business are lined with such wrecks. Many young men whose names are here suggested, in their haste to be rich have forgotten Solomon's warnings altogether. Instead of binding some of his proverbs about their necks, they have been anxious to get their necks into Mayors' chains or the chains of office of different societies. Their ambition has been to sport Masonic and other emblems rather than give business the undivided attention it requires, and the result was miserable failure.

Business is an exacting mistress. She wills that her cavaliers shall be in the first place accomplished and fit to serve her; next that they shall devote their whole undivided services to her. Rarely on other terms will she grant her smiles and benefactions. And yet, so capricious is she, that sometimes after all his devotion and untiring zeal, the faithful follower finds his efforts vain and his coveted niche of favor and fortune unattained. O, thousands of young men who to-day pant to become warehousemen, employers of labor, importers of merchandise, look behind you as well as before, and be wary.

REDUCTION OF BANK STOCKS.

A movement is on foot having for its obiect a reduction of the amount of bank stock, by enabling each bank to buy up a portion of its own when it has fallen below par and a profit can be made by the operation. The intention is to apply to the Legislature to authorise such purchase to be made. After legal authority has been obtained, the consent of the shareholders would be asked before any purchase would be made. All reductions of stock made in t his way would appear in each subsequent official return of the condition of the bank.

In this way, it is alleged, "short" sales by brokers would be prevented, and the stocks would cease to be subject to violent fluctuations. But few, if any, of the banks whose stocks are sold short are just now in a position to buy, however great might be the gain by the operation. Besides, it seems to us, there are grave objections to the plan, as it would give the banks an interest in depreciating their own stock, and weak holders would be frozen out.

If it be desirable to make a reduction in the amount of bank stock, it should be done in a way that would create no suspicion of stock-jobbing. If a bank, whose capital is intact. desires to reduce the amount, the partners asked to go out are entitled to the par value of their shares; and in case of impairment of capital, the loss should be distributed equally over the whole stock. Those who remain have no right to profit at the expense of those who go out.

MONTREAL AND THE GRAIN TRADE.

The receipts of western grain at sea-board ports on this continent during 1878, were the largest on record, reaching a total at the seven principal cities (New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Montreal, Baltimore, Portland and New Orleans) of 247,424,000 bushels. The largest quantities moved in past years ranged as under : Year.

			receipts.	
Whea	t, corn, oats, rye			1
and	barley	1872	140,243,000 bush.	
**		1873	136,757,000 "	1
**	**	1874	147,228,000 ''	
**	**	1875	132,034,000 "	L
**	66	1876	167,114,000 ''	ł
**	**	1877	163,543,000 "	ł
**	**		247,424,000 "	

Receipts.

Thus, the grain product moved in 1878 exceeded that of the largest previous year by 80,310,000 bushels.

Montreal's share in the transportation has varied from 13,604,000 bushels in 1873, to say ten and a half millions each in 1874 and 1875, thirteen millions odd in 1876 and 1877, and closing with 12,858,000 in the year just past. The percentage of the whole crop received by our chief city ranged thus in the seven years

5'2. The explanation of the smaller percentage of 1878 being found in the enormous increase, 48 per cent. nearly, of the crop of 1878 over that of the largest previous year, 1876, when Montreal's share of receipts was 7'9 per cent.

The change in the relative positions of cities with respect to this trade, produced by the marked reduction in the cost of transportation by the various railway routes, is indicated by the following figures, collated from tables in the Railroad Gazette, of percentages of the whole amount of grain received by the various cities : PERCENTAGES.

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1877.	1878.
New York		57.8	53 7	49 [.] 7	50.7
Boston	6.3	5'5	7.4	8 2	7.4
Portland		1.1	1.Q	0.2	0.7
Montreal	10.0	7.1	8.3	8.2	5.2
Philadelphia.	14.2	11.0	13.8	13.5	15.4
Baltimore	ð. 1	11.0	11.3	15.0	16.1
New Orleans.	Q.I	5.0	4.0	5.0	4.2
- .					

⁷ otal....100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 Doubtless the completion of the Welland Canal enlargement will increase Montreal's share in the carrying trade, both actually and relatively. Baltimore and Philadelphia are the only cities showing any steady gain in the proportions received, while New York's share is less than previous years, excepting 1876 and 1877.

The aggregate number of bushels of each kind of grain received at these seven Atlantic ports for the past three years, is thus given by the N. Y. Public, with flour (reduced to bushels) added :---

Wheat Corn Oats Barley Rye	103.039,156 24.198,565 6,247,363	1877. 46,000,508 87,804,025 20,638,892 9,698 072 2,586,672	1876. 42,740,235 36,775,163 24,435,606 7,862,049 1,881,288
Total	247,424,419	166,728,169	163,694,941
Flour to bush	49,178,660	42,731,745	49,695,750

Grand total 296,603,079 200,459,914 213,390,691 The number of barrels of flour moved, was, in 1876, 1877 and 1878 respectively, 9,939,150; 8,546,349; and 9,835,732. The aggregate receipts of grain and flour at the following eight western ports on the great lakes, viz, : Chicago, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, Peoria and Duluth, from December 31, 1877, to December 28, 1878, inclusive, was :

1878. 1877 In 1878, the quantity received at the Atlantic ports "exceeded by 72,000,000 bushels the quantity shipped from Western ports ;" which excess, we take it, represents the quantities gathered by the railways from the Middle States. eastward of the points named, or from western points not previously mentioned. In 1877 "the excess was only 28,000,000 bushels; in 1876 only 13,300,000 bushels, and in 1875 only 12,-500,000 bushels. This indicates a rapid increase of rail shipments direct from other points, not through either of the chief markets."

The total imports at the port of Montreal for the years 1878 and 1877 are given below, showing a decrease in the former year of \$2,891,945. following 1871, viz. : 8'9, 10'0, 7'1, 8'2, 7'9, 8'2, Leaving coin bullion and tobacco laf (for excise purposes) out of the question, the decrease is \$4,097,056.

Dutiable goods	\$20,036,364	1878. \$17,757,389
TTOO goods	7,503,415	5,685,334
	67,460	1,289,070
Leaf tobacco, for excise	379,840	863,341
Total	\$27,987,079	\$25,095,134
Duitable and free goods	1877. \$27,539,779	1878. \$23,442,723
Even the percentage of	decrease	(14.8 per

cent.) is much lessened, as has been suggested by considering the depreciation of value in most articles of consumption during the year just past.

CATTLE EXPORTS TO BRITAIN .--- According to a table published in the English correspondence of the Mail, there were in 1877 some nineteen thousand live beeves, sheep and swine received at 1 iverpool from the United States and Canada. The receipts in 1878 were from five to eight times as great, as the subjoined table shows. The accuracy of these figures as regards Canada, we would remark, is negatived by Mr. Dyke's figures, which are given below them.

-		Oxen.	Sheep.	Swine.
From Car	nada in r	878. 9,635	27,439	
" Unite	d States i	n '78 42,908	28,145	14,514
Total, 187	8	52,543	55,584	14,721
Total, 187	7	10,917	7,992	720
Increase 1	878	41,626	47.502	14 001
Mr. Dyke	the Ca	nadian agei	nt at Ti	vernool
claims, ho	wever, th	at the 42,90	8 heaste a	eeigned
to the Sta	tes inclu	de large nu	mhere o	f Cana
dian cattle	e passed i	n transit thr	ough the	States
According	to hi	s figures	in the 1	I ondon
Standard,	the Ca	nadian cati	le comin	g into
Liverpool	from A	nerican or	Canadia	Dorts
were :				Perio
-9-9	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
				PIOR

1878..... 1,243 1877..... 296 32,115 62,461 1,706 6,412 6.225 373 1876..... 352 2,767 2.607 It is added that an increase in sheep exports from Canada to Britain may be expected, as 159,573 sheep were sent from the Dominion into the States in 1877, and paid the 20 per cent. duty.

HALIFAX TRADE .- In contrast with St. John, the stocks of merchandise in warehouse at the first of the present year, show a considerable decrease, the total value being \$376,305, against \$407,241 a year before. The leading articles are appended, with stocks in store :

	187	8.	1879.	
	Qly.	Val.	Qly.	Val.
Coffee, green lbs	59561	10400	32837	4887
Beef, "	87200	4987	74500	3883
Pork, "	51200	3368	100800	4476
Rice, "	82438	2362	74592	2062
Brandy, gals	23421	47284		46080
Gin, ""	24113	10475	21589	8468
Rum, "	69524	26139	27354	9197
Whiskey, "	13220	12650	13180	12941
Tea, black, lbs	398005	87898	405424	88086
Molasses	115397	33183	229409	57488
Sugar-over 13,				
lbs	139000	66063	6788cg	33781
Sugar-over o-		-		557
lbs	105045	4628	194924	7913

The noticeable points in the list are, that there are more tea, pork and molasses and less sugar and liquor on hand. The imports of sugar and molasses for the year were 10,673 puncheons, 856 tierces, and 1,078 barrels molasses; also, 2,758 hhds., and 414 bbls. sugar. All the latter came from Porto Rico, except about 250 bbls. from Demerara; the bulk of the former came from Trinidad, Demerara and Cienfuegos. The exports of dry and pickled fish from that city to West Indies, for the year 1878, were :

Qtls. Dry Fish.	Bbls. Pcl. Fish
111,515	25,896
82,974	52,855
44,78 3	
32,460	5,064
17,428	1,641
3,375	88
772	200
293,307	84,747
	Dry Fish. 111,515 82,974 44.783 32,460 17,428 3.375 772

-St. John imports for December 1877 and 1878 were as given below :-

1878. 1877-Entered for Consumption..\$293,419 \$111,664 Warehouse .. 45,626 66,681 67,093 " ** Free 95,692

Total value goods entered .. \$456,204 \$222,971 The amount of duties collected we have already given a fortnight ago. Goods remaining in warehouse at the close of the years undernamed were :-

	1877	1878
Brandy	33,092	\$69,456
Gin and Rum	11,276	18,655
Whiskey	16,433	26,180
Wine	10,772	25,541
Sugars (all kinds)	28,897	18,460
Ale and Porter	7,681	9,895
Molasses	16.355	64,454
Teas	28,600	28,853
Meats	0.145	9,714
Cottons and Woolens	606	29,638
Miscellaneous	31,128	81,444

Total values\$194,025 \$382,291 Showing double the amount of the previous year not yet taken out of bond, a pretty fair indication of dull business and decreased demand for grocers and dry goods dealers. The exports for the month were, however, \$175,051, against \$139,034 in December 1877. Of this a much increased share (\$137,260 against \$56,104) was timber and lumber, while manufactures decreased from \$47,385 to \$10,165, and fish from \$24,291 to \$10,783.

UNFAIR COMPETITION .- It is unfortunately the case that, in the pressure of competition in various lines, not only are arguments sought to be founded upon a strained interpretation of facts, but things are stated as facts which are not, and conclusions are drawn from these statements which are unwarranted. This is the case sometimes in insurance matters. As an instance : We have heard at different times | Provision Merchants' Association," with the folduring the past few months, and to-day we lowing gentlemen as officers for the ensuing have it circumstantially put before us, that year :-- Mr. F. W. Fearman, Hamilton, Presi-

the small mutual companies which exist in various Western townships, and which one fire per annum puts about are using the circumstance that the Isolated Risk and Farmers' Company's stock is at a low figure, as an argument that that company is unable to pay losses, should they occur. Listen to a sample of such criticism : A Mutual's agent in the west of Canada, stated to a farmer that "the I. R. was quoted at 26, and so if he insured in it and his barn burned, he would get but 26 cents in the dollar." This is ludicrous enough, to be sure. but if the farmers had no more sense than this agent, such contentions might have a serious effect. In the first place, the Isolated Risk is a stock company, with shareholders many and substantial. This may account for its shares being quoted on the market when mutuals, not having quotable shares, do not appear in the stock market. It is, besides, the only stock company doing an exclusively "isolated" business. One does not have to search far to find other stock insurance Co's whose shares are a long way below par, either in this country or the States. such is the unfortunate condition of that business. It would, however, be hard for even the patented logic of the aforesaid agent to prove that insurers can more safely trust small mutuals to pay for burned farm buildings. When the abused stock company becomes unable to pay its losses, it will be blue Monday for country mutuals.

