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Vol. 3.-No. 20.
MONTREAL, FRIDAY, DEC. 29, 1876.
$\left\{\begin{array}{c}\text { SUBSCRIPTION } \\ 82 \text { per aznuma }\end{array}\right.$

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INCORPORATED BY ACT OF FATEMAMENT, $185 \overline{0}$.
Capital, \$2,000,000
Rest, $\$ 540,000$

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## N <br> OTICE IS HEREBY Given THAT A

Dividend of THREE and ONE-HALF per cent.

Upon the Capital Stock of this Institution fur the current halfoyear has been this day declared, and that the same will be due and paythle at the Bank ard its Branches and. Agencies, o:n and after

## TUESDAY, THE SECOND DAY OF JANUARY, next.

The Transfer Book will be-closed from the 15th to the 31st December next, both days inclusive.

By order of the Bonve.
JACKSON RAE, General Manager.

Montreal, 24th November, 1876.

## LA BANQUE DU PEUPLE.

## Capital- $\$ 2,000,000$.

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NOTICE IS IIEREBY GIVEN THAT'A
Div:dend of 4 Per Cent.
upon the paid up Gapital Stock of this Instithtion has been declared for the current halfyear, and liat the same will be payable at the Hend Office and its Branches, on and after

## 

 AIEX NEXTSThe Trunsfer Books will be clozed from the 15th to the 3lst day of December, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board.

> WILLIAM FARWELL, Cashier.

Sherbinoke, Que.,
November $7 t h, 1876$.

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Coal, Iron, Tin, Salt, \&c.
ferrcantile summaty.

- To onr friends and subscribers throughout the Duminion and elsewhere, we send cordial greetings and wishes for a "Hapur New Year." - The Vousolidated Land and I'etroleum Company are about to contract for an oil pipe line from Uleon to Bullalo, a distance of 160 miles.
- I'be Gity and District Surings Bank of this eity has distributed $\$ 10,800$ amongst the charithhie institutions, being the interest on the poor find.
- C. Huston, heretofore one of our most successful retailers in the clothing business, has recently commenced in the wholesale line with excellent prospeets.
- Berg \& Sheppard, of Toronto, dissolved in Nov. last, Mr. Sheppard retiring. The ereditors not relishing the idea of letting this gentleman off, got out a writ of attachent against the old firm.
- There are now over a hundred buildiugs in Hensall, Ontario, all having been erected within ten months. This arises from the fact that the L., I. \& I. R. scheme was satizfactorily accomplished.
- The Deparment of Agriculture hare received information that the barque Escort was despatched on Saturday, from New Iork; with 341 tons of Camadian exhibils on board for the exhibition at Sydney, New Sulth Wales; in April next.
- The wholesale haberdashery firm of Sicel ton, Tooke \& Co. has been dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Andrew F. Ganal, of firm Gault Bros. © Co. The business will be continued by Messrs. Leslie ic Ohatles Skelton and Benjamin Tooke, under the old style.
-J. R. Middlemiss, Esq., states that, not withstanding the netion of the present Board, in acepting the 5,000 shares given up by the old directors of the Jacques Gavier Bank, procedings will be instituted to test the liatility of the latter to the tillest extent.
- A. U. Guilmette, dry goods merchant of this city, fitiled in September, 75 , and eftected a compomise, the paments on which he has not been able to make to the satisfaction of creditors. The Molsons Mank issued a writ of attachment the other day, $n$,on which the nssiguee resunce prosession of the estate, which will probably be wotnd up in instreney.

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WROUGHT STEAM PIPE \& FITTINGS, OAST IRON WATER AND GAS PIPE, RUBBER-COATED TUBING. AGENTS FOR
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EBraces Patent Stone and Ore Hreaker, with Patented Improvements.
AGENT FOR PROVINOE OF qUEBEG OH
WATERS' PERFECT ENGINE GOVERNOR.

- We regret to learn that Messrs. N. Vhlois \& Co, in this city, one of our prominent wholesale boot and shoe manufacturers, are in financial difficulties. A mecting of creditors was held yesterday, with the object of effecting a compromise. Direct liabilities are estimated at about $\$ 115,000$, indirect at $\$ 132,000$, while their assets are expected to be somewhat under the former figure.
- The fre on Broadway, New York, yesterday (the 28 th ), opposite the Metropolitan hotel, was under control at 11 o'clock. Tony Pastor's theatre suffered more damage from smoke and water than from tire; the photographic gallery of Fredericks and O'Neill was burned out; loss on paintings and stock heavy; the top floors of 583 and 585 Brondway are burned out; losses to occupants will be heavy.
- The failure is announced of Chipman, Stone \& Co., of New York, and Yohohnma, Japan, one of the largest firms in the Japan trade. Liabilities are variously estimated from $\$ 250,000$ to $\$ 500,000$. The affairs of the firm are in liquidation by Nathan J. Stone, at Yokohama, and he bas made an assignment of all property of the firm for the benefit of creditors to Mr. E. C. Hine, President of the American Clock Company.
- The indefatigable secretary of our Board of Trade has published another useful pamphiet on the commerce and resources of the lsland of Newfoundland. The statistics are rery valuable, and the pamphlet discusses the consideratum both of the merclant and the statesman. We are not aware whether any negotiations are at present on foot with the .view of the admission of Newfoundland to the Dominion.
- Messrs. Hiam \& Ostell, wholesale fancy hoods; have been served with a writ of attachment: The concern bas never been a very strong one in point of means, and the past year or

eighteen montas has been a trying period for them. They had, however, worked along so far that it was hoped they would be able to continue till the advent of better times, but the present writ, which is for only a small amount, necessitates a stoppage. No figures as to liabilities are yet public, but it is feared the estate will realize poorly.
-The following is the statement of shipments from Othawa, Elull rad Buckingham to the United States for the season of 1876:-Sawn lumber-from A pril 10 th to June 30 th, $34,252,-$ 352 feet, value $\$ 370,42 \overline{5} .61$; from July 10 to Sept. $30,46,891,303$ fect, value $S 444,868.12$; from October 10 to November 23, $20,369,030$ feet, value $\$ 202,531: 48$; total, $\$ 1,017,825.21$. Other classes of woods and manufactures of wood, comprised of the following specials :-Rail way ties and hop poles, fence posts and pickets, laths and curtain sticks, deal ends and match splints, door und window sashes, $\$ 30,079.87$.
- A number of the lending merchants, M. P.'s and others of Toronto waited upon Mr. Thos. McCraken, at the Rossin House, a few days ago, and agreeably stirprised him by the presentation of a very handsome silver tea service, as a mark of their appreciation of his official career as manager of the Royal Canadian Bank. Mr. McCraken made a suitable reply. Since the amalgamation of the Royal Canadian Bank with the City Bank, under the name of Consolidated Bank of Canada, Mr. McCraken fills the position of assistant ; general manager, and will doubtless prove himself well fitted for the post.
- Toronto has taken the initiative towards celebrating "The Oentennial" in the Dominion. It is contemplated holding a banquet in the Scoate Chamber, at Oltawia, after the distribution of medals and diplomas to Canadian exhibitors by Lord Dufferin. Dr. May of Toronto
is now in this eity seeking the co-operation of exbibitors from Montreal, and his views seem to meet with their hearty support. In view of the coming Australian Exhibition, it will have a beneficin effect, as at $n$ gathoring of the ditferent representations of manufacture, \&c., such as will likely be met with upon such an oceasion, muck benefit will result, and possibly a greater eflort will be made to place the Dominion exhibitors in as prominent $n$ position in every way as they occupied at Philadelphia.
- An excitement rescmbling the fumous South Sea Bubble prevails among the less intelligent classes of the Spanist Capital. Several so-called bunking institutions have sprung up, offering the cxtraordinary inducement of thirty per cent, per month to depositors, and large sums linve been withdrawn from the regular savings'. banks to invest in these swindling concerns. The Government has closed up most of them. One establishment, that of Donna Bandomera, has received on deposit $88,000,000$ of reals; but, as depositurs are promplly paid, the Government cannot interfere.
- The prospect of rebuilding the works of the Canadian Meat and Produce Compury at Wherbrooke is encournging. Of the $\$ 50,000$ which the company has stipulated for as the contribution of the Townships to the reconstruction, the Sherbrooke council have guaranteed $\$ 15,000$; leaving the balance to be raised by the country districts which partake of the benefits of the home market. Stanstend county through its council; has, in viey of unanimity of its township councils, undertaken to pass a county by-law granting its share; and the councils of Ascot, Urford, Compton, Clifton, Bury, Westbury, Dudswell, Weedon, Stoke, Brampton, Cleveland, Shipton, and Danville have all responded to the call, and have cither fuamed by-liavs to be submitted to the people

Luthing Winolesalo Trade of montreni
OGELVE\& CO.,

IMPORTERS OF

## DRY GOODS

CORNER OF

St. Peter and St. Paul Streets,

## MONTREAL.

or, in some cases, have agreed to pay the sums aiready granted to the company at its inception.
-The immense demand for refined petroleum In the United States markets, and the rapidity with which, recently, large amounts of money hnve been lost and made in denlings in oil, have created anexcitement akin to that when the oil wells of Penasylvania first gate their liquid weal th to the world. The cause of the flurry in New York is that refiners have large contracts on hand which will take most of their product for all. December and part of January, so that new contracts are high for this monh and lower the further ofl the deliery is. There are over 75 vessels loading and to load at New York, with 350,000 barrels in all, some of which is not refined. In Baltimore there are 24 vessels, and in philadelphin 23 vessels, londing with cargoes of about 4,590 barrels each.