-The London correspondent of the Glasgow Herald writes, with respect to fabricators of rumors about monetary institutions.

"The action of the stock exchange in expelling four and suspending two of its members for questionable dealings in bank shares does not come a moment too soon. During the past week the most scandalous reports as to the sta bility of certain joint stock banks have been sedulously spread abroad, and there is every reason to believe that these rumors were to be traced to speculators in bank shares, who had reasons of their own in view. In spite of Mr. Leeman's Act, it is not very difficult for a knot of determined 'wreckers' to destroy the credit and prestige of a bank by creating a fictitious run on its resources, and depreciating the value of its shares." A curious incident is that reported in London some days ago, when a row with a cabman near the Bank of England, and in front of one of the joint stock banks, created an impression that there was something wrong with the latter, and that impression resulted in a run, which however, was quelled next day.

ONTARIO PORK PACKERS' Association .- This association of the packers and dealers in pork of this Province held its organization meeting in this city on the 14th November last, and deliberated upon subjects connected with the interests of the trade. A subsequent meeting was held on the 8th instant, when an increased number were present, and the name was changed to "The Ontario Pork Packing and Wholesale rival companies in Ontario, notably some of dent; Mr. R. Thompson, Toronto, Vice-Presi-

dent ; Mr. James E. Baillie, Toronto, Secretary-Treasurer. An animated discussion took place upon a proposed increase in the duty on dressed hogs and their products, and it was concluded that no petition to the Government be made for an increase of duty, but that for the interest of the trade and the public generally, duty should remain as at present fixed by statute. The next meeting is fixed for Wednesday, March 5th. It may be mentioned that the present duty on dressed hogs is \$1 per 100 lbs; and upon mess pork, hams, lard and all products of the hog, \$1 per 100 lbs. The membership includes the names Messrs. Grant, Slauson, of Ingersoll ; Fearman, Martin, of Hamilton; Heming, of Paris; Yorke, of Aylmer; McKenzie, Lees, of Guelph; Ramsay, Herson, Thomson, James Davison, Scott, Monteith, Park, and Baillie, of Toronto.

SHAREHOLDERS LIABILITY .--- An important judgement on this subject has just been rendered by the Court of Appeal for Ontario, in the case of Denison vs. Leslie. The plaintiff having recovered a judgement against the Toronto G. & B. Ry. Co., proceeded against the defendant as a stockholder for his unpaid shares. As a defence to this action, it was urged that Mr. Leslie was not a stockholder, never having paid his first call. The Court however held that payment of the first call was not necessary to complete the defendant's liability, and that he became a shareholder upon allotment of shares to him upon his application and upon notice of the allotment being communicated to him. Judgement was accordingly given for the plaintiff.

PROVINCIAL INSURANCE COMPANY-We understand that the Dominion Government is now ready to pay into court the deposit made by the Company with the Receiver General. This money being available, applications will be made on Friday next, to pay a dividend on the claims admitted or established, reserving part of the fund for claims'which are still unarranged. The deposit with the Government was \$50,000 Other assets realized upon yield..... 25,000

Out of this total sum of \$75,000 it is proposed to pay 20 cents out of the Government portion of it, and 10 cents out of the remainder as an interim dividend. Creditors will be able to get a dividend of 30 cents at any rate in a short time, with the prospect of a future dividend, It was estimated that the Receiver would be able to pay 50 cts., but all that can yet be announc_ ed with certainty is that a dividend of 30 cents is now available on approved claims. We understand that the suits against the shareholders have long ago been argued, and the delay in giving judgment is anything but beneficial to the policy holders who have unsatisfied claims.

MONTREAL BOARD OF TRADE .--- On Tuesday, 14th inst., the members of the Montreal Board of Trade to the number of twenty or thirty assembled in the Corn Exchange room, Mr. Henry Lyman, President, in the chair. The

President remarked that it would be necessary to elect six members of Council to hold office for two years. The retiring members were Messrs. A. T. Paterson, W. H. Hutton, Charles S. Watson, J. L. Cassidy, H. Shorey and E. K. Green. He said a board of arbitrators would also be elected for one year, the names of the outgoing gentlemen being Messrs. William Darling, John Grant, R. Simms, P. Redpath, J. H. Joseph, Andrew Allan, Hugh McLennan, John M. Young, Thomas Cramp, W. R. Wonham, J. Hutton and J. H. Winn. These gentlemen were re-elected. The report stated that the government of Brazil is ready to contribute £5,000 annually, toward subsidizing a line of steamers to Canada.

-The retiring President of the Ontario Bank, Hon. John Simpson, was recently made the recipient, at the hands of the whole staff of that institution, of a very handsome and valuable presentation of silver plate, 108 pieces in all. In replying to the address, which was signed by the general manager and by every employee, and expressed the warm regard which existed amongst the staff towards their late President, Mr. Simpson said that the state of his health and the distance of his residence from the bank's headquarters had compelled his resignation. After a tribute to the efficiency of the officers generally, he concluded by saying with respect to their beautiful gift to him, that : " In handing it down to my family I trust that the inscription that it bears will incite them by lives of industry, intelligence and honor, to deserve and obtain the esteem and confidence of their fellowlaborers."

-The amount of farm produce sent to the United States during the past year, from the ports of Brockville, Prescott, Morrisburg and Cornwall is thus given ;---Butter.....\$ 11,370 00 Eggs..... 215,358 32 Horses and cattle..... 194,285 50 Grain 45,851 17 Hides and skins 26,000 00 Meat and poultry.... 25,000 00 Sheep and lambs..... 152.076 72 Wool 15,000 00 Paper bags, timber and logs make up a total value of \$695,450.

-The five new Quebec Harbor Commissioners to be named by the Government will be taken from the following list : Hon. Dr. Fortin, Hon. John Hearn, Mr. Owen Murphy, Mr. F. Hamel, Mr. Andrew Thomson, Mr. D. C. Thomson and Mr. Chabot.

-The Montreal Harbour Commissioners have appointed Mr. Whitney, Secretary to the Trust. Mr. Whitney has been for five years in the office, for three years of which he acted as assistant to his late father, then Secretary. His appointment was made on motion of Mayor Beaudry, the representative of the City Council, seconded by Mr. Gould, the representative of the Cora Exchange, the motion being carried unanimously. -The first direct shipment for three years from Halifax for Brazil, was made last week, when a vessel cleared for Pernambuco with seventeen hundred drums of fish, and sixty thousand feet of lumber.

-At the annual meeting of the Ottawa Board of Trade, Hon. James Skead was elected president, W. Pennock, vice-president, and James Cunningham, treasurer.

meetings.

METROPOLITAN LOAN AND SAVINGS COMPANY.

The annual meeting of this Company was held in Ottawa on Wednesday the 16th inst. The President, Mr. H. V. Noel, being absent, the Vice-President occupied the chair, and Mr. C. R. Cunningham acted as Secretary. The following is the annual

Report.

The Directors of the Metropolitan Loan and Savings Company have the pleasure to lay before the shareholders their eighth annual report, giving the state of its affairs on the 31st December, 1878, and are enabled to announce that the result of the business of the past year has been satisfactory. The following statesments shew the receipts and disbursements, the Balance Sheet, and details of the Profit and Loss Account for the year.

-		ĸ	e	e	1	bı	ţs	•
-			•••	~	-1			٠

Keceipts.		i
1878. Jan. 1.		
Balance in bank at date	4,966	10
Dec. 31.		10
From members on share account		~
" repayment of loans		
" depositore		
" depositors	55,415	42
" interest from bank	865	OI
premium on shares, \$465.00	-	
Transfer fees 16.50	481	50
	179,713	7.77
Disbursements.		17
1878. Dec. 31.		
Amount of loans on mortgages, &c.,		
from Jan. 1, 1878		
" paid depositors	34,626	42
" " on acct. of real estate.	62,372	88
" " for encourse f	645	74
for expenses of man-		
agement	2,761	06
February dividend	18,552	
" " August dividend	15,120	
-	13,120	ן לי
1	134,080	34
Total receipte		
Total receipts\$17	9.713 17	,
Total disbursements 13	4,080 34	
Cash in bank, Jan. 1, 1879 \$4	5,632 82	
BALANCE SHEET STAT PROPERTY		'
BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER	2, 1878 .	
Assets.		
Present value of mortgages, &c	408 60-	
Real estate account	+00,095	14
Cash in Quebec Bank, &c	10,407	07
	45,632	83
\$	470,735	64
-		
Liabilities.		
Amount due depositors	26 225	
" " shareholders	20,532	45
" at credit of profit and loss	385,157	55
account on pront and 1088		
account, as per detailed		
statement below		~ I

statement below..... 36,245 84 Reserve fund..... 23,000 00

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Premiums on shares received 465 00

\$69,919 18 From which deduct the following : Amount of Feb. dividend, 5 p. c... 18,552 67 "Aug. " 4 p. c... 15,120 67

\$33,673 34

Balance at credit, 31st Dec., 1878.. \$36,245 84

To be disposed of as follows :

For dividend at 4 p. c., payable 1st

February, 1879 15,300 00 To be placed to Credit of Reserve

fit and Loss Account..... 13,945 00

\$36,245 84

Audited and found correct.

ROBERT SINCLAIR, JAMES LINDSAY, Auditors.

Ottawa, Jan. 8, 1879.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the Company have during the year, and from the profits of the year's business, increased the balance at the credit of Profit and Loss Account by the sum of \$10,655.75, as in the last annual statement the balance, after paying February dividend, was \$10,290 09; and the balance in this statement, after paying dividend February 1st, 1879, is \$20,945.84, \$7,000 of which will be placed to the credit of the Reserve Fund, making that Fund \$30,000.

As was anticipated in their last annual report, the Directors have deemed it expedient to pay the shareholders a smaller dividend than formerly, but when the great depression in all kinds of business is taken into account, and the inability of investing the funds of the company with the same advantage as in former years, a dividend of eight per cent. per annum is considered satisfactory.

The directors have also been obliged to foreclose on some of the properties mortgaged to the company, and are in the meantime unable to get purchasers. During the year the directors have held 19

During the year the directors have held 19 meetings, and had 90 applications for loans, to the amount of about \$128,000, of which 31, to the amount of \$34,600 have been carried out. The directors have been very cautious in granting loans and have asked a wider margin.

On account of their inability to invest the funds of the company with advantage, your directors, in August last, reduced the rate of interest on deposits to four per cent. per annum, and this had the effect, as was expected, of reducing the amount of deposits.

Since the last report two flats of the building occupied by the company have been rented to suitable tenants.

The retiring directors are Messrs. Henry N. Bate, John Mather, John Roberts, and James Hope, of whom the three first named are eligible for re-election.

All of which is respectfully submitted. H. V. NoEL, President.

4 CHARTRES R. CUNNINGHAM, Sec.-Treas.

INSURANCE NOTES.

During the year 1878 there were ninety-eight fires in Toronto, the loss on which was \$106,-400, the insurance on the property destroyed or injured being \$236,000.

The Acadia Marine Insurance Co. held its \$470,735 64 twenty-third annual meeting last week at Yar-

mouth, Nova Scotia. It had issued last year 204 policies, insuring \$574.400; amount divided among shareholders, \$15,000, or \$100 per share.

We observe that the Montreal manager of the Standard Life, one of the old British Assurance Companies, is looking for an experienced agent to replace Mr. Fulton, at Toronto, who has lately resigned.

An insurance company holds with the ordinary insurer, the right to cancel its policy at any tume, by offering to return a proportionate part of the premium; but it has been decided by the United States Court that this right does not exist after an ordinary mortgage clause has been added to a policy, and that the company must carry it to its termination if not released by the generosity of the mortgagee.—N. Y. Times.