Conmection.--The remarks of our Toronto correspondent in a recent issue, respectiag the character of the Mansard roof of the elegant new premises of the British America Assurance Company in that city, require some modification. To a person simply passing and seeing the building when the roof was first put on, it might appear that all above the cornice was wood, but it is not so. The walls, which are from 3 to 44 ft . in thickness, are continned up until they strike the roof, so that in reality the walls extend up to the top of the Mansard windows. There is, therefore, not much wood-work exposed above that, and what there is, will be all corered with slate or iron. Several insurance gentlemen have since exnmined it, and they pronounce it safe beyond posisibility of doubt. The progress of the building has been watehed by the manager himself, one of the most experienced undervriters in the Province, and there is no possibility of making a Mansard roof more thoroughly fire proof, unless made entirely of iron. It is also proposed to have a standpipe in the building, extending above the roof,

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Artists' Materials and French Brushes ALWAYS IN STOCK.
Special quotations for import orders and for Plate Glass, \&e.

With hose in each flat, $\pi$ suitable example to owners of similar buildings.

- The affaits of the Gold Exclange Bank in New York are being settled, and it has been finally determined to close that institution. No bank has yet been chosen to continue the business of effucting clearances.
assignments in ontallo for past weer.
Lake \& Bros., furniture, Oshawn.
Simeon Cook, lumber, Ingersoll.
Chas. E. Bourne, generalistore, Ninticoke.
John Blacklock, trader, Toronto.
P. O. Auclaire, tailor, Ottawa.
woits of attachament issuldo vs.
Jas. F. Cass, trader, Hawkesbury.
Wm. Ellis, rags, \&e., Belleville.
assignments for past week in protince of quenec.
F. X. Paquet, genernl store, Cape Santio.

Olivier Latour, Lum jer, Hull.
Lonis lerg: Levis.
Thibodean: © Co., brickmakers, Lapraixic.
E. J. Dubenu, grocers, Queber.

Hiam \& Ostell, taney goods, Montren.
Whits of attachinent issued vs.
H. P. Nerrell, furs, Corvasville.

Pierre L'Heureux, contmator, Sherbrooke.
W. E. Reed, shoemaker, Cowaisville.
E. Turgeon, tailor, Quebec.

Andrew Hulidny, cooper, Montreal.
Robt. Blackwood \& Vo: Ginger ales, de., Mon-
Lambert Lavigne, Muntreal.
Lambert Lavigne, Muntreal.

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| Hins | Drills | Bromics |
| Hooks nd Eyes | Enits | Card Crnes |
| Tapes | Shirthers | Card board Tox |
| Buttons | Sheatug | Chains |
| Barnerh | Shnwls | Combs |
| Embroldery Cotton: | Pleking | Concortinna |
| Filssollo | Twerds | Croskes |
| Carnot Blading | Towels | Desks |
| Fish Lines | Umbrellar | Dolla |
| Clinsk Linos | Veiveteons | Drums |
| Elastic Cord | Wincey | Ertr-lilnga |
| American Laco | Giturhmma | Envelopes |
| Boot Buttoners | Ribloma | Fitre |
| Boxkins | Stiks | Fenther Duxter |
| Arin Elastics | Glover | Fings |
| Braids | Canton Flannc? | Foot Ralla |
| Braces | Cloths | Jowerlery |
| Huckles | Whterproof Twoad | Jewx hatpe |
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| Carjet Binding | Cripu | Lockdia |
| Croichet Cotton | Curtains | Mnrhlos |
| Crotehet 1Iooks | Drens Goods | Mrsks |
| Inir pln | Corscta | Mirrora |
| Entrolls | Collirs | Neckineor |
| lemp | Candlo Wick | Notaprper |
| Ink | jodpiga | liox Papateries |
| Mcnalng Catton | Wianuserchlets | Paring Waro |
| Kılting Plas | Mrollina | porfuniery |
| Pens | Hosiery | 1 jctura Frames |
| Pencticorsoh | Kniting Cotton | Plpos |
| Purses | Eniled Lining | Lizors |
| khbinn Wiro | Meltone | Minca |
| Sllk Twist | Mojosking | Sintchola |
| Sinter | Masilna | Slipper Patterna |
| Stas binding | Oll Clath | Skipping Roper |
| Tattink Shattlo | Pritov Cotton | Specticles |
| Thrand Lition | Pratusoly Cords | Tops |
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Naval Stores, \&c., \&c., \&c.
OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES:
310, 312, 314 and 316 st. Paul Street AND
253, 255 and 257 ComnissionersStreet MONTLREAT.

TORONTO MARKETS.
(Va Domidion Line.)
Toronto, Dec. 28.-Market firm; flour advancing ; sales of Fancy at $\$ 9.45$, and Spring Extra at Sī. 15 ; Extra firm, at $\$ 5.80$ to $\$ 5.90$. Untmen!, firm, and sold at equal to $\$ 5.10$ here. Whert, qui t, but very firm, No. 1 Spring would bring $\$ 1.23$ to $\$ 1.24$. (Gats, quier and weak, at 40c. Barley inactive and unchanged. - Peas, firmer, and sold at 76 c . in store. Hogs easy; two cars sold at $\$ 6.80$. On street, Fall Whent sold at Sl. 16 to $\$ 1.32$. Sprin7, Si, 20 to - Tl.32. Oats, 42e to 43 c ; Barley, 56 c to 7 Lc ; Peas, 73 c to 752 c .

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Commission Merchants,

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Fine Old Irraen Dock JfwAICA ETMS and the lexding brands of GJNs and BRANDIES.

## 

## Finance and Jnsurance feyiewn.

## MONTREAL, DEC. 29, 1876.

## BMBEZZLEMLENJSS.

The recent embezalements caused by speculators on the stock exchange are naturally occupying the thoughts of those whose duty it is to endeavour to give a right direction to public opinion. Judging from articles which have appeared in the contemporary press, a favourite remedy seems to be legislation in the direction of restraining the Banks from making loans on the security of stocks. It is admitted that it would be necessary to make any measure of this description prospective in its operation, as the effect of myy sudden change in the law would be to intensify the existing evil, by forcing a large amount of stock on an overloaded market. It is admitted that to prevent speculation, is beyond the power of the Legislature. Experience has proved the impossibility of legislating with effect on such subjects as that under consideration. For a long period of years laws regulating the rate of interest on money were enforced under heavy penalties but were found wholly ineffective. The borrower had not only to pay the full market rate, but tho extra amount required to run the risks and obstructions placed in his way by the law. It is notorious that during the existence of
the usury laws the banks often furnished money to the lenders at the legal rates of interest which was afterwards lent at excessive rates to the borrower under conditions by which the law was evaded. If we were to examine into the transactions of the party charged with the most recent emberzlement, we should probably find that the most ruinous speculations were carried on in New York, where there is no difficulty in obtaining money at any time, provided adequate margins are maintained. It appears moreover that in the late Coronto case, Barber obtained money from one of the Loan or Building Societies by which the loan was subsequently transferred to $a$ firm of brokers. The practical effect of the restriction on the bonks would be that other parties would find the money: and that greater facilities for firaud than now exist would be afforded. Those acquainted with the history of stock speculations during the last twenty years camot be unaware of the fact that by far the most disastrous as well as the most successful of those speculations have been carried on in New York. Ourown beliefis, that the remedy for the admitter evil is to be found elsewhere. We are of opinion that checks shoald be devised by which individuals holding confidential situations whether in banks or in other corporations or in the employment of professional or mercantile men should be prevented from obtaining credits. Hitherto so far as we can judge no discretion seems to have been exercised. Brokers who have been employed by persons speouhating improperly have had their suspicions aroused so much as to have been led to close accounts which they felt that they could not continue with safety to themselves and yet they have not felt it their duty to communicate to the ofticial superiors of the party the suspicions which had been aroused in their own minds. We believe that the true remedy is to be sought in such amendments to the criminal law as will bring within its reach those who lend themselves to the fraudulent? practices which have brought disgrace on several young men who, had no facilities been afforded them, might have continued worthy members of society.