The Economical Insurance Co., of Berlin, elected the following directors for 1879:-W. Oelschlager, J. Fennell, H. Kranz, J. Oberholtzer, F. Snyder, J. A. Mackie, A. F. X. C. Stuebing, A. A. Weiler, J. Ruppel, J. L. Kroetch, J. Motz, E. Vogelsang, H. Knell, M. Gaetz. These re-appointed the old officers; W. Oelschlager, President; H. Kranz, M.P., Manager; J. Fennell, Vice-President.

The Commercial Marine Insurance Co. held its eighteenth yearly meeting on the 12th. It had \$54,000 of a balance to divide among 150 shareholders, or \$360 apiece, a pretty tidy New Year's gift. It had issued last year 468 policies, insuring \$1.164,110. The premiums earned were \$67,611.

Some boys, says the Bowmanville Statesman, went into a barn on Duke street to have a smoke; the result was a big blaze and the destruction of the building. An adjoining dwelling was saved by hard work.

Guelph's fires during 1878, according to Chief Engineer Armstrong, occasioned a loss of \$97,200, on which the insurance was \$49,200. Her Silsby steam fire engine is in good order, 1,000 feet cotton, and 800 feet leather hose is in good order, 500 feet rubber hose not so trustworthy. A new hose reel has been provided, and a hook and ladder company of ten men has been organized, with appurtenances.

The question of safe, fixed rates is one that concerns the insuring public very much more than it does the Underwriters. The latter can look out for themselves, but the public have no security for their personal property if the business of fire insurance is not conducted upon sound financial principles.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

A bill has been introduced at Albany by Senator Sessions, "which," says the *Bulletin*, " of Course, should not pass;" providing that the amount of insurance written in a policy be taken and deemed the true value of property at the time of loss and the amount of loss sustained, and shall be the measure of damages, unless the loss was caused by criminal act of the insured.

The Village of Farnham, Que., has no means of putting out a fire, and when the pretty cottage of the village doctor was rapidly reduced to ashes last week, the inhabitants could do little but look on and pray that the fire would not, as it threatened to do, destroy the village.

The Royal Canadian Insurance Company has placed its New York agency, formerly held by the deceased Wm. J. Hughes, in the hands of Chas. W. Peck, 69 Liberty Street. The company has also got rid of an expensive Broadway office by the payment of \$13,000 for the cancellation of its lease, which had some nine years to run. The appointment of Mr. Peck is declared to be "a most excellent one" by the New York *Monitor*, whose opinion is entitled to weight.

In a paragraph upon insurance dividends in a former issue, we stated that the Merchants' Marine Company had paid \$25 per share. Some persons supposed that this was intended for the Montreal Company of the same name, which February.

paid no dividend last year. We should have said the Merchants' Marine Insurance Company of Halifax.

PICTOU MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES — The prosperous business done during the past year by our Marine Insurance Companies is a matter of gratification. All have paid or will pay large dividends. The stock being principally owned in Pictou, a considerable sum is thus circulated. The dividends yet paid are as tollows: Mutual Marine Co., (meeting yesterday) divided \$r1,000, or \$220 a share. Maritime Marine Co., (meeting on 7th inst.,) divided \$7,500, or \$150 a share. St. Lawrence Marine divided some days ago \$7,500, or \$150 a share. The Home Marlne Co., will probably pay as well as the Mutual.—Standard.

FIRE RECORD.—Quebec, 14th.—The wooden office of M. Cantin, Charlesburg road, is burned. Dorchester, 12th.—Elijah Ayer's grist and carding mill destroyed, no insurance.

Wardsville, 9th.—Presbyterian Church, damage internally; loss: \$100

Belleville, 17th.—James Gordon's stone store house, in rear of Neilson block, gutted; loss to owner \$500. Haines & Locket lose \$50 on goods stored.

Kingston, 16th.—G. Newland's rough cast dwelling took fire. Loss slight, principally on furniture. Covered by insurance.

Seaforth, 16th.—John Morgan's grocery shop, owned by R. Lumsden, who was uninsured, was totally gutted. Insurance on stock for \$12,000. St. Andrews, N.B., 15th—Kennedy's hotel destroyed. Insurance \$4,000, in North British, on house; \$1,500 in Queen, on furniture, partly saved.

Montreal, 15th.—Office of Mr. Fraser, on Notre Dame St.; damaged to \$200, covered by insurance.

Painsec, N.B., 14th.—The barn of F. Boudreau took fire from a spark, and with contents of hay, 14 cattle and 4 horses, was consumed.

Compton, Que., 12th.—A store occupied by J. S. Allen was destroyed with all stock except contents of back storehouse. Loss, \$6,000; insured in Eastern Townships Mutual for \$4,500.

Cornell, 14th.—Charles Hardy's residence destroyed by fire last night with contents.

Farnham, Que., 14th.—Dr. D'Artois' cottage, burned, furniture partly saved. Loss, \$3,000, insurance, \$1,500.

Montreal, 16th.—D. Hood's steam saw mill took fire, loss only \$500; covered in Canada Farmers'.

Quebec, 18th.—The Jesuit Church of the Congregation took fire and is much damaged by smoke and water. Loss \$5,000; covered by insurance in a local company.

surance in a local company. London, 18th.—W. J. Thompson's carriage works partly burned. Loss on building and contents \$3,000, covered in British America and Waterloo.

A fire on Broadway, New York, on the night of January 14th, destroyed property worth \$1.707,000, on which insurances amounted to \$1,813,000. Another and greater fire broke out on the night of the 17th inst., in Worth street, New York, and gutted a block of buildings owned by the Manhattan Real Estate Association, occupied by various merchants. The following are the estimated losses: Van Valkenburg & Co., \$1,000,000; Walkenshaw & Co., \$500,000; Schrader Bros., \$150,000; John Slade & Co., \$150,000; Henry W. T. Malley & Co., \$50,000; Monotuck Silk Co., \$500,010; B. G. Smithe, \$150,000; Forstman & Co., \$250,000.

-The annual meeting of shareholders of the Midland Railway is to be held on the 18th of February.

STOCKS	IN	MONT	REA	L.	
3.	15 0	o'clock.	Ian.	23.	1870.

		-			-	/9.
STOCKS.	Average Price, life. Date. 18 8	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transact'ns in Week	Buyers.	Sellers.
Montreal	1614	1334	1:8	1325	733t	133
Ontario	9 🛔	to	631	387	57	60
Consolidated	81	:2]	56	319	52	52
Peoples	88	57	60a	254		57
Molsons	10.4			-34	55 81	57 85
Toronto	138		IIS	25	115	117
Jacques Cartier	531	20	304		21	31
Merchants	65	774	77		77	77
Commerce	115	100	ICO	85	100	100
U ion						,
Hamilton						
Exchange	73				63	68
Mon. Tel	1201	102	IC2	489	102	1(2
Dom. Tel						
Rich & O. Nav.	65	42	423	60	B	C
City Pass	80	75	75Å	10	74	77
Gas	155¥	1072	108	224	107	10
R.C. Ins. Co						
Ster ing Ex						
Gold	1		1			

OIL MATTERS IN PETROLIA.

PETROLIA, Jan. 21st 1879.

There are no new strikes to notice at present; but a Mr. M. Porter is about testing a well just west of the Pit Hole Switch, said to be of good promise. Developing and all other business connected with oil is very flat, and without appearance of improvement. The daily production does not exceed 1,200 barrels. The price of crude is the same, but the small amount or sales in comparison with the large quantity of oil stored makes the speculation a poor one for those requiring money. The shipments for the week ending 16th January: Crude, 4,18t brls.; Distillate, 140 brls.; Refined, 269 brls. Petrolia market -Crude, \$2.08; Refined, per w. g., 13c

VICTORIA RAILWAY.

The annual general meeting of the Victoria Railway Company was held in this city on the 15th inst., Mr. Geo. Laidlaw, President, in the chair, when the minutes of last meeting were confirmed. The seventh annual report, which was adopted, announced the completion and opening of the road to Haliburton on the 26th November, 1878, also its acceptance, and the prompt payment of subsidy by the Government. In the section north of Kinmount there are 24,500 cubic yards of rock work, and 2,935 lineal feet of bridging and trestling; II miles of this section are laid with steel rails. The course of the road for 14 miles lies through Free Grant territory, and the total mileage north of Lindsay is 55¹ miles. The traffic of the line shows a steady increase, and the carriage of square timber, lumber, railway ties, and black birch logs is an important business for this road. A statement of working of the Kinmount to Lindsay section, shows that after paying working expenses and for new sidings, enough remained to pay full rate of interest on the liability of that section of the railway. The directors express their confidence that the section to Haliburton will also pay current expenses and interest.

A desire is expressed by the residents of Herschel and Monteagle townships, that the Government roads should be pushed on to those of the Canadian Land and Emigration Company.

The construction of the Haliburton section has stimulated capitalists interested in the Snowdon Mine to undertake a branch line six miles long from the mine to a junction with the Victoria Railway. A charter and subsidy will be asked for from the Ontario Parliament. Haliburton, the present terminus of the railway, is the extreme point to which the line can be carried with the assistance of private capital. Beyond that point it must needs be built at the public expense as a colonization railway. The importance of this road for the opening up and settling the country to the mouth of the Mattawan, on the Ottawa River, has been acknowledged.

BANK 1TEMS.

The Boston banks begin the year with a gain of about 40 per cent. in their specie reserve, a decrease of less than \$300,000 in legal tenders, and an increase of \$2,121,000 in loans, and \$3,-307,500 in deposits. Apparently no specie was drawn for hoarding, the specie received in payment of coupons and dividends to the amount of \$1,000,600 was deposited, and the loans were promptly expanded. As the Boston and New York banks stands on the same footing as respects resumption, the course of their returns will be observed with interest.

The sale of four per cent. United States bonds has been very remarkable. The subscriptions on the 2nd January amounted to \$8,590,-120, then the largest ever made in one day; but on the 6th they were \$11,093,550, and the Treaswas obliged to issue calls for \$30,000,000 of 6 per cents. of 1867 in a single week. There are now outstanding only \$310,000,000 of the consols of 1867, and \$37,400,000 of the consols of 1868, and these would be all called in, at the present rate of progress, within the first quarter of the year.

The returns of United States foreign commerce contine to astonish every one by the growing excess of exports. The official report for eleven months of the calendar year, to end Nov., gives the following totals :--

Merchandise	1878	1877	
Exports-Domestic.	\$656,971,324	\$538 477 001	
Exports-Foreign	. 12,715,217	11,539,313	
			ċ.

Total	,541 \$550,017,214 ,922 449,712,224

Excess-Exports \$269,558,619 \$100,304.990 Total exports, includ-

ing specie......\$695,089,195 \$596,416,884 Imports 427,297,882 471,813,174

Excess—Exports....\$267.791,313 \$124,603,710 The excess of merchandise exports in November. 1878, was larger by \$3,876,000 than in November, 1877, and for the eleven months it was larger by \$169,253,000 than in the corresponding part of 1877.

FREE CANALS -A movement has been begun in New York city and elsewhere in that state to make the canals free. It is stated that unless this is done, the new Welland Canal will divert business from New York and greatly increase the trade of Montreal. The Buffalo Express treats the Welland route as virtually free, and says : " The ' free ' Canadian route, we say, for it will be free to the grain which seeks foreign shipment by way of Montreal, though not to that which stops at Oswego. In the former case the Welland Canal tolls are remitted, but not in the latter case. The chances accordingly are that even if grain were to be forced through the Welland Canal by exorbitant tolls on the Erie, according to the Oswego idea, but little of it would care enough about stopping at Oswego to pay a tax for the privilege of doing so. The Canadians are not building their canal for the benefit of Oswego, and they will spare no exertion to make such grain as begins in the Welland Canal end by taking the whole Canadian route." We observe, by the way, that not only is the Erie Canal proposed to be made

built along its banks, on which locomotives will take," whic run to draw the canal-boats.

THE GREAT POOL.—It has been decided by the Presidents of the great trunk lines, that the present pooling arrangement on West-bound freights shall continue for five years from January 1st, the percentages to be determined from time to time by Commissioner Albert Fink, to whom absolute power is given in the matter. The arrangement is a remarkable one, and the powers granted to the commissioner are despotic. The pool now in operation is maintained by a contract between the companies which allows 33 per cent. of freight to the New York Central, 33 to Erie, 25 to Pennsylvania, and 9 to the Baltimore & Ohio.—Chicago Jour. Commerce.

-The annual meeting of the Permanent Building Society of the District of Iberville, Que., was held last week and the report adopted. The old Board of Directors were elected as follows:-Messrs. Arcade Decelles, T. Sheridan, J. S. Messier, H. Merchand, T. A. Bernier, A. Davignon, and Dr. Moreau. Mr. A. Decelles was re-elected President, and Mr. T. Sheridan Vice President; Mr. E. L'Ecuyer Sec'y. Treas

-A meeting of shareholders of the Hochelaga Bank, held at Montreal on the 15th inst., only five directors were elected instead of seven, as heretofore: The statement submitted showed the net profits of the Bank for the year to have been \$47,062, a balance to the credit of profit and loss, \$14,892; while \$20,000 was withdrawn from the reserve, making \$81,954 in all. The other side of the books showed \$81,-782 to have been paid for dividends; \$45,584 to have been deducted from profit and loss, and \$3,000 to have been appropriated for interest etc., leaving a small balance to carry forward.

-A meeting of the Directors of the Galt & Guelph Railway was held in the Secretary's office, Guelph, Monday afternoon. Hon. Isaac Buchanan, of Hamilton, President, occupied the chair, and there were present Jacob Hes. peler, of Hespeler; A. A. Erb, of Mildmay; Col. Hewat, of Guelph; Dr. Clarke, the Mayor of Guelph, the Reeve of Preston and the Reeve of Guelph township. A dividend of 12¹/₂ cents on the dollar was agreed upon for the transfer of stock, and this transfer will be carried out immediately.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Montreal, 21st Jan. 1879.

Great uneasiness was caused yesterday in the commercial community here, by the suspension of Mr. Clendenning and the disappearance of the head of the firm. In the Wholesale trade there is complaint about remittances, and when this is the case orders are, for the most part, small, as country dealers, very wisely, do not care about increasing their liabilities. There has been, however, a pretty fair demand for all kinds of Groceries, and sugar has again an upward tendency, while most articles in that trade are firm. Leather is dull and drooping, cutters only buying for actual wants. Provisions are in better demand and prices are the turn better. Ashes are quiet but rather dearer. We have as yet no ice bridge, but it is expected that if the present

take," which is much wanted for the retail markets.

ASHES.—Pots.—The market has been very quiet, receipts continue small, and prices have been the turn higher, for firsts we now quote \$4.00 to 4.10. Pearls are scarce and very few offering, prices are also a little higher, holders asking from \$5.50 to 5.60 for firsts.

BOOTS AND SHOES. — Prospects for the spring trade are not very bright, collections all over are behind, and as a consequence orders are small and not over numerous. We quote Men's Kip Boots \$2.50 to 3.00; ditto French Calf \$3.25 to 3.75; ditto Buff Congress \$1.40 to 1.75; ditto Split Brogans 90c. to \$2.50; Boy's Split Brogans 85 to \$1.25; ditto Buff and Pebbled Congress \$1.25 to 1.50; Women's Buff and Pebbled Balmorals \$1.15 to 1.75; ditto Prunella Boots 75c. to \$1.50; ditto Prunella Congress 65c. to \$1.25.

CATTLE.—Although there was a fair supply of cattle on the market, really extra cattle were scarce, most of the extra quality being bought up for exportation, higher prices being paid than butchers are willing to give, prices yesterday averaged from 3 to 4c. per lo. being rather less than was obtainable last Monday, especially for first quality cattle. Dressed Hogs are not in large supply, and prices now paid show an upward tendency, \$4.00 to 4.15 being the current rates. Live Hogs.—A car load sold yesterday at \$3.75 per 100 lbs.

DRUOS AND CHEMICALS.—Business has been dull, and only small sales transpiring within our range of quotations, which are withcarb soda per keg \$3.25 to 3.50; Soda Ask per 100 lbs. \$2.00 to 0.00; Arrow Root per lb. 13 to 15c; Borax, refined, 12 to 14c; Cream Tartar crystals 20 to 32; ditto ground 20[‡] to 32c; Caustic Soda \$2,45 to 2 50 nominal; Sugar of Lead 11[‡] to 12c, Bleaching Powder per lb. 1[‡] to 2c; Alum \$2,00 to 3 00; Copperas \$1.65 per \$100 lbs. \$1.75 to 2.00; Sal Soda per 100 lbs. \$1.75 to 1.50; Saltpetre, Brandrum, per keg \$8.50 to 0.00.

DRY GOODS.—Travellers who are out with Spring samples appear pretty sanguine that the business this year will be quite equal to the last, but as yet orders are not coming in very freely. There has been a moderate demand for Canadian Tweeds, but there seems to be a laudable desire on the part of retailers to confine their orders to actual wants. Remittances are not quite up to the mark.

FISH.—There has been very little disposition shown to deal in this article; a sale of Labrador Herrings was reported within our range of quotations, but, with this exception, business has been almost at a standstill. We quote Dry Cad \$4 to 4¹/₂; Green Cod \$3¹/₂ to 4¹/₂ per brl.; Labrador Herrings \$4.00 to 4.50; Salmon—There have been small sales at \$10, 9 and 8 for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

FURS.—Furs are coming in very slowly, what are offered are taken within our range of quotations, and little change is anticipated till the spring. We make a few changes this week. *Mink*, prime dark, large, \$1.00 to 1.50; do. small ooc. to \$1.00; *Martin*, 75c to \$1.00; *Beaver* per lb. \$1.25 to 1.50; *Bear*, large, \$7.00 to 8.00; ditto cubs \$2.00 to 4.00; *Red Pox*, \$1.00 to 1.40; *Muskrat*, winter, Ioc to 12c. do. small, 5 to 7c; ditto kitts 2 to 4c; *Lynx*, \$1.00 to 1.50; *Skunk*, prime dark, large, 40 to 50c.; ditto white 20 to 30c; *Raccoon*, prime 25 to 60c; *Fisher*, prime, \$6.00 to 7.00; *Otter*, prime dark, \$5.00 to 7.00.

Welland Canal end by taking the whole Canadian route." We observe, by the way, that not only is the Eric Canal proposed to be made free, but a tram-way is now proposed to be ceipts from 1st January 15,224 being a decrease of 14,656 brls on the receipts for the same period of 1878; Shipments for the week 102; brls; Total shipments from 1st January to date 5448 brls. being a decrease of 9,832 brls on the shipment for the corresponding period of 1878. There is little change to note in the flour market, although if anything the demand has been rather better especially for supensions and extra, but the total does not amount to much. Prices for the most part are without any quotable change. most part are without any quotable change. We quote Superior Extra \$4.00 to \$450; Extra, Superfine \$4.20 to 4.25; Fancy, \$4.10 to \$0.00; Spring Extra, \$3.97} to \$4.00; Superfine, \$3.60 to \$3.70: Strong Baker's Flour, \$4.20 to \$4.40; Fine, \$3.15 to 3.25; Midllings, \$2.85 to \$3.00; Pollards, \$2.50 to \$2.70 ; Ontario Bags \$1.871 to 1.95 Oatmeal, \$3.75 to 0.00; Cornmeal, kiln dried \$2.25 to \$2.35.

GBAIN .- Wheat-The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 15th inst. were 84,555 bushels, against 85,270 bushels on the 1st inst. and 396,601 bushels on the 15th of January, 1878. Receipts during the week, 41,200 bushels. Total receipts from 1st January, 68,840 bushels, being a decrease of 38,824 bushels on the receipts for the same period of 1878. Shipments during the week, 41,200 bushels. Total shipments from 1st January to date, 68,840 bushels, being a decrease of 38,124 bushels on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1878. There has been nothing done in wheat, and prices here are nominal. In other grains there have been some small transactions, but hardly sufficient to establish quotations. The nominal quotations are for Maize, 46 to 471c; Peas, 72 to 73c for 66 lbs., and for Oats, 28 to 29c; nothing doing in Barley.

GROCERIES.-Teas-There has been a pretty fair demand for cheap Japans this week, and the market is firm for this description of tea at from 23 to 30c. Greens and blacks are dull and inactive. Coffee-About the usual demand has been experienced during the week, with very little, if any, variation in price since this day week. Sugar .-- This market continues to exhibit a good deal of firmness. and the demand has been active for American sugars; prices, however, are not materially changed since this day week. We quote Granulated, 8⁴/₂ to 9¹/₃c; Dry Crushed 9⁴/₅ to 10c; American Yellow, 6¹/₂ to 7¹/₂c; Scotch Refined, 61 to 81c; nothing reported in Raw Sugars. Molasses-A few small sales of Barbadoes have been made at from 37 to 38c. Syrups have been in better demand at 45 to 50c. Rice-The market for this article has been easier, and prices have declined a little since our last report; sales have been from \$4.20 to 4.45. Spices—The demand in this department of the trade has been rather brisker, although prices are not very materially changed. Sales of Black Pepper at 8³/₄ to gc; White Pepper 18¹/₄ to 19c; Allspice, 15 to 16c; Cloves, 40 to 45c; Cassia, 14 to 15c; Nutmegs, 60 to 90c; Ja maica Ginger, 20 to 23; Wace, 75 to 90c. Fruit —The only noteworthy feature in this branch is the continued firmness and further advance in the price of Valencia Raisins, which are now held at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6c; other kinds of fruit on our list may be called nominally unchanged and we continue to quote loose Muscatels, \$1.60 to 1.70; London Layers, \$2.00 to 2.15; Layers, \$1.45 to 1.50; Sultanas, 81 to 9c; Currants, 4 to 51c, according to quality. Figs, 81 to I c; Prunes. 41 to 61c; Tarragona Almonds, 141 to 151c; Filberts, 71 to 81c; Walnuts, Bordeaux, 72 to 81c. HARDWARE.—We cannot report that business

seems to improve much, as the actual transactions with country merchants have been few and small. This week another house in this line has failed, Joseph N. Hall & Co., but their dealings

nearly all merchants here. No improvement is looked for in the trade until travellers get on the road in a few weeks. Our present quotations are to some extent nominal We quote Pig Iron per ton, Gartsherrie, 17 to \$18.00; Summerlee, \$17.00 to 18; Eglinton, \$16.00 to 17; Carnbrae,\$16.00 to 17; Hematite,\$24 to 25; Bars, per 100 lbs. ; Scotch and Staffordshire, \$1.70 to 1.80; best ditto \$2.10 to 2.20; Swedes and Norway, 4.50 to 5.00; Lowmoor and Bowling, \$5.50 to 6.00. Canada Plates, per box : Glanmorgan and Budd, \$3.15 to 3.25; Garth and Penn, and Budd, 93.15 to 3.25; Gatth and Fenn, \$3.15 to 3.25; Arrow, \$3.25 to 3.50; Hatton, \$3.00 to 3.10. *Tin Plates*, per box: Char-coal I C, \$5.50 to 6.00; ditto I X \$7.50 to 8.00; ditto D. C, \$4.80 to \$5.00; Coke IC \$4.75 to \$5; ditto D. C, \$4.80 to \$5.00; Coke IC \$4.75 to \$5; Tinned sheets charcoal best No. 26 121 to 13c; Galvanized sheets, best No. 28, 71c Hoops and Bands per 100 lbs \$2.30 to 2.40 : Sheets best brands \$2.40 to 2.50; Boiler Plates ordinary brands \$2.40 to 2 50; ditto best brands \$3.00 to 3.25. Russia Sheet Iron per lb 10 to 12c; Cut Nails 2 D., lath \$4.25 ditto 21/2 to 4c: Shingle \$3.50 ; ditto 8 D. 10 \$3.15 ; ditto 5d to 6 \$3.40; ditto 12d and larher \$2.85: 100 keg lots 5 per ct. discount, Cut Nails patent chisel pointed 25c extra : Pressed Spikes \$4 to 4.75; Lead per 100 lbs pig \$4.50; sheet \$5.00 to 6.50 bar \$5 to 5.50; Shot \$6.00 to 6.50; Steel, cart per lb. 10 to 13c; spring per 100 lbs \$3.25 to 3.50 : Sleigh shoe st el \$2.50 to 2.75; tire steel \$3.00 to 3.52; Ingot tin \$17,50 to 18.00; Ingot copper \$18 to 19; Horse shoes per 100 lbs \$3.50 to 4.00; Proved coil chain gin. \$4.50 to 5.00 Anchors \$5 to 7: Anvils 8 to 11c; wire per bdl. of 63 lbs, \$1.70 to 1.80.