After the foregoing remarks had gone to press we noticed in the daily papers that Mr. Weir has given notice of a resolution to be proposed to the members of the Open Stock Exchange, which is cortninly a step in the right direction, and which is as follows
"No member of this board shall carry on margin any stock, share, or other security for any cashicr, accountant, tel-
ler, bookkeeper or other employe in any incorporated company or niercantile house, when such cashier, accountant, teller, boolskeeper or other employe holds a position of trust, or where it is usual for him to give security for the faithful discharge of his duties."

## THE BOOT AND SHOE IMRADE.

No line of business better exhibits the progress made by the manufacturing industries of the country, and especially the growth of Montreal as a manufacturing centre, than the boot and shoe trade during the last twenty-five years, in its gradual approach to its present proportions. Twenty three years ago the entire amual manufacture of this city did not quite equal that of one of any six that mightbe named today. The enterprise of the leading firms in this line led thein to adopt every improvement in labor-saving machinery and materials, which, with the cheapness of labor at this centre, have enabled them to command the trade of the country. The establishment of factories at other distributing centres in the Dominion, instead of lessening this superiority, has only confirmed the fact that, through manufacturing in larger quantities, the manufacturers in this market liave been able to control the trado of the country from Newfoundland to Manitoba. Even the United States manufacturers, with their profitless prices of the present year, have not been able to sell to any apprecinble axtent in this market, and what they have introduced has been of a class of goods hitherto not manufactured in Canala, but for which there is a growing demand in our towns and cities. In order to exclude this class of goods also, chiefly consisting of ladies' and children's fine kid slippers and boots, one or two of our leading houses have been visiting the American centres during the past season, and have returned with all the necessary appliances, including experienced workmen, for manufanturing these goods, and dealers will now have an opportunity of testing the ability of Canadians to compete successfully in the production of fine goods as well as in the stronger kinds.

The business of the year just closing has partaken of the general depression, and, during the first six months, goods were "sacrificed" by Canadian as woll as American manufacturers. Considerablo stocks were held at the beginning of the year, the material and labor of which cost as much as the prices realized, The reduction in price of leather demoralized the market to some extent. Towards the fall, however, goods began to pay very small profits, owing to cheapness of materials
of the previous six months; and this circumstance is likely to benefit the spring trade, as leather is exceedingly firm in price, and likely to appreciate further, through the scarcity, and consequent high price, of hides for some time past, and continued tenclency upward.

The increase in materials is shown, for example, in the article of sole leather, for which twentyone cents was deemed a good price last summer, but for which twenty-five cents is paid to day, and the advance in uppers is fully ten per cent. Goods have, however, been sold at untemuncrative pricos during the fall, and it would require a retum to the quotations of a year ugo to give munufacturers a profit on their goods. Stocks in the United States are higher, materials keeping pace with the appreciation of the currency: Eitherto the people of that country have been able to buy imported leathers as cheap for greenbacks as the people of this country could in gold, and labor has lately been as cheap as with us, and somewhat cherper, when we consider the greater nimbleness of the American workman which, we regret to say, enables many classes of mechanics among our translineal cousins to performia greater amount of labor in the same space of time than those of most other countries.

The numerous cases of insolvency the present year have been severely felt by the boot and shoe manufacturers, but, we are plensed to say, without producing but few disasters among them, although Montreal clealers seem to have been specially selected by the unfortumates, perhaps because they are supposed to be " better able to bear it."

Whe number of wholesale establishments engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes in Montreal is about thirty, employing about 2,460 persons, and manufacturing goods to the value of $\$ 4,300,000$ ammally, as shown by the following tible, representing, respectively, the business of twenty-one leading establishments:

| Firmi. . Persons Emphoyed. | Valua it Goman rroluced. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Ames Ilolden, \& Co........ 235 | S 100,000 |
| J.and Tr. Bell..... .......... 80 | 125,000 |
| Donuvan \& Willinnis....... 175 | 275,000 |
| Fr gaty Bros................. 150 | 325,000 |
| T. Lupierre.................. 50 | 70,000 |
|  | 100,000 |
| Leggrt \& Johnson........ 85 | 150,000 |
| Q. Lenoir \& Freres......... 25 | 55,000 |
| Jas. Linton \& Oo. | 300,000 |
| J. \& R. McGrendy \& Co... 150 | 275,000 |
| W. C. Melaren \& Co...... 140 | 250,000 |
| Mularky \& Co............. 175 | 300,000 |
| Pinkerton, Whitham \& Co.112 | 200,000 |
| Rollatd \& O'Brien.......... 85 | 153,000 |

Sluck \& Gravel.............. 30 : 50,000
Slater \& Perry...... ... ... 85
Smardon \& Young........... 112
Smith, Coclrane \& Co..... 200
W. Stafford \& Co............ 85
N. Valois \& Oo................ 112

Webster \& McMartin......." 55
All others....................... 113 100,000 200,000 325,000 150,000 200,000 100,000

This contains only about two 20,100 the establishments cloing a wholesale business, but it is large enough to warrant the establishment of sone degree of unity among the members for mutual protection. Among the causes operating to the disadvantage of boot and shoe manufacturers in this city, as Fell as in Toronto, Quebee and elsewhere is the want of an Exchange. Such an institution would be productive of much benefit ; besides being a check on the indiscriminate sale of goorls, it would be a restraint on over-production and a consequent promoter of a healthy trade; it would also repress the evil tendency to send out travellers too early, besides many other advantages that would naturally follow, as may be seen by the success of such establishments in many cities of Great Britain and the United States. What any prominent firm loses in a single year; lacking these advantages, would pay the total expenses of such an institution.

A word to retailers may not be out of place here. Cises often come to our Inowledge of country merchants who are driven to the wall when they get behind in their business, simply through the unwise practice of buying from a great many houses in the same line instend of confining themselves to two or three. A merchant who discovers his customer has been purchosing from nearly everybody in the trade is not interested enough to forbenr, and will not hesitate to refuse the extension he would readily have granted where the petitioner has been purchasing only from two or three firms ; besides the greater likehood of one man being found in seven or ten to refuse any concession, even in the most deserving case.

## TIIE JACQUES CARIIER BANK.

Amongst the financial events of the past week we have to note the meeting of the shareholders of Sa Banque Jacques Cartier, well worthy of remark as much on account of the peculine ideas of its president on the rights of shareholders, as for tho extraordinary manner in which discussion of the financial position of the Bank, looking towards an elucidation of the different and perhaps somewhat dificult financial problems presented by this unfortunate institution, was successfully provented.