HIDES AND PELTS .- Demand continues fair but offerings are not large, and market, though unchanged so far as values are concerned, is firm at \$6.50, \$5.50 and \$4.50 for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Sheepskins 85c to \$1.00 each. LEATHER.—The market continues very quiet, and receipts are in excess of the demand. Buyers show no disposition to purchase beyond their immediate wants, though prices would be shaded for large parcels. Spanish Sole is coming in more freely and is easier. Slaughter Sole continues to weaken. the demand for curried stock is slow and prices tar from firm. We quote: Hemlock Spanish sole, No. 1; B.A., 23 to 24c; ditto, No. 2 B. A., 19 to 21c; Zanzibar, ordinary No. 1. 19 to 20c; ditto No. 2, 17 to 18c; Buffalo Sole No. 1, 19 to 20c; ditto, No. 2, 17 to 18c; Hemlock slaughter, No. 1, 23 to 24c; Waxed Upper, light and medium, 32 to 36c; ditto, heavy, 30 to 35c; Grained, 32 to 36c; Splits, large, 24 to 28c; ditto, small, 20 to 25c; Calfskins, 27 to 36 lbs., 45 to 65c; ditto, 18 to 26 lbs., 40 to 6oc; Sheepskin linings, 20 to 30c; Harness, 22 to 28c; Buffed cow, 13 to 15c; Enamelled cow, 15 to 16c; Patent Cow 15 to 16c; Pebbled cow 12 to 14c; Rough 20 to 23c,

OILS .- There has been very little done in oils of every kind this week. Linseed Raw, 56 to 58c; ditto boiled, 59 to 6oc. Fish oils have been little enquired for; prices are not materially altered. Cod oil, 33 to 35c. for Halifax; Seal pale, 42½c; ditto straw, 37½c; ditt steam re-fined, 47c. Petroleum.—The demand for this oil has fallen off somewhat during the past week, but prices are without any change in this market. We quote car lots 171c; part cars, 17 to 18c; single barrels, 18 to 19c per imperial gallon.

PROVISIONS .- Butter .- Receipts during the week 2,143 pkgs.; Shipments 3,879 pkgs,; the market this week has been firm with a better demand both for medium and really fine butter. Sales have been considerable, within our range of quotations. Store packed Western 6 to 9c.; Dairy Western, fair to good, 8 to 12c ; Morrisburg, good to choice, 13 to 17c; Eastern Townwere chiefly with small French merchants ships 14 to 19c.; *Cheese*—Owing to the advance which will effect few. They owe a little to in England there has been a firmer feeling, and

an advance on last week's quotations has been established; sales at g to ghc., but chiefly for the local trade. Pork-Receipts 75 brls.; Shipments 10 brls.; there is not much doing, but at the close prices were a little higher, and we now quote Mess \$11 to 12, according to brand; Lard 8 to 8%c.

SALT .- Prices in this market are unchanged. and the demand during the week has been very light. We continue to quote coarse 60 to 65c., and factory filled \$1.00 to 1.15.

WOOL .- There is nothing doing in Canadian Wools; for Greasy Cape, holders are asking 17 to 17¹/₂c., but we hear of no transactions.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 22nd, 1879.

• The business done here shows a slight increase in volume the past week. Letters received from the counties of Grey and Bruce during the last week state that the cross roads are still blocked up, mails are stopped, temporarily the trains. The country has not yet been cleared of last year's crop; and although the stocks of grain in store here on Monday last show a small increase, the transactions have not been by any means large, sellers rather holding off for higher prices.

CATILE, ETC .- The local market has remained quiet, under quite limited offerings, as nearly all the best stock in Ontario appears to be stall-feeding for the spring export trade. Toronto exporters state that the majority of cattle purchased for Great Britain at present is obtained in Chicago and Buffalo, which markets offer about the same facilities to buyers. The following are the present ruling prices in Chicago: Extra Beeves, graded steers, weighing 1,500 lbs. and upwards, \$4.75 to 5.25; Choice Beeves -fine, fat, well-formed steers, weighing 1,300 to 1,500 lbs., \$4.25 to 4.50; Good Beeves-Well-fattened steers, weighing 1,150 to 1,350 lbs., \$3.60 to 4.10. Prices paid here for export cattle range from \$4.00 to 4.50, and for choice animals \$5.00 per cwt., live weight.

DRY GOODS.—The trade has somewhat im-proved since our last reference. With a few exceptions the country roads have been opened up for traffic, and the good sleighing has stimulated business with country merchants, and quite a few have been in town buying sorting up goods and cottons for the February trade. Several and cottons for the February trade. Several orders for spring goods, dated March and April, have been placed, but travellers still report great caution and delay on the part of country dealers in ordering; and while some wholesale dealers anticipate a speculative demand in anticipation of the revised rariff, others believe that the hard times and large stocks held in the country will combine to prevent any speculative movement. General spring samples will not be introduced until February, when the activity usual in January is expected to take place. Remitt. ances continue gradually to improve.

FLOUR.-Stocks in store 13,776 bbls., against 12,990 bbls last week, and 20,610 bbls. on like date last year. The demand has somewhat improved, but prices have been weak. Superior Extra has remained nominal at \$4.00 to 4.10. Extra was sold last week at \$3.90 on the track. and equal to \$3.90 here, but was afterwards offered at equal to \$3.85. Fancy has continued nominal. Strong Bakers' has sold at \$3.60 nominal. Strong Bakers' has sold at \$3.00 f.o.c. Spring Extra declin d, and sold on Monday at \$3.50 on track, and equal to 3.50 here, and at \$3.50 f.o.c. yesterday. The market closes quiet but firmer, with \$3.55 bid for spring extra. Bran-Scarce and firm at \$8.75 to 9.00. GRAIN.-Wheat, Fall-Stocks in store 58,700 bushels, against 55,170 bush. last week, and

73.391 bush. on like date last year. The market has been firm, under a good demand. Fall grades have been scarce and quiet, with 89c bid for No. 2, and 84 to 85c for No. 3. For No. 1 grade 93c is the highest quotation, and rejected is worth 75 to 76. Street prices 85 to 91c. Wheat, Spring.-Stocks in store 129.792 bush. against 104,798 bush last week, and 258,873 bush on like date last year. No. 1 spring is still scarce, but one lot changed hands on Tuesday at 85c; f.o.c., No. 2 has been active and steady with daily sales at 82c; No. 3 has been quiet and steady and sold at 75c; yesterday. market closes firm; No. 3 sold to day at The No. 2 would have brought 82 to 83c; and 85c; was bid for No. 1 but 8-c and 8-c; was bid for No. I, but 87c; was asked. Street prices, 75 to 84c. Oats.—Stocks in store 11,630 bush against 11,630 bushels last week, and 12,-638 bush on like date last year. Oats have been quiet and easier. Sales were made last week at 28c; for American, and 271c; for Canadian on track but American has been offered since 27 dc. Street prices, 29 to 31c; Barley-Stocks in store, 153,156 bush. against 147,592 bush. last week, and 199,644 bush. on like date last year. The market has ruled quiet, under a very limited demand, and prices have been weak, with a declining tendency for the lower grades. No. 2 has been scarce. There were sales last week at 75c f. o. c. Extra No. 3 has been quiet, but sold at 63c; No. 3 brought 52c last week, but it is slow of sale. The market closes weak at 72 to 73c for No. 2; 62 to 63c for extra, and 51c for No. 3. A car was sold by sample on the track to-day at foc. Street prices, 50 to goc. Peas— tocks in store, 28,444 bush. against 18,548 bush. last week, and 11,633 bush. on like date last year. The market has been firm, with 60 to 61c paid and bid to day for No. 2; and No. 3 is worth 55 to 56c; Street prices, 55 to 62c. Corn has been offered at 371c; for cars on track.

GROCERIES.-The retail demand has slightly improved during the week, but or the whole trade has remained quiet and steady. Remittances are only satisfactory from those sections where the roads are not blocked. Fish continue in small supply for all kinds, no advance in prices. Round lots of Labrador Herrings have sold at \$4.75 and \$5.00; small lots of White Fish and Trout have moved at unchanged rates. Fruit of all kind has remained very firm, under a fair demand. Valencias have ad-vanced about 1c. in outside markets. Sales of fifty boxes and upwards at 5% to 6c. Sugars are steady; low and medium yellows are scarce and firmer. Prices ruling a fortnight ago cannot now be repeated. Round lots of ago cannot now be repeated. Round lots of granulated changed hands at inside quotations. *Teas* firm and moderately active, with an im-proved feeling among dealers. The retail demand has been good, and small sales have been made at figures within our range. Lines of Congous have changed hands at 36c.; Young Hysons at 42 to 43c. and 45c for firsts, and 23c for coarse; one line of coarse Japan sold at 28c. Blacks have been steady, with sales of a fair medium Orange Pekoe at 42c; of medium Congou at 36c and of coarse at 28c. Tobaccos remain firm, under a good demand for low grades. Sales are confined to small lots, and prices unchanged.

HARDWARE.—Trade has been fairly active, with a good sorting up demand, principally for shelf goods and tinsmiths' supplies, but sales are generally small. It was stated by mistake in last week's report that prices for Coke, Charcoal and Tin plates had advanced 6d, per box in English markets, whereas the real advance was is. 6d. to 2s. per box; Canadian holders are firm at \$5.50 for "I. C." with no disposition to make concessions for large quantities. Remittances have continued to improve.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The supply of green hides delay in in the market during the week has been light, Canada.

yet sufficient to meet the demand. which is inactive, and prices are unchanged without movement. A steady demand exists for cured, but they are scarce and sales have been few. Sheepskins.—All brought to market have been taken at 85c to \$1.00 for green, and dry have sold at from 70 to 75c. Tallow has been offered freely, but the demand is still very light and the sales are few, at unchanged prices.

LEATHER.—Business has continued inactive, the demand being almost entirely confined to the country retail trade. A better enquiry from the large manufacturers is expected next week after the prospects of demand and prices for the spring trade have been learned. There has been no special line of goods in demand, sales are generally for small quantities, and prices for all kinds are steady and unchanged. Oils remain quiet, at easy prices. Remittances pretty good.

PROVISIONS .- There is a firmer feeling reported in hog products, but excepting for dressed hogs and bacon, values are not quotably higher. Remittances improving. Butter .- There is still a request for really fine qualities of either tubs or rolls, but anything else is not wanted, and beyond supplying the requirements of the local trade, there is scarcely any movement. A few small shipping lots at 5 to 6c; for inferior store packed, and one round lot of medium at oc; selections would bring II to I2c; and box lots are scarce and worth 9 to 11; for choice and 6c for inferiors. Bacon has been in slightly improved demand, and prices have advanced from 50c to \$1 per cental. Round lots of new Cumberland are held at 5c; with $4\frac{3}{2}c$; bid; small lots have sold at 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}c$; old C. C., is held at 5c. Long clear seem unsettled; new is quoted at $5\frac{1}{2}c$; for round lots, and 6 to $6\frac{1}{2}c$; for small lots Cheese-Quiet and unchanged, at 8 to 81c for choice small lots; a job lot of old sold at 5c, which is about the bottom price. Dressed Hogs -Receipts have been rather large, but all offerings were readily purchased at advanced prices. Latest sales of car lots were made at from \$3.65 to 3.75 for ordinary, and \$4.05 for light hogs weighing 140 lbs. and under. Eggs-Limed have been easier, worth 15 to 16c, but fresh are scarce and wanted at 19 to 20c; packed are worth 15 to 18c. Hams have been enquired for at firmer prices; round lots have sold at 8 to 8 to for smoked, and small lots at 9 to 9 to . Green hams have been sold to the trade at 6 to . Lard in moderate request at advancing prices; cars of tinnets, which sold last week at $7\frac{1}{2}$ c, are now held at 8c, with 7_{1}^{2c} bid; small lots of tinnets are worth 8c, and pails are quoted at 8_{1}^{2c} . Mess Pork has been in rather better demand, and, in sympathy with the recent advance in Chicago, prices are advancing. Half cars have sold at \$10, but are now held at \$10.50; and small lots have sold at \$10.75 to 11.00. toes are firmer; one car sold to-day at goc, and street prices are go to 95c.