That froedom of discussion was not permitted is a matter of regret, especially in view of the fact that the president and directors of the bank atterided the meeting with resolutions ready made, probably framed to ordor, the adoption of which involved the assumption by the shareholders of the Bink of the whole responsibility of the old directorate for a consideration of 5,001 ) shares of their stock, representing a nominal value of $\$ 250,000$ or an actual value at present market puice of the stock of about $\$ 85,000$. Now it must be evident that if these gentlemen hud not rondered thenselves. amenable to lav for their mal-administration of the aftairs of La Banque Jacques Cartier during their term of office, they would not have come forward voluntarily and offered to pry so large an amount of money to avoid the consequences of their acts, likely to result from prosecution in Court; and if they really occupy the position that this offer of theirs so strongt ly indicates, it devolyed on the other shareholders of the Bank to make a careful examination of the affars of the institution, either by special committee or othervise, to determine whether the offer of the old directors was at all adequato to the risk they wished to impose on the romaining shareholders; as an essential condition of the acceptance of the 5000 shares by them was ail absolute guarantee that the old divectorate should not be prosecuted, or, if any action should be taken against these gentlemen, the remaining shareholders of the Banlis hould guarantee them against the conseque nces of such action, or, in other words, what the remaining shareholders of La Banque Jacques Cartier, whose money has been so recklessly squandered diring the term of ofice of the old directorate, shall assume an unknown liability supposed to be of enormous extent for the purpose of guaranteeing against loss the only gentlemen who deserve to sustain all the loss that may have arisen from their mismanagement. Although there was no possibility of ascertaining the exact position of the Bank at the annual general meeting held last week, yel an approximate estimate of the possible losses and the consequent risk the shareholders have been so blandly invited to assume, may be formed from a glance at last year's statement of affars presented to the shareholders on the 27 thDecember, 1875 , over the signature of J. L. Beaudry, president. According to that gentieman, who had the best possible means of arriving at an accurate estimate, the original capttal of the Bank was impaired under the management of his predecessors to the
extent of about $\$ 700,000$, and that this statement camnot be far from the truth, if, indeed, it cloes not under-estimate the losses, is demonstrated by the fact that at last week's meeting another motion was presented to the shareholders, for the purpose of authorizing the directors to cut down the original capital of the Bank to the extent of $\$ 1,000,000$. These facts give some idea of the extent of the responsibility the old directorate wish to impose on the sliareholders of La Banque Jacques Cartier for the consideration of $\$ 85,000$, as offered by these gentlemen for a guarantee of complete imnunity from the sorious consequences of their unfortumate adminstration of the affin's of the Bank under their direction. It behooves the shareholders of the Bank, who do not wish to have their stock seriously impaired - by the adoption of such ridiculous propositions, to insist on the most thorough and searching investigation into the affais of the Bank and the conduct of the old directorate before committing themselves to the adoption of ready-made motions, on which ballot was refused, involving the assumption of an extraordinary and unnecessary risk.

## EASY LESSONS ON POLITICAL ECONOMY.

The favor with which these essays have hitherto been received has determined us to extend them beyond the limitsori ginally nssigned to encharticle. The present essay on banking will deal more thoroughly with the subject than was possible in the brief article published in a former number.

## II.-On Banking.

A banker is a dealer in Hoating capital -receiving it from those who have no present use for it and imparting it to those who have such use. He gives for it secure custody, and a promise to pay either on demand; or on short notice ; and sometimes he pays interest. He gets for it what he deems adequate security, and such interest as his own skill as a lender and the state of the money market arail to bring him. He serves capitalists who have spare capital and no immediate use for it by putting such cupital to present use at interest, and he is paid for this service with a part of the interest thus obtained. Like all other arts, banking is progressive. What it has been shows patly what it is; and what it is and has been tells us what it may become. The art was tirst piractised in Italy, and ulence its prosent name. It began in moneychanging; and banco was the Italian name of the bench or counter which was used by the money-changers. And these, when the armed adventurers of Europe in suc-
cessive generations, pourad across Itnly to the Holy Land, grew to be something much more than mere cliangers of money. Their original occupation was to verify the weight and fitness of coins, and toexchange them for coins of more ready circulation in the locality in which these were wanted for use; and in this way they lad long found employment wherever men congregated for commercial affairs. By a gradual extension of their oflices, they becamo receivers of deposits of money for safe custody, then lenders of money and negociators of lonns. But so far at least it would appear that their business had adranced at Rome in the time of Augustus. Soon alter the beginning of the Crusades, and cluring the consequent revival of commerce in Europe, the same class of persons, always present where commerce existed to any extent, became not only verifiers of coins, but also verifiers and sometimes discounters or buyers and sellers of bills of exchange, promissory notes and bonds-forms of paper-credit which then came gradually into use-partly in aid of money, but oftoner for commercial purposes for which money was not fitted. Ihus arose what is now called banking.

It was not till after the mildle of the sixteenth century that the taking of interest for money harl legal sanction in England; and it was not till about a century later that the goldsmiths in Iondon began to make a tracle of taking money on deposit to lend again-and thus became bankers. This marles the naturn origin of commercial banking. Butbanks of a public and corporate character were formed, and are still in great part maintained, in aid of governments. The first of these banks in Europe seems to have been formed at Venice. Its origin is obscure, as is the origin of most things which become in the end muth more than was at first expected. 'The best accounts we' have point to the raising by the State of a forced loan from the chief families of Venice, to meet the cost of a long war. This was in the twelfth century. The lenclers, laving a conmon property in the lom, acted together in recording it and in dealing with the State as to its repayment. On two more occasions the State raised money in the same way; and so three bodies of state creditors came into existance. In 1587 the three became one body, and took the name of the Bank of Venice. In looking after their own money, they had incidentally learned something of the art of taling care of that of others. Closely bound up with the State, they also shared its credit. They had already recoived money and other
valuables on deposit, and had made lonns and remittances, and, it is supposed, had issued notes of money deposited with them which passed from lrand to hand by delivery. Similir banks were formed at Genon in 1407, at Amsterdam in 1609, at Hamburg in 1619, at Nuremburg in 1621 and at lioterdam in 1635. It is worthy of note that the money deposited with these banks was held with great fidelity; and there can be no doubt that, thougl their practice was imperfect, they gave much aid to the commerce of the time.

Now let us consider how banking aids commerce and makes easier all large and many small dealings with money. We know that all wealth comes of postponed consumption, of self-denial, of saving; that this saving sorves two onds, the providing for future wants and the aiding of future production; that the merely provident purpose operates among some of the lower animals, but that man alone accumulates capital to economise future labor ; and that, even with him, the first steps are slowly made and with difliculty. And we camot ever make them with ense or with much effect till the banker comes to our aid. What remains unspent in any givon year of our profits or our wages, we may indeed lay -by ; but this is only hoarding. Wealth becomes capital only. when brought to profitable use. But it is not always easy -it is often difficult-for those who save to find for their savings a profitable use in any industrial operation conducted by themselves. Hence most of those who save want some means whereby small sums may be safely, rapidly and profitably converted into interest-bearing capital, by being placed at the service of others who can give to it a profitable use. It is the primary business of the banker to supply such means. He receives such sums as deposits at interest, makès himself responsible for their safe custorly and retum, and lends what he has received, on fit security, and at such a rate of interest as may leave him a fair margin of gain. Thus may savings, as fast as they are made, be made secure, and be ensily poured into the funcl of flonting capital, the distribution of which forms the business of the money market. And, besides the sums finally saved from income, there aro also large portions of income received aml in course of being spent, which, meanwhile, may -go to the bankers for safe custody till actually needed. Then the capital already in use, being held to use only for profit, and profit varying in clifferent forms of employment, is occisionally transferred from one use to nnother. In the process of transfer such
capital will almost inevitably be, for a short time, wholly or partially unemployed by its owner. It also requires, especially if there bea change of locality, a safe and rapid mode of transmission. It usually passes, therefore, in one form or another, through the hands of a banker, whose business it is to aflord such facilities, and who will either hold it safely for a time, or receive it at one place to pay it at another. And, lastiy, eash receired from day to day in the ordinary course of business, finds, in the hands of a banker, the sate eustody which it reguives until it shall again be pail away; and, as cheques dawn upon a binker are a convenient sulbstitute for money in making payments, and the account kept with a banker is, itself, an useful adjunct to the accounts of all who record their receipts and payments, the practice of chaily lodging all spare monies with a banker, increases, and probably will incrense, steadily, with the weath and the intelligence of every mercantile community which has once become familiar with the uses of banking.

So fur of deposits, which are the basis of all banking ; and it is in this aspectmanly that the art presents itself to those who are supplying the capital with which the industry and skill of the country are embled to extend its commerce and mannfactures.

> (To be continued.)

## sUGAR PRODLCTON OF THE WURLD.

The Sugar Refincre' Commithe have prepared, at the request of the Buard of Trude, some interesting approximate statisticson the world's sugar production, and the quantity taken for refining. The information has been collected from various sources, both oficial and commercina. In the matter of production it has been thonghi better to give the siverage production of each country in ronnd numbers, rather than the exact shipments of any particular year. As shipments are in most cases the only data to be obtained, it mist be recollected that the ligures given may be very far fom repesenting the total production of the coming. This is especinlly the case with such conmiries as China, India, Central America, Brazil, and jern. In one instance the roverse is the casestatistics are giren of the Louisiann crop, whereas the shipments from it are little or nothing. Two estimates are made of the proportion of sugar which gocs for refining, and they are found to agree witli tolerable accuracy; the one is based on the nature of the production in each colntry, the other on the refining power of Europe and America, ant the proportion of beet and canc used in each relining conntry. They must be taken as nothing more than rough approximations, amonating in some cases to mere guesses. Sill, it must be conceded, the figures are valmable as giring a fair iden of how much sugat undergoes a second manuficture (in Europe and America) before being consumed. A thitd and even rougleer estimate is
attempted of the relative quantities produced by the various methods at present in roguc. These are given only in totals, but they are based on estimates made for each producing country. Tlus, for instanee, Cuba produces centrifugal, muscovado, clayed, molasses sugar, and melado, in relative quantities, according to the order enumernted. It is.probable that, with the exception of the shipments to Spain, nearly all the sugar shipped from Uubit now goes for retiniug. The sugat from Lonisiana, on the other band, may be said to go, almost entirely, direct into consumption. The bulk of the British Gufani crop now comes in the form of erystallised centrifugat sugar, and goes to the consumer, while the product of the remmining British West Lndies, and their Duteh and Danish neighbours, gocs in great prat for relining, account being, however, taken of the grocery muscovadoes from larbados and St. Croix, and the few eentrifugals from Trindad and other islands. Among the Pernvian shipments concrete oceupies it prominent position. The proportion of clayed to muscoradedexported from limilla is oficially stated to be about as two to one. The French West India ishands are known to produce about ea jer cent of fime contrifagal sugar, a harge proportion of which is also known to enter retineries. The shiments from Manitins indicate hat considembly more than halt the crop goes for diret consumption, whereas, from like indications, it may be concloded that at least fivesix this of the Java shipments are afterwards refined. From brazil nearly all is refined. The China shipments have thitherto heen mosty to Asiatic ports, and it is only at the present moment that considerable quantities are being diverted to other markets. Mexico, thanks to some new export bounty, has suddenly appeared as an important sugar exporting country.

Tuming to the European bectroot crop, we find thatconditions vary to an important extent in the difierent producing countrics. Thus, while Gemman and Austria produce a very appreciable quantity direct from the root in the furm of lant sugar, Fance, llolland, and Delgium prodnce nest to none in that state. On the other hind, though white crystallised sugne forms not very far from balf the French production, the quantity of it produced in other countries is at present insignificant.

4 propes of the rarious methods of manufacture in cane-sugar producing countries, it may be mentioned that the coneretor is concerned, in one way or another, with the production of about 63,000 tons, of which 25,000 are manafictared in Pera. Of this total about 26,000 tons are in the form of concrete, of which about 8,000 or 10,000 tons conte from Peru.

## Oane Sugar Production:



| Louisiann..................................... | 75,000 |
| :---: | :---: |
| $l^{\prime}$ era. | 50,000 |
| Egypt, | 40,000 |
| Central America and Mexico.. | 40,000 |
| Reunion.. | 30,000 |
| Brilish Indat and Pe | 30,000 |
| Honolulu....................................... | 10,000 |
| Matal.. | 10,000 |
| Australiat.................... .................... | 5,000 |
|  | 140,000 |

— Mritish Trude Joumat.

## RATES FOR FIRE NSSURANOE.

The efforts of skilful and sagacions underwriters to roduce the husiness to a system, Wherein can be safely culculated the chances of profit or loss, will never be successful until care is taken to eduente public sentiment to a knowleage of the real principles unon which insurance is based. It will be uscless to tiy to counteract the existing prejndice against insurance commanie until crefy community which entertaius that prejudice is made to understand wherein rest the mutuality of interest between the insured and the insurer. In general terms nothing can the phaner than that the prosperity of the one conduces to the prosperity of the ollec. Glearly, then, it is a common necessity that iusuance companies must exact rates which will earble them, not alone to pay ordinary losecs, but to be prepared for extmordinary losses. Iet erery where, anung business men, is heard a general clamor agamst rates. But, do they ever seek to know what rates are high? The purchaser of any article of merchandise, which sells at a higher price than it conld be bought for yesterdity, does not need to be told that the increase thereof is traceable cither to searcity in the market or to the inereased cost of production.

Those are the two ruling causes whieh afiect the prices of uearly everything. The cost of insurance is regulated, however, by the degree of hazard directly, and remotely by the law of chance. Various incidental conditions have something to do with either increasing or decreasing the cost. Expenses of management also enter into the calculation. But the great predetermining influence which affects the cost of every insurance policy is degrec of hazatd. Now it is quite unnecessary to point ont that some risks are safer than others. If, therefore, rates are graduated according to the character of bazard to be assured; why is it that business men so geacrally complatn of exaction on the part of insurnce companies? Owners or occupants of fire-proof buildings, or crey those of stuctures partially, fire-proof; are not among the dissatistied. The suggestion is obvions, and it goos without saying that property owners may reduce the cost of their insurance by improving the character of their risks.-Spectator.

## THE DRESSING AND DVEING OF SEATSKINS.

When salted seaskins arrive in London, England, they are properly cured, and then comes the preparation needed for their conversion into what is popularly crlled "sealskiu." It is difficult to conceive how that beautiful article of diess can erer be manufactured ont of
the rerg unattractive object the skin presents at this juncture. It is hatd and unyielding as a board, and the stiff, coarse hairs cover the fur so completely that its very existence might be unsuspected. In the trade a full-aged male is called a " wig;" a female," clapmateli; "males not quite soold, " bulls;" the half-grown of both. sexes, "yearlings;" the young of nearly a yenr old, "grey or silvered pups;" and before their conts are changed to this shade, "black pups." The problem to be solved is how to sepatate the under fur. For many years each individual hair was plucked out severally, at, of course, a rast expenditure of time and mones, until a lucky accident revealed to the dressers the fact that the roots of the hair were more deeply sented than those of the fur. Now, there-- fore, after prelimimary preparation, the skins are laid, haip domward, upou a wooden block with a curved surface, and pared down with a knife until the roots of the hairs have been cut through, and the skin is very little thicker than a kid glove. All the conrser hair can then be brushed of with the hand, leaving the fur, which is then seen to be arranged in small curls of a light brown colour, varying slightly in shade in the different parte. In conserguence, nearly all sealskin is dyed before it is sold, and in the process of dyeing the curls untwist themselves, and the fur becomes smooth and ready for use. The profits made in dealing in furs nust be worth having. The value of each skin that leaves the Prybilov Islands, now the main source of furs, is trifling. The Goverument of the United States imposes, it is true, a tax of 52 a skin, to which must be added the cost of the maintenance of an establighment in so remote a spot; but even after all allowances have been made for this and other expensesim Europe, the price demanded for sacques must still be regarded as extravagant.

## LIFE ASSURANCE LN GOTHAM.

The New York papers continue to discuss the coudition of the insurance business of that city. Respecting the secrecy practised by some companies as to their affairs a reliable authority says: The world has outgrown proprietary pretensions in life insurance, and no company can permanently tirive wbich sets them up as a pretext for belittliag the rights of policy-holders. We may go further, and say that, with a more precise understanding of life insurance, the risks it endures, and the elements of the strength it relies upon, has come an almost universal preference for the mutual principle. The reasons are obvious. If the proprictary capital is large, it entails charges upon the policy-holders vastly in excess of the benefits aceruing from it. If it is small, the anomaly is more flagrant, since nothing can be more preposterous than the supposition that a handful of persons, representing a hundred thousand dollars of stock, shall have the sole right to manage an accunulated premium-fund of twenty-eight millions. On these twin considerations, coupled with the fact that in lifo insurance the holders of policies contribute all the enpital an bonestlo managed society erer needs, the superiority of the mutual system mainly rests. It has, however, another atirantage,
and one which, in view of the issue now raised possesses grent importance. The real owuers of the assets of a lifo insurance company ave the policybolders whose preminus are the prime source of the property acruired. Property derived for them, and held in trust for Their beuefit, should be subject exclusively to theiv mangement, and they should bave access nt all rensonable times to all particulars resjecting what, in effect, belongs to themselves. The olficers are their servants, not their masters, and the secrecy which in other circumstances engenders distrust becomes impossible. It is amazing that any life insurance institution in New York needs to he reminded of the sudimentary truths which underlic its usefuness and sucedes.