Wool.—Extreme dullness is still the ruling feature of the market, and prices are very weak. A lot of 1.400 lbs. of *Fleece* sold at 20c, which is now the highest obtainable price. For *Super* 21 to 22c is usually asked, but dealers here will not pay over 19 to 20c at the outside. *Combing* is also very quiet; one lot was sold at 18c.

[COMMUNICATED.]

INVESTIGATORS WHO DISLIKE INVES. TIGATION.

To the Editor of the Monetary Times.

DEAR SIR,—I crave space to reply to a letter which was inserted in the Canadian papers some days ago by the Bradstreet Company. Enormous pressure upon my time incident to this season of the year must be my excuse for delay in noticing this attack on my firm in Canada.

The letter from the Bradstreet Company was inserted for the purpose of breaking the effect of the startling revelations as to the financial condition of that concern, which appeared in the New York Public of December 19th, 1878. The writer of the letter is careful not to state what these revelations are, but seeks to attribute their publication to Dun, Barlow & Co. It is the old story of the lawyer, who, having a poor case, makes a defence by abusing the other side. Inasmuch, however, as the public of the Dominion is much interested in this question of Mercantile Agencies, they may be somewhat curious to know all the facts of the case, and in justice to Dun, Wiman & Co., I trust you will insert the following article, which appears in the Public of this day's date-January 16th. By it your readers will observe that the editor, Mr. Grosvenor, utterly repudiates the statement that the facts contained in his first article were furnished by us or any other rival agency, and that he alone is responsible for the statements his paper contained. It may be interesting to you to know that the Hon. Mr. Grosvenor, in addition to being editor of The Public, is also one of the leading writers in the New York Tribune, and has been largely instrumental in the interpretation and exposure of cipher telegrams during the late presidental election, which created such a profound sensation in political circles in this country. The commercial community are indebted to him for the exposure of this and many other impostures. His ability and independence are too well known to require any indorsation. Your readers can very easily decide-especially with the facts which are presented in the article following this letter-which is to be relied upon : Mr. Grosvenor, who has no interest in the matter except a public one, or the Bradstreet Company, whose interest altogether lies in covering up their insolvency, if such a condition of things exists. The reliability of the latter concern can be readily decided by recollecting the "Big Steal" which the Bradstreet Agency some years ago perpetrated when they appropriated the whole of the province of Canada West from the book of Dun, Wiman & Co., some 12,000 names and ratings which had been laboriously gathered by myself and assistants by travelling and consulting over 2,000 correspondents between Belleville and Sarnia. This book contained, among other things, the famous town of "Apricot, Ontario County," which had no existence, but was inserted for the purpose of detecting just such piratical expeditions. The Bradstreet Agency copied Holus Bolus. This, with other evidence, enabled the Court of Chancery very promptly not only to enjoin the Bradstreet book containing the evidence of the piracy, but also to enjoin the second edition printed after the exposure of the first, on the ground that the second book was only a copy of the first, with the evidences of the plagiarism eliminated. The following is a copy of the injunction :-

"IN CHANCERY — Before Vice-Chancellor Spragge—R. G. Dun & Co versus J. M. Bradstreet & Son.

"Upon hearing read the pleadings, depositions, affidavits, exhibits, and the various orders and proceedings had, taken and made in this case—the Court doth order that an injunction do issue out of and under the seal of this Court, perpetually restraining the said J. M. Bradstreet & Son, their servants, agents or workmen, from printing, publishing, selling, distributing or lending in the Province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada, the book in said pleadings mentioned and called Bradstreet's Commercial Reports. The said injunction doth also apply to any book being copied or substantially copied or derived from the book of the said R. G. Dun & Co., in the said pleadings also mentioned and and called a "Reference Book," whether con-

taining any information, names or ratings, copied, taken, or colorably altered from the said R. G. Dun & Co.'s book. It is further ordered that said defendants do pay to the said plaintiffs the cost of this suit, which are to be taxed. (Signed,) A. GRANT, Register. Entered 24th February, 1868."

As late as July, the Bradstreet people in New York seem to have had possession of one of our books, for their circular of June contains almost exactly word for word the preface of our book of January, 1878.

I will not burden you further than to say, that if after the following article, the Messrs. Bradstreet have any statement to make in re sponse to it of an authentic and definite character, we will very gladly pay for its insertion. But I submit if they have no response to urge but abuse of a rival, whom they have deeply wronged, they had much better bow to the inevitable verdict which the public will render after perusing all the facts.

I am, very truly yours, E. WIMAN, (Dun, Wiman & Co.) 314 & 316 Broadway New York, January, 16th, 1879. }

The following is from the New York Public of January 16th, 1879 :--

The Bradstreet Company, we are informed, is privately circulating the story that an article in this journal of December 19th, concerning that company, was written by a person not connected with the Public ; that it was based upon assertions made by a rival agency, and that it was published by us as an advertisement, or for pay. Each of these statements is known to be false by the manager and the attorney of the Bradstreet Company, who came to us to demand the authorship of the article. They were then plainly and repeatedly informed: (1) That the article was written wholly by Mr. Grosvenor, the editor of this paper; (2) That every statement therein made was based upon the official reports of the company, then and now in his possession, and upon other abundant information furnished by persons not in any way connected with any rival agency; and (3) that it was published, as criticisms of other corporate reports in this paper always have been, without other inducements of any kind than the desire to make a journal useful to readers and widely read. We may add that every item of information given by us, which is not contained in the official reports of the company, was in fact obtained by us from persons interested in the Bradstreet Company itself, as creditors or stockholders.

When the manager and attorney of the Bradstreet Company came to this office, they were distinctly informed that the Public was prepared to meet any responsibility for the statements it had made. They replied that an article, so cor-rect in its statements that no legal proceedings upon it could be sustained, might nevertheless do the company very great injury. They were challenged to point out any incorrect statement but made no attempt to do so. Virtually admitting that the facts were correctly stated, they claimed that the deductions as to the condition of the company were unwarranted. As to that, every reader can judge for himself. But they were invited to give any further information, or to submit for publication any correction or reply. Four weeks have elapsed. The company has not ventured to invite through any court, proof of our statements. It has not attempted to show through this journal, or through any other as far as we know, that the deductions from these statements were unjust. Its sole defence. if we are rightly informed, is the private circulation of slanders regarding the authorship of our article or the source of our informa-tion. What sort of agency, to pronounce upon

the integrity and standing of business men all over the land, is that which resorts to such means to break the force of a criticism which it does not dare to meet in any other way ?

Really, it makes no difference whether the information given by us was derived, as in fact it was, wholly from persons interested in the Bradstreet Company, or from others. The question is whether that information is correct. Any business man who chooses to send to the town clerk of New Haven, Connecticut, can obtain, upon payment of the usual small fee, certified copies of the articles of incorporation, and two official reports quoted by us. From these he will learn that the Bradstreet heirs, to whom was originally allotted \$200,000 of the stock for good will, when the preferred creditors of the old firm took only \$173,800 in stock for their claims, were afterward cut down to \$66,700 in stock, and that their loss, 1,333 shares, was divided between the three creditors who are the present officers, 750 shares to Clark, the President, and 291¹/₂ shares each to Young, the Secretary, and Randolph, the Treasurer. For what consideration ? If none, some-body was grossly wronged. If these men undertook to put in capital and meet the debts of the concern, they never did so; for the official reports prove that the debts never were cleared off or even reduced, but have increased steadily from the organization of the company to the date of the latest statement filed. If old debts were paid, it was by creating new company debts, so that Clark, Young and Randolph might get their additional stock without putting up any money for it. In point of fact, these three did undertake to provide certain sums to clear off the indebtedness, but, except in one small payment by one of them, never paid in any money whatever. If details are desired by any one, the Bradstreet heirs, from whom 1,333 shares of stock were taken for a consideration not now visible to the naked eye, may perhaps be in position to give them, in more emphatic language than we care to use.

As to the present condition of the company, it appears that the indebtedness (after the capitalization of \$173,800 in liabilities at the organization) had amounted to \$227,116.03 by January 1st, 1878, and increased \$11,000 during 1877. Yet it is notorious that the company took subscribers at lower rates in 1878 than in the previous year. If the business was conducted at a loss, so that the debt increased in 1877, what loss and what increase of debt are to be expected from the business of 1878, done at far lower rates, and with a vastly increased ratio of firms crippled by disaster, and unable to meet their obligations to agencies or any one else? All this time, we hear from business men, still lower rates than ever before are offered, obviously in the hope of securing sufficient advance payments to enable the company to carry its indebtedness over another year. But it is in-evitable that this sort of thing must cease, sooner or later. Whenever the growing debt becomes insupportable, there are some banks in this city, in Boston and elsewhere, which will look as anxiously for assets as did the creditors of McKillop, Sprague & Company. But they will not be the chief losers if disaster comes. Thousands of business men who pay their subscription in advance virtually loan the company very much larger than the whole of its other indebtedness. They have some right, we submit, to ask for such official statements as we have quoted, much to the dissatisfaction of the company, and for precisely these explanations which, though invited by us, the company is careful not to make.

A few plain questions, if business men choose to ask them, and to insist upon a public reply that can be publicly scrutinized, will enable them to judge whether our deductions respecting the condition of this company are in error. I. Has the indebtedness of the Bradstreet Company increased during 1878. If it has, how much? If it has not, by what process has the Company gathered information at reduced cost, or otherwise "checked the deficit?"

II. Does not the "personal property" include now, as it did in 1876, good will at a valuation of \$200,000? Yet, only \$66,700 was allowed for it to the Bradstreet family in 1877, and as an asset for the purpose of debt paying, it must obviously be rated as nothing.

III. Do not the assets include a printing office at \$100,000, which cost that sum when prices were most inflated? If so, depreciation and change of prices considered, it could not be expected to bring \$50,000 at a sale to-day.

IV. Does "cash value of credits, \$233,484.03"include sums payable January 1st and afterward for services to be rendered during a new year? If so, the liabilities ought to be increased by the same amount, for the company owes as much in services as the merchant owes in money. If not, then over one-third of the entire sum due in advance for subscriptions of last year is still unpaid, and the company must have a heavier ratio of "bad debts" than any solvent firm ever has seen.

If the Bradstreet company is in such position that it has any right to ask further advances from business men, it can give to these questions answers which will bear public scrutiny. Such answers, we submit, would help it much more than any stories it can circulate about the sources of our information.

Parks' Cotton Yarns.

Awarded the only Medal given at the CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION for Cotton Yarns of Canadian Manufacture. Nos. 5 to 10, White and Coloured.

COTTON CARPET WARP.

No. 10, 4 ply, White, Red. Brown, Slate, etc. Warran ed fast colours, and full length and weight in every package. B 'AM WAR'S for WOOLLEN 'ILLS. Sing e. Double and Twitted, White and Coloure', H 'S ERY and KNIT' ING YARNS of every variety required in the Dominion.

ALEX SPENCE,	WM. PARKS & SON,
223 McGill St.,	New Brunswick Cotton Mills.
Montreal,	St. John, N.B.
Agent for Q	uebec and Ontario.

GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMP'Y OF LONDON, ENGLAND. ESTABLISHED 1821.