## THE SHARP ADJUSTER.

We take the following from the Report of the Committee on Adjustment of Losses of The Association of the North- West:

Another fuetor busy engendering profudice is the dishonest, or incompetent, or desperate adjuster. He fails to distinguish between an honest claim and a frand; and proceeds upon the basis that his reputation and term of employment both depend upon his ability to exhibit a salvage, right or wrong. An adjuster is supposed to be experienced in the various current values, construction of buildings, an expert in determining by mathematical rules the condition on the day of the fire of the merchant or manufncturer; familiar with the necessary steps to a close and successful tud honest adjustment of a loss, and the law goveming the same. d'berefore, when an adjuster, or special or State agent, connives with a builder to present an estimate ten per cent. less than accurate cost to rebuild; or, finding a total loss, secures 25 yer cent, salvage by satisfying the simple-minded policyholder that insurance companies never insure to exceed threc-fourths of the value of a building; or, going to a dwelling-house loss the same day, or morning after the fire, and obtains a partial statement of the loss upon which he setties, and refuses to recognize a supplementary claim, except in court, is sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind. He is a man, if a merchant, who would sand his sugar, or keep two sets of scales.
"The determination of the adjuster to secure every proper advantage to his company, is sound; but, having the seales in his hand, his conchasions must be drawn with judicial fuirness and certainty, otherwise he contributes to the injury of every company doing an honorable and legitimate business,"-1/onitor.'

## AFEV YORK AFEALRS.

New York, Dec. 20, 1870.
Editor of the Journal of Commerce.
Dean Sin, - It has occurred to me that a few lines from this "centre of creation"-apart from your regular correspondence-might not be uninteresting to the many readers of your valuable Journal; noticing a few of the many. new inventions which ure always coming to the surface in this land of scientific discoveries.
Commercial maters are about as gloomy as the weather, and the universal complaint is "dull limes," nothing doing, und prices
at a standstill, buyera holding ur for
figures, sellers unwilling to sacrifice, and matously looking forwad for sumething 10 furn the wheels of commerce in a more satisfactory way than they run at present. On the Corn Exchange, the usum Lu'ge atcendance is manifested but the transactions are (br New York) limited to mmediate regtirements. need not give quotations, as gon have these from other sources.
Fimancial alhirs seem even in a worse phght than the commercial, especially so far as the "Stock Exchange" is concerned, the proverbial "Bulls" and" jears" being how very docile numals indeed, and their spirits very much broken down or redaced nhmost to the happy milleninm period when the Bult and the Beat are to lie down torether ; here, the thasactions are of the most limited character; and the largeat brukers, whose transactions used to be commed by ten thousauds of shates per day, now devote their time to kulferlatiny and tearing paper. One of these finformed me a fow days ago, that his hast order was on the guh November, and had none since. But I presume the tothl collapse of such an institution as the Stock Exchange would nol be regretted by the Stock Exchange womd bol be regretted by the
harger portion of the commanity, as it is a morger portion of the combmaty, as it is a
moral simb, into which more fortunes and claracters ner smikt than ever came ont of it; and the plueked and tarnished birds are to be seen at every tura. Gold retains the drooping tendencr, and the market is devoid of imerest excepl to the few brokers who try to eke out a living by buying and selling to themselres in the sabsence of bona jide transactions, whichare few and unimportant.

The state of the political atmosphere is without a precedent. Polities get the blame for the stagnation in all these important depirtments; and indeed the result of the Presidential Election orershadows everything else, creating a feeling of distrust and inxiety in all classes of the community ; each party, of course, chams the position, and gives the strongest rensons, ete., in support of such position; by many it is feared an era of anarchy will be introduced by the installation of the Repmblican Candidate and vice versa; but I have more fath in the good sense of the better elass of the people, who deprecnte any such alk or feeling; certain it is, however, that, in a very great measure, is the present depression due to this undecided election.
It is a pleasure to turn from the contemplation of these gloomy matters to the scientific side of the world, producing, as it does, "things new and strange," not the lenst of which may be noted a nev iuvention for the multitude, in a gas-saving machine which, it is stated, will save to the consumer from 40 to 50 per cent., besides very largely increasiug to 50 per cent., besides very lavgely incrasing
the illuminuting power. I have seen this machine in practical operation in oflices, and in one of the largest hotels in this city, whichaets to the entire satisfaction of all parties. It has occurred to me that in your city where gas is dear, as well as poor, it would be of rery great advanage, and it is very likely the proprictors of the process will at an early diny introduce it into Montreal by giving a practicat test in some of your largest public buildings. aest in some of your largest publie buiddings
and leave it under the coutrol of the owner of and cave it under the coutrol of the owner of
such building for a sufliciently long time to satisfy the most skeptienl as to the utility and desimbility of this "Carburretter." The next matier I have observed worthy of notice and of interest to an important and influential portion of your many readers, is a mehod for saring mailt in the manufacture of ales and porter by utilizing more perfectly corn meal, a further description of which, however, I must reserve for a future letter. Next in order is an invention which it is clamed will revolutionize all motive-power, and immortalize the inventor almost as much as ilie discovery of the uses for stenm did Geo. Stephenson; this motor, which is not related to the Keeley affir, I cannot particulatize, ns it is not jel in a position for me to do so; but shonid the anticipations of the promoters be only half realized it will give results most Wouderfu; it is applicable to all machinery, and
for simplicits of construction, (a great miter)
motor power and saviug of expenses in running, will have no equal in the present known world: -In commetion with this machinery l have to mention ra invention which, perhaps to the great mass of the people, is of still greater consequence. Jour readers may remember that but recently in England they were trying a new process for making flour by the use of small trip hammers in crushing ife grain. A prominent firm in the city has for some months past been perfecting a mill which is going to aecomplishextroordinary results, and is known as the "attrition" process, by which a saving of from 50 to 75 cents per barcl is mude, besides giving a beter article for consumption. The middlings are the finest I ever sth, and the bran is perfectly free from four, the saving in this respect alone being of great importance to millers. The firm referred to have not yet sulficiently completed their machinery and arrangenents to introduce it to the public, bat expect to do so in the comase of a few weeles, Whenl antieipate a furore amongst the milling traternity who win, of conrse, be gha to introduce anybing that will save money in mamo facturing the staphe stant, as a mather of pure philanthropy and consideration for the erpuirements of poor sutfering humanity?

- As this letter has extemded inremp beyond the limit 1 intended, I must leave fier at fiture commanication furbleer comments on the productions of this active brains in this wonterworking community.

Occ.ssionat.

Shes Insconane Spatemexts.-The Lomdon Free Press, referving to the recent Life fasurance failures in the United States, says: " The values of the assets put forwad by many of these companies are wholly wisleading. Inrestments have been made in mortgages at inflated prices which it revalied to-day on an cash basis would leave a worful gap, and demand the rigorous enforcement of proceediags in insolvency. Nothing buta horough ovechating of the assets now so vain-gloriously paraded will tend to restore a confidence that has been rudely shaken. But eren then if the examining body is its: If given to the perpetration of hax-ness-to call it by no harsher nome-such as the Insurance Depurtment has been evidently guilty of, but little relinace could be placed upon even amended statements. The widespread sorrow, amounting in many cases almost to despair, which such fraudulent transactions engender, is simply shocking to contemplate, and it may be imagined that the public will soon insist that fraudulent statements made by companies should be deemed to be eriminal in their character subjecting the oflicers to slarp fines and stern imprisonment."
Life Insumance Businese.-We receive from various sources reports of a marked revival in the business of life insurance. Solicitors who, a year ago, could do no better than report from day to day, and many of them from week to week, "no applications," or "mew business not to be had," are now bringing in applications from desirable risks. This verifies our prediction of some months ago, that netive, persistent, working solicitors could do business during the present season; and this revival seem to begeneral in all parts of the comintry, east and west. The applications are not as large as they were duting the years preceding 1873, but they are ou a good class of lives, and from a class of people who will be likely to pay renewal premiums, and, too, they are made from the right notives, with the legitimate purpose of life insurance in view. Solicitors
have learned to avoid their bighly imaginary promises of dividends, and to present the clatims of life insurance, honestly and fairly, and the result is their just reward. Llaere is ample merit in the system to entile it to, and to. sccure for it, recognition nmoug prudent, provident men; and if solicitors will work industriously, and intellitently represent the merits of the policies they have to sell, they will not fitil of success, but clap-trap is done for, and hombug can no longer win.-Sivelutor.

## GROW MORE SUG.SR.

As ineverything else, the mereltunts of New York have, for the past few years, imported immense stocks of sugar, and the refiners have refined with no discretion, and as if there could be no end to the supar tade. The imports in 187. were $\$ 100,000,000$. In 1875 the inports were $885,000,000$, but in $1875,560,500,000$. The disusters in this trade have no different phase than in the others, only that heallh is now coming to it, and a more legitimate business is doing. Stocks of sugar are much redneed, and there is satid to be a comer in the maket atNew York. Oertain it is, that less has been imported, and that sugat is now very high, retailing at fifteen cents a pound, while France is furnishing her people the same grade at five cents. A lighter crop is reported in France, but with a usual crop in Cuba and Loulisiana there need be no such adrance as five cents a pound on sugar. It is probable, bowever, that the low prices of one year aro were below cost, atud that higher prices are to rule. Whatever the case, there is a good protit in cane or beet sugar at ten cents a pound -yes, at tive-and there is no reason why our peope shoud not more largely enter the business. We have been importing beet sugar for some years and mixing it with cane in refinery. Why not sow the beet and make the sugar? Surely France can give us a few skilled workmen to begin with if we need. Are we so slow and slothful that we must pay Spain $\$ 100,000,-$ 000 a year to support her slaves in Cuba and let our own colored people and white as well be jdle? Can we afford it?-C. houis fournal of Commerce.
-The confec crop of the work foots $000,000,000$ pounds, of which one-balf is producedin Brazil, and over $317,000,000$ pounds are consumed in the United States. This product is peculiar to the tropical regions, generaliy flourishing in all sections of the torrid zone where the soil is adapted to it, and away up into llexico along the ocean slopes it is a prolitable crop. The plants have to beset out in regular order, and cultivated with care, requiring about five years to reach full maturity, and if properly trimmed and kept from growing too high, it is easy to havest the berry. The phant will last in fill bearing capacity a dozen or twenty years. Hence the chief outhay is in getting the phantation started. The lavor of picking is done by wonen and children at low wages. The best qualities are found in Arabia, Java, and a few other localities.

Onution.-If a party moves and has not informed the Company in which he is intsured of the fact, and the property be destroyed, the Compmy would not have been legally liable for the amonat insured, and it would rest entirely with the Board whether payment should be made or not.

- The increase in the enltivation of bect-root in Europe for the manufacture of sugar is said to be causing great loss to the cane-sugar planters in Cuba, who have been to an enormous ontlay for machinery and labor to produce a fine cluss of sugar.
- Ine total production of beet-root sugar in Furope is now estimated to considerably exceed $1,000,000$ tons.
-The output of coal last year from the Forkshire collievies amounted to $15,425,278$ tons.
- The value of insured properiy in Lonilon is put down at $\mathcal{L} 510,000,000$; of that burnt during the last five jears four-ifthe was insuted.
- Ohicago elorators at the commencement of business last week contained $3,102,377$ bushels of wheat, 338,015 bushels of corn, 515 ,233 bushels of oats, 105,200 bushels of rye, and 1,100,055 bushels of barley, making a grand total of $5,186,549$ bushels, agtinst 4,687,090 bushels one week ago, and $4,867,000$ bushels at this period last yene.
- An oil refinery is ubout to be sturted in St. Thomats. The well is now being sumk, and 30,000 bricks have been ontered.
- Labor-saving maehinery and capacity are also charged with " furnishing a camse of hard times." According to the London E'conomist; the Suez Canal diverted from employment about $2,000,000$ sailing tonunge, establishing steau vessels in weir phee, thus shortening the time for operations in India prodnce for Europe to the extent of five-sixths. Ihis, in turn, has obviated the necessity of carrying large stocks in Europe, and made unnecessary a large and costly amount of old machinery, such as warehouses, sailing vessels, capital, six montlis' bills, and the merchant limiself, with his large retimue of employees; and, of course, has caused large losses and confusion.
- Rare almost as great pocts-rarer, perhaps, than veritable saints and martyrs-are cousummate men of business. A man, to be excellent, in this way, must not only be variously gifted, but his gifts should be nicely proportioned to one another. He must have in a high degree that virtue which men have nlways found the least pleasant of virtues-prudence. His prudence, however, will not be merely of cantious and quiescent order, but that which, being ever actively engaged, is more fitly called discretion thata pradence. Such a man must have an almost ignominious love of details, blended (and this is a rate combination) with a high power of imagination, euabling him to look along extended lines of possible action, and put these detailsin their right places. He requires a great knowledge of charncier; with that exquisite tact which feels unerringly the right moment when to act. A disereet rapidity must pervade all the movements of his thought and action. He must be singularly free from vanity and is genemally found to be an enthusiast who has the art to conceal his enthusiasm-Sir Arthat Helps.
- Whipule \& Pamerly of Bay city, Michigan, who carried on the lumber business for a number of years have come to an uytimely end, and so lans the Bay Oity Combination Lock Co. in which they were interested, and for which
among other manufactures Mr. S. Divid was agent in this city.
- Projects for promoting direct trade with Brazil are said to be on foot as the results of Don Pedro's visit, last summer. One is entirely American, and proposes to start with four new iron ships of not less than 2,000 tons, specially adapted to the Brazilian trade, and running between New York, the West Indies, Tio Janeiro, and other southern ports. The projectors have the Emperor's assurance of a liberal subsidy from Brazil. The other project is to establish an English line to the upper Amazon, opening to commerce a great and rich province, heretofore clused, or aecessible only with great diffeulty.
- A society is in operation in Phathelphia which is designed to benefit young hadies and gen'lemen of slender income and susceptible learts. It is $a$ sort of mentrimonial insurance society. Persons who are respectable cau, by paying certain admission and mouthly fees, become members of the society, and, after this is effected, should matrimony ocenr, they are entitled to the sum of 8500 or 81,500 , necording to the grade of the society they hare joined.
- A new commercial trenty between Eigland and Austrit hats been concluded. It provides hat for all English goods introduced into Austria the tarill of the most favored conntries is to be valid, and the later is the tariff deeded upon for Austra's commercial treaty with Germany. Dating from Janamy, 18 Bi , both German aud Engtish goods imported into Austria inust pay import duty of from 12 to 100 per cent higher vhin berctofure. Thims, cotton articles are to $\eta^{2 y} 30$ g.tiden instend of 10 guilden per oo kitos ; cotion articles woven th paterns do guilden instend of 20 ; line articles, muslin, batiste, 60 instead of 33 guilden; the finest lace and embrodery: 80 guiden instead of 60 ; common wool textures, 29 inslead of 15 gruiken;
 clothes, 40 instemd of 83, and 60 instemb of 50 ; lace amd talle, Tl instent of go guiden fer bo kilos. The duties are to be paid in sitver, being the Anstro-Hungarian Elandard.
- The Mart Lane Eepress, in its weeky review of the British corth trade, says: "Rain has been the prevailing chameteristic of the weather-for the past week, but the whent looks thriving and las not suffered. Althongh imports continue light, granaty stocks are fair with a slight tendency toward lower prices. Toward the close with the limited arrivals at Lirerpool and London, a decided demand set in. Millers were more netire, bujers at prices indicating the complete recovery of the depression noticenble carly in the week. With the political question still in suspense, sellers are confident of further improvement. There has been little alteration in spring corn; although the decreased imr ort of maize and the adranced values in America point to a rise. Exports show that the favour with which this corn is regarded on the continent is unabated; indeed some improvement in vnlues is noted, with a more general demand. Floating cargoes shared the improved feeling. The malting and grinding descriptions of barley were in limited demand, and-lower rates for the latter were accepted. The previons week's decline in maizo has been fully recovered."


## FME REOORD.

bantumd Ont., Dee. 21- Fire in brick and frame bailding at Honedale, owned and ocenpied by. W. Slingato \& Son, as oatment and woollen mills, completely deferoyed the builling; the loss and insumatac: milenown.

St. Johm, N.B., Dec. et Fire in Secord's buiding: water dnayged il. stock of Mriphy, hush manafacture, whith was uninsured, ato stock of hoots end slioes, which wats iusured for $\$ 1500$ ia the Citizens.

Jarviz, Ont., Decied.-A digaztrous fire totally consmed Whittaker's mick block and Davis hotel and stables. $A$ horse and cow were burnt in the latter and severil horses were got ont badly scorched. $1033 \$ 7000$ insumance about S3000. The phate glass windows of the handsome mansiou block ophosite, owned by Dr. Lumgrille and la. Sill, were broken by the intense heat, but their loss is fully corored by insutance.