Capital - 22,000,000 sterling Invested Funds £2,694,000 sterling Dominion Deposit - \$100,343

Gen. Agents for { ROBT. SIMMS & CO. } Gonada. Canada. Toronto: S. & J. E. THOMPSON, 86 King St. East. Kingston: VANDEWATER & BETTS, Ontario St. Hamilton: A. A. WYLLIB, James St. North.

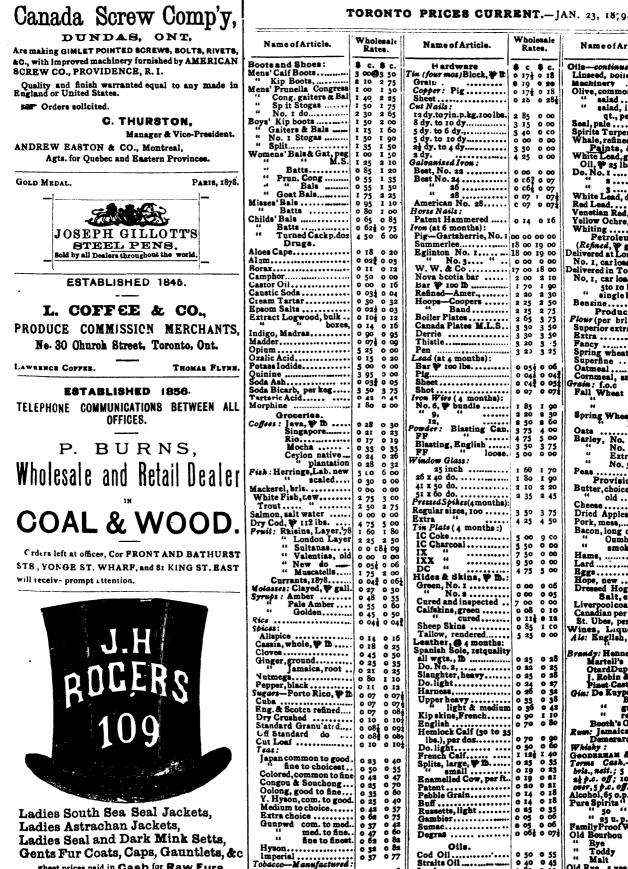
NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the s'archolders of the Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Company will be held at the office of the Company, 12 Matcalfe S reet, Ottawa on Wednesday, the th proximo, for the election of 1 irectors for the ensuing year. and for the transact on of other business appointed to be done under the harter and By-laws of the C mpany at its Annual General Meeting. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock, noon.

JAMES BOURNE, Secretary. Office of the Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Company, Ottawa, 16th January, A.D., 1879.



ř.



Gents Fur Coats, Caps, Gauntlets, &c ghest prices paid in Cash for Raw Furs. J. H. ROGERS.

Cor. King Church treets, oronte.

Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	Name of Article.	Wholesale Rates.	NameofArticle.	Wholessie Rates
Boots and Shoes : dens' Calf Boots	\$ c. \$ c. 3 00@3 50	Hardware Tin (four mos)Block, PB	₿ с ₿ с. 0 171 0 18	Oils-continued. Linseed, poiled	\$. c. \$ c.
dens' Calf Boots "Kip Boots, dens' Prunella Congress	£ 10 2 75	féreir.		Linseed, boiled	• 04 0 05 0 30 0 40
"Cong. gaiters & Bal "Sp it Stogas "No. 1 do	1 40 2 25	Copper: Pig	0 20 0 28	Unve, common, & gali.	I 15 I 20 I 80 2 0/
" No. 1 do	2 30 2 65	Cut Nails: 12 dy.to7in.p.kg.100 lbs.	2 85 0 00	" salad, in bottles, qt., per case	
Boys' Kip boots " Gaiters & Bals	I 50 2 00 I I5 I 60	8 dv. to 70 dv.	2 74 0 00	gt., per case Seal, pale Spirits Turpentine Whale, refined	5 20 3 00 0 50 0 12
" No. I Stogas	I 50 I 90 I 35 I 50	5 dy. to 6 dy., 5 dy. to 10 dy	0 00 0 00		0 41 0 44 0 75 0 bu
Nomens' Bals& Gat, peg	1 00 1 50	21 dy. to 4 dy 2 dy. Galvanised Ivon :	3 50 0 00	White Land gamming in	
Batts	0 85 I 20	Galvanisca Iron : Best. No. 22	000.000	Oil, # 25 lbs	8 20)
30ys' Kip boots "Gaiters & Bals "No. I Stogas "Split "Bals& Gat, peg "M.S. "Prun. Cong "Goat Bals "Goat Bals "Bats "Bats "Bats "Batts "Turned Cackp.doz	0 55 1 35 0 55 1 50	26	0 00 0 07	White Lead, dry	I 80 8 J
" Goat Bals	I 75 2 25 0 95 I 10	" 28 American No. 28	0 07) 071	White Lead, dry Red Lead.	154 J - A 0064 007
" Batts	0 80 1 00	Horse Nails : Patent Hammered		Venetian Red, English.	0 05 0 06
" Batts	0 62 0 75	<i>170</i> # (at 6 months):	1 1	Yellow Ochre, French Whiting	0 021 0 03 0 10 1 00
Drugs.		Pig-Gartsherrie, No. 1 Summerlee	18 00 10 00	Petroleum, (Refined, P gallon.)	0 10 1 00
loes Cape lam. Borax	0 18 0 20 0 02 ² 0 01	Eglinton No. 1	18 00 19 00	(Refined, # gallon.) Delivered at London, Ont No. 1, carload, W.mea.	_
lemphor	0 60 0 00	W. W. & Co Nova Scotia bar	17 00 18 00	Delivered in Toronto :	0 14 0 00 Imp, gai
Castor Oil	0 00 0 16	Har 99 TOO 10	1	Delivered in Toronto : No. 1, car loaddo 5to 10 brisdo "single brisdo	0 10 0 00
Jieam Lartar	0300321	Refined-Amer, Hoops-Coopers "Band Boiler Plates Canada Plates M.L.S Derrie Thiatle	2 20 2 30 2 25 2 50	5 to 10 brisdo "single brisdo Benzine	
		Boiler Plates	2 25 2 75	Produce.	
Epsom Salts Extract Logwood, bulk " boxes, Indigo. Madras	0 14 0 16	Canada Plates M.L.S	3 30 3 50	Plowr (per brl.) : f.o.c Superior extra	4 00 4 10
Madder	0 074 0 09			Fancy	3 80 3 90
Dralic Acid	5 25 0 00 0 15 0 20	Lead (at 4 months).	3 2) 3 25	Spring wheat, extra	3 55 3 60
" bores, ndigo, Madras Madder Dpium Dralic Acid Potass Iodide Quinine Soda Ash Soda Bicarb, per keg Fartaric Acid Morphine	500 000 395 000	Bar V roo lbs Pig Sheet Shot	0 054 0 06	Superior extra	3 30 3 40
Soda Ash	0 03 0 05	Sheet	0 042 0 05	Grain : f.o.c	2 25 2 40
Cartaric Acid	0 42 0 44	Iron Wire (4 months):			0 91 0 93
		"9, "	2 20 8 30	Spring Wheat, No. 1	0 84 0 85
Coffees : Java, W Ib Singapore	9 28 0 30 9 21 0 22	Prow W sw (4 montas): No. 6, W bundle (9, 13, Powder: Blasting Can. FF Blasting, English FF ioster loose.	1 50 1 60 3 75 4 00	"No. 3 Spring Wheat, No. 1 Oata Barley, No. 1	0 82 0 84
Rio. Mocha	0 17 0 10	Blasting, English	4 75 5 00	Barley, No. I	0 98 1 00
Ceylon native " plantation	0 24 0 26	FF "loose. Window Glass:	500 000	" Extra No. 3	0 72 U 73 0 02 0 61
sish . Herrings, Lab. new	5 (0 6 00	25 inch	1 60 1 70	" No. 1 " No. 2 " Extra No. 3 " No. 3 Peas	0 50 0 51
" scaled	0 30 0 00	AT X 50 do	00 0 01 0	Provisions Butter, choice, W Ib	
Trout Trout Salmon, salt water Dry Cod, \$\$ 112 lbs. Prwif: Raisins, Layer,'78 I ondon Layer,'78	2 75 3 00	51 x 60 do. Pressed Spikes (4 months):	2 35 2 45	Butter, choice, W lb	0 02 0 01
Salmon, salt water	2 50 2 75 0 00 0 00	I NCKUIKI BIZCE, IOO	1 3 50 3 75	Dried Apples	0 18 0 08
Dry Cod, W 112 lbs Fruit: Raisins. Layer.'78	475 500 160 180	Extra " Tin Plate (4 months :)	4 25 4 50	Pork, mess, Bacon, long clear	10 5 11 00
LOUGOU Dayes	2 21 2 30 1	IC Coke IC Charcoal IX " IXX " DC " Hides & Skins, Y h.: Green. No. 1	5 00 9 CO 5 50 0 00	Bacon long clear " Oumberland cut " smoked Lard Hone, new	0 044 0 00
" Sultanas " Valentias, old	0 00 0 00	IX " IXX "	7 50 0 00	Hams,	0 08 0 09
" New do	0 05 ± 0 06 1 75 ± 00	DC "	4 75 5 00	Bgga	0 07 0 0
Currants, 1878 Molasses: Clayed, W gall.	0 042 0 062	Green, No. I	0 00 0 06	Hops, new Dressed Hogs	361 4 00
Valentias, old "New do	0 48 0 55	Green, No. 1	7 00 0 00	Salt, etc. Liverpoolcoarse per bag	
" Golden	0 45 0 50	Calfskins, green	0 08 0 10	Canadian per bbl	. 0 00 0 95
Spices:	0 041 0 041	Sheep Skins	0 85 I CO	St. Ubes, per cwt Wines, Liquors, ctc	
Alispice		Tallow, rendered Leather, @ 4 months: Spanish Sole, 1stquality	3 25 0 00	Ale: English, pts	1 60 I 90 8 65 2 75
Claves. Ginger, ground '' Jamaica, root Putmegs Pepper, black Sugars-Porto Rico, W D	0 45 0 50	Spanish Sole, Istquality all wgts., ID	0 25 0 28	Ready: Hennessy's case	LITO 25 10 50
Jamaica, root	0 21 0 25	Do. No. 2, Slaughter, heavy	0 22 0 25	OtardDupuyaCo "	8 75 9 25
Pepper, black	0 0 1 10	Do.light	0 24 0 27	1) Piset Castillon & Co.	
Sugars—Porto Rico, W Ib Cuba	0 07 0 07	Upper heavy	0 33 0 38	Gin: De Kuypers♥ gal B. & D	1 70 1 90
Eng. & Scotch refined Dry Crushed	0 07 0 08	"light & medium Kip skins, French	0 90 I 10	green cases	4 25 4 50
Stanuaru Granu atto	0.084 0.004	English Hemlock Calf (30 to 3	0 70 0 80	Booth's Old Tom Rum: Jamaica 16 o.p	1000 050
Cut Loaf	0.084.0.044			Demerara "	2 00 9 20
lapan common to good.	000 000	French Calf	1 12 1 40	Whishy : Geoderman & Worts'	2
fine to choicest. Colored, common to fine	0 00 0 00	Do. light Do. light French Calf Splits, large, ♥ D "small Bnamelled Cow, per ft. Petert	0 25 0 35	Terms Cash Under 5 bris., nett.; 5 to 10 bris.	,
Congou & Souchong	0 25 0 70	Enamelled Cow, per ft.	0 19 0 11 0 20 0 11	2 p.c. off; 10 bris, and	In Duty
Y. Hyson, com. to good	0 35 0 60	Ramelled Cow, per r. Patent Pebble Grain Buff Gambier	014 018	over, 5 p.c. off. Alcohol, 65 o.p. ¥ I. gall Pure Spirits	0 61 2 18
Batra choice	0.42 0 57	Russetts, light	0 15 0 35	" 50 " " " 25 u.p. "	0 56 1 99
Gunpwd com. to med.	0 37 0 42			FamilyProof Whisky"	0 30 I 04 0 35 I II
" Ine to incest	0 62 0 82	Degras	0 001 0 071	" Bye " "	• 35 I II
Hyson Imperial	0 32 0 82	Oils. Cod Oil	0 50 0 55	" Toddy " " " Malt "	0 55 I 05 0 53 I 05
Imperial Tobacco-Manufactured : Dark	0 34 0 36	Straits Oil	0 40 0 45	Uld KVe. S Vests old	0 33 I 05 0 70 I 46
Uark		Lard, extra	0 75 0 80	Wool.	
[good to fine Brightsorts, gd. to fine	0 42 0 45	STOCKS, MACh	0 50 0 55	Fleece, per Ib	0 20 0 01
20's(e	070 0 80	Duncan-Clark & Co's Linseed raw			0 10 0 20
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CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION.

Head Office-Temple Chambers, Toronto.

PRESIDENT. HON. W. P. HOWLAND, C.B.

VICE-PRESIDENTS. HON. WM. McMASTER. WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

Intending Assurers will find the following, with other advantages offered by this association:

RATES OF PREMIUM,

For a guaranteed amount of Insurance, that will bear favorable comparison with the rates of other companies.

Profits are distributed in a manner to afford justice to all classes of policies, the share increasing with each additional premium paid, and giving Assurers under **TEN PAYMENT**, **LIFE**, and other LIM-**ITED** PAYMENT PLANS and ENDOWMENTS, an equitable increased share in return for the larger premiums paid.

Safety and Security are attained by annual valuations on the Government standard.

The fullest information will be given on application at the Head Office or at the Agencies.

J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director. R. S. BAIRD, CITY AGENT.



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CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

Established, - - 1847.

CAPITAL AND ASSETS OVER \$4,000,000.

The following are examples of the effects of the Company's large profits in reducing the annual premiums payable by policy-holders :---

Pfemiums now reduced each year to	Original Yearly. Premiums.	No. of Policy.
\$ 3 56	\$21 20	69 198
	9 70	198
2 50 I 86	12 60	320
4 39	20 49	393
13 83	51 34	475
13 87	78 67	499
13 40	59 00	550
17 79	67 00	614
12 63	68 14	918

In other cases the premiums have been altogether extinguished, and the profits have yielded the policy-holders an annual cash income.

The Canada Life affords advantages such as have not been surpassed nor attained by any other company, and intending assurers are invited to carefully examine and satisfy themselves of that fact.

A. G. RAMSAY, Managing Director. R. HILLS, Secretary.

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Eastern Ontario-GEORGE A. COX, Peterboro.

Maritime Provinces-J.W. MARLING, 145 Hollis St., Halifax, N.S. Province of Quebec-R. POWNALL,

Canada Life Buildings, 182 St. James Street, Montreal. Special Agent for Montreal—JAMES AKIN.

Agent in Toronto, J. D. HENDERSON, Canada Life Buildings, 46 King Street West.

WESTERN

ASSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED 1851.

FIRE AND MARINE.

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO, ONT.

President., HON. JOHN McMURRICH.

Vice-President. CHARLES MAGRATH.

> Directors. NOAH BARNHART, Eso.

JAMES MICHIE, Esq. John Fiskin, Esq. A. M. Smith, Esq.

IN, ESQ. H, ESQ. H, ESQ. BERNARD HALDAN, Managing Director. J. J. KENNY, Secretary.

JAMES PRINGLE, General Agent.

Insurances effected at the lowest current rates on Buildings, Merchandise, and other property, against loss or damage by fire. On Hull, Cargo, and Freight against the perils of Inland Navigation On Cargo Risks with the Marisime Provinces by sail or steam. On Cargoes by steamers to British Ports.

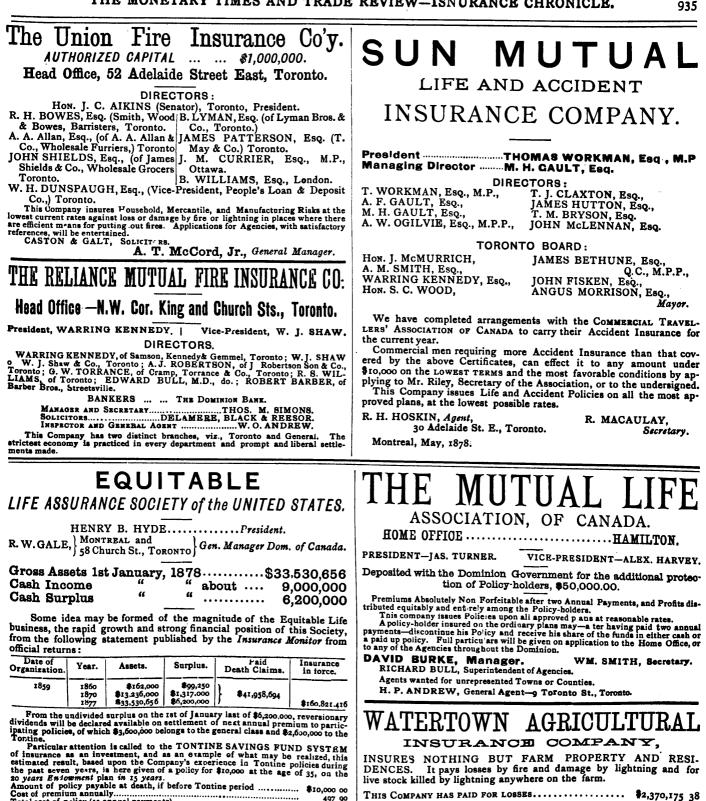
9 34



RISKS ACCEPTED ON ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF INSURABLE PROPERTY. RATES FIXED WITH REGARD TO THE LAWS OF AVERAGE.; LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED AND PROMPTLY PAID.



AGENTS.



Cost of premium annually	₩I0,000 00
Out of premium and a second presented	407 00
Total cost of policy (15 annual payments)	497 90 7,468 50
Cash value of policy, end of 15 years	
Ur a paid-up policy, payable in cash, in 5 years after	
Or cash surplus, end of 15 years	
Creating of the of the of the addition to such as a tot	5,138 00
Cash guranteed on policy, in addition to surplus end of 15 years	6,412 70
Thus you have been some in twenty wear and the	

arly doubling your money in twenty years, and having your life insured mean-

 Thus nearly doubling year and while.

 The Society having complied with the new insurance law of increased deposit with the Dominion Government, makes it a "Home Company" in Canada, and possessing the advantage of a large surplus safely invested and of economics i management, offers strong inducements to intending insurers. For further particulars apply to the agents. (Active agents wanted in unrepresented districts.)

 GEO. B. MOLLAND, Manager for Province of Ontario.

 1. W. LANGDON, Inspector.

This (LDAND RELIABLE COMPANY has again established its business in Canada, and it is too well known to require commendation. It has prospered for a quarter of a century and is to-day STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE. Its large assets and large Government deposit, with honourable dealing, fair adjustments and prompt payment of losses ought to secure to it a fair share of patronage from the insuring public. JOHN FISHER, Cobourg,

Assets JANUARY 1ST, 1878..... 1,103,070 56

HAS DEPOSITED WITH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ...

MANAGER FOR ONTARIO.

100,000 00

Experienced Agents wanted in unrepresented localities.



F. A. BALL Manager

UNION MUTUAL Life Insurance Co., of Maine

JOHN E. DE WITT, President.

AUGUSTA, MAINE.

DIRECTORS' OFFICE. 153 TREMONT ST., BOSTON.

ASSETS, 31 Dec., 1877 \$7,891,671 67 SURPLUS over Liabilities, 31 Dec., 1877, N.Y. Standard 583,417 53

All Policies issued after April 1, 1877, which shall have been in force Three full years will be entitled to all the benefits arising from the "Maine Non-Forfeiture Law," or, if surrendered within thirty days after lapse, paid-up Policies will be issued instead, if parties prefer.

Practical Results of the Maine Non-Forfeiture Law, passed Feb. 7, 1877, illustrated by a whole Life policy, issued at Age 30, and allowed to lapse after the payment of Three or more full Annual Premiums; Premiums having been paid Wholly in

No.					Amount Due if Death occur on Last Day of Extension.			Amount Due if Death occur on Last Day of Extension.		
	Am't.	Age when stopped.	Years	Days.	Age at Death	Amount of Policy.	Premiums & interest to be deducted.		Due Heira	Insur-i ance
					DORU	Foncy.	No.	Amount,		Prem's.
4 5 1 6 1 7 1 8 1 9 2 10 2	\$681 908 1,135 1,362 1,589 1,816 2,043 2,270 2,497	33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41	2 3 4 5 6 7 7 8 9	212 170 133 100 67 26 328 236 114	36 37 39 41 43 45 47 49 50	\$10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000 10,000	3450788910	\$759 87 1,041 38 1,339 18 1,055 36 1,990 05 2,340 74 2,477 51 2,843 77 3,205 85	8,660 82 8,344 64 8,009 95 7,659 26 7,522 49 7,156 23	8,050 62 7,525 82 6,982 64 6,420 95 5,843 20 5,479 49 4,886 23

J. C. BENN, General Agent, St. John, N.B.

THE STANDARD Fire Insurance Comp'y

Head Office — Hamilton.

GOVERNMENT DEPOSIT, \$25,000.

This Company has the largest Government Deposit of any purely Provincial Company.

It confines its business exclusively to this Pro vince, and limits its Liability on any First-Class Risk to \$3,000.

PRESIDENT.

D. B. CHISHOLM, Esq., Barrister, late Mayor of Hamilton, and Ex M.P. for Hamilton.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

H. THEO. CRAWFORD.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, General Agent Toronto District. Hamilton, March 1, 1878

Insurance.	āgents' Pirectory.	Insurance.
QUEEN INSURANCE C		THE LONDON
FIRE & LIFE. 	SHARPE & EWING, General Insurance Agents and Accountants. Agents for the National Fire Ins. Co.	OF LONDON, ONT. Licensed by the Ontario Legislature, deposits with the
INVESTED FUNDS	"J. NATTRASS, Fire, Life, Marine, Accident Ins. First Class Co.'s only. Steamship and Railway Ticket Agent. 373 Richmond St., London.	
Montreal, Chief Agonts for Can SHAW, Jz., Agent, No. 62 King Street East, Toronto,	D. LORTIE, Public Accountant, Financial Agent and Commission Merchant, 51 Richelieu Block, Dalhousie Street, Quebec.	Joseph Jeffery. Esq President. WM. MARDON, Manager & Secretary
Reliance Mutual Life Assurance Society. Betablished 1840.	G. M. GREER, Agent for Western Fire & Marine, Stadacona Fire Ins., Accident Ins., London & Lan- cashire Li e, 191 Hollis St., Halifax, N.S.	NOTICE
Head Office for the Dominion of Ganada: ST. JAMES STRBET, MONTREAL DIRECTORS:	J. McCRAE & Son, Official Assignces, Fire, Life and Marine Insurance Agents, Windsor, Ont. None but first-class Companies represented.	Is hereby given that an application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at its next Session, for an Act to Incorporate "The Hand-in-Hand Mutual Fire Insur- ance Company Guaranteed." Toronto, January 21, 1879.
The Hon. John Hamilton. Duncan MacDonald, Robert Simms, Esq. FREDERICK STANCLIFFE, Resident Secret	O. Agent. Bankrunt Estate and other debts col-	
THE GORE DISTRICT	H. E. NELLES, Official Assignce for London and Middlesex, London, Ontario.	The Waterloo County Mutual Fire Insurance Company
Mutual Fire Insurance Compa Head:Office - Galt, Ontario.	No. 3 Odd Fellows' Hall, Dundas Street, London, Ont.	HEAD OFFICE
A. T. McCORD, JR., & CO., Agents at Toront Does a general Insurance business, either on the STC OR MUTUAL PLAN.	CK Delaware, Mut. Safety; Providence, Washington; Union o: Penn.,& Guardian of London. St. John, N.B.	VILLAGE, FARM, AND MANUFACTURES, Bach Branch paying its own losses and its just propor- tion of the Managing expenses of the Company.
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