Montreal, Dec. $24-$ Fire in stable of Mr. Bigaobette, corner of St. Lawrence and Lagithclietiere streets. Damage slight, as fire was quichly extingrished.

Otiawa, Dec. 23.-Baldwin's bock, Nicholas street, bintially destroyed by fire ; luss $\$ 500$.
Joliette, Dec. 26. - A fire broke out at the Convent of St. Eliznbeth, near Jolieste. Thisteen persons perished in the contharation. Loss is estimated at Stidoo ; partly ineared.

Quebec, Dec. 26.- Fire broke vin. it a herp of coals on Elangan's whart, Diamond hiarbor: the fire was epeedily brought under control.

St. John, N.B., Dee 2G.- Captain Brown's lionse at lloksiock was destroyed wy tire hasured in the Queen's fors 1000 .

Utava, Dece $2 \pi-$ Residuace of Mr. Esanate Was destroyed by fire in Šew Edinburgh; loss $\$ 1000$. Titus' carriage factory un Abort street was partially destroyed by fire on same day.

Gergetown, Dec. - - litikling oceupled by W. P. Hoore's stove and tinware depot, fand the dweiling of Jancs Hoore, entirely conamaci no insmatuce; loss abont shom.
St. Johne S.B, Dec, 27.- Miyor Fisher was bunt ont at Woodstock.
St, Tumms, Ont, Hee 27 .- Fire broke ont in "uluer story of the Arkell block, in the rooms ocecrpied by George King. The luss on stock is alont stov, which is insured in the Commercial Cuion. Bamage to the buildinga is lith and entirels covered by insurance.

Othawa, Dece 23,-A firc ocerred in a house on Fent street, owned by Oharles Leduc and occupied by one Raymoni. The buildiar was completely destroyed. n 1 oss, 8500 .

Belleville, Dec. 23.- A small house on the Kingston road, owned by Geo. Bonlter, was destroyed by fire. The tentints saved their ellects. Loss, 5000 ; no insurance.

Wookstock, Dec. $23 . \rightarrow$ A fire broke out in the three-storey brick block opposite the matket, in a building nest door to the Caistor House, owned by Johe Douglas, and occupied by Messirs. Short \& Co as a hardware store. The insurance on the buitding is 84,000 , and on the stock $\$ 10,000$, Which vilffuls corer the anount of loss. A nother tire broke out in John White \& Co.'s dry good store, cansed by the gas igniting the goods in the show winduw. Loss about in 2,000 ; insured.

Jarvis, Ont, Dec. $20 .-4$ lire broke out in the burn of the Parmers' Hotel, completely. destroying the hotel and Whitaker's block of two stores. The loss is about $\$ 10,000$; partiaily insured.

Mount Forest, Ont, Dec. 30, On the erening of the 23id, Tamer \&, Harrtr woollen mitls vere totally coneumed by tire. About $\$ 2$;000 worth of wool and a large amount of cloth, together Tith the most valuable of the machinery, was entirely consumed; the loss is estimated at about $\$ 10,0 b 0$; insured for $\$ 3,500$. It is eupposed that the tire was the act of an incendiary.

Parkhill, Dec oc are Vanalstine's harge three-storey dwelling liouse was entirely consumed by fire at midnight ; loss $\$ 2,500$, partinily psured.

## BANK EMBFZZCEMENTS

Monteal, Dec, 264, 1875 .
To the Ehlitor of he Fourual of Commerce:
Sh, - A quick succession of bank emberalements, varying in amomit to finy cxlent you plase leads one to enquire what are the means whereby these euses to emphoyers and employed éthe and therefure shonld. be prevented.
The most obvions and decisive points undombediy are:
(1) That there shonla be in every bank onice steh a system of checks pupon casth entries as would reduce the jossibility of the suppression of, or timpecing with, such entribe to a mininum.
(2) That there should he a sfret daily examimation of the teller's cash.
(3) That as much of the cashas poseible amo nll raluable securtios shonla be kept in th joint custody of 1 wo or mowe oflicints, that is, it cash-lowes or sates having at least two dissinilar locks, the keys of which shomid be distributed and that the foint eustodians shouht, so fur as practicable, be chosen trom the semion oficers.
(4) That there should be reasonably frequent inspections of the books, casliand securities, by on competent and experienced person.
(5) That every habker or bank manager, on suspeciang auz offical of leadmy a "Fast", life, should frise himedt the trothle to find ont the truth of the matter, and net summarily in ense of beed. A man wholives at the pace that lills" is a direct discredit and danger to his emplovers, and by his exampe mity influence for bad many ohems.
Be carring out these mas in their enterety bankers' tunds wit be cumpamarbly sate la the great majority of eases of cubezalement it has Prinspited thit the adoption of one or more of the abore mothons would have prevented the thett. But when all this has been dune decention may perhaps atill mary the day, and mother e:te be added to the long black list.
That nore cian be done, then, to stial further reduce the manber of defatiers? Only, it seems to me, what ean be done hy means of carmpe. If the banker wombl have his clerks honest, and jaterested in their work (and loss of interest in his work is not anong the lenst of the causes which dispose a man's heart to disthe catuses when aspose a man's heart to dis-
homesty) let him he stricty honorable in his dealings wibl them: let him remember that they fire their services in the lawful expectahon that hey may antain thathy enought to povibu them sa decent living, which is equally necessary whedier "times are hard" or "irude flourishisg."

Your obedient servant:
LUGIO.
P. S.-It is sometimes satid, as an argmment against the daily examimation of cash, that it is nut to degencrate into careless formality; bist this ean ouly be the case when the general discipline of an office is more or less lax, and the existence of lasity in the performance of : daty is surely no argument why that duty shoutd not be performed.

## THE OIL TRADE.

Petholta, Dec. 26, 1876.
Oil matters contime very lively; the lasi rise in price having stimulated busimess greatly in all branches. There are at present yprarde of forty, wells groing down, of which three are on the old Oil Springs Territory: One of these wells is pumping about forty brirels per day. There have been no recent strikes here woriliy ofnote; several old wells, which, owing to their smath production, were formerly abandoned, are now being started ny, the high current prices making them remuberativo. There are in all about thee handred wells pumping, producing twelve hundred barrels per diem, which is now sufficient to matitain the present rate of shipments. The export trade is being pushed virotously, the stipments being made to London, Engr, where remunemtive sales are being made. Ihe shipments for last week are as follows crude, 5,800 barels; distillate, $2 ; 560$ bareels; refined, 168 barrels. Prices: erude, $\$ 2.00$ to $\$ 2.25$ per borrel; refined, 35 cts. per wine gallon. New York, 30 cts. per wine galLon; London, Eng.: 2s. 3u. per imperial galion.

## Combretcial.

## NONTREAL GENERAL MARKETS.

Monthal, Dec. 28th, 187 g .
The wholesale business of the week was exceedingly quier, and nerchanss were busy, mainly employed in bulancing their accounts for the year. The holiday and general retail trade has been fairly active, and some firms in the higher and more uscful class of heliday goods chaim it considerable advance in sales over those of last year, while deaters in the less useful class of goods complain of a filling off. The tentency in foot-bnil stocks is still downward, ulthongh Montrenl Telegraph rallied a little this week. Money market continites unchanged. Gold in Money market continnes unchange
New York at 3 this afternoon, 107 .

Ashes.--But a small quanity of ashes have been inspected this week, a considerabie portion of the receipts having been hetd over for next years brand The sales of First Pots, however amonnt to about 200 brls. at $\$ 442$ to $\$ 4.52 \frac{1}{2}$ and a few Seconds at $\$ 3.50$; 'hirds nominal, market for Firsts closes casier at $\$ 4.40$ to $\$ 4.45$. Pearls.-No transactions to report; there have been abont 50 brls. received and held over for the 1877 band. Latest sale of Firsts was at $\$ 5.40$; Seconds continue purely nominal. The receipts for the year to date have been 13539 brls. Pots and 1392 brls. Pearls. The deliveries. 12968 bris. Pots ard 1625 brls. Pearls, and the stock in store this evening was 2052 brls. Pots and 272 brls. Pearls.

Boots AND SHORS.-NO new features to report very little doing or expected until opening of the Spring business, and prices are nominal menntime.

Duves and Chemonls.-There is little or nothing doing in this line at present. A few small senttering orders come in from the country now and again, and we do not look for much improvement for some time to come. For quotations see mother colmm, the figures in which may be considered nominal.

Duy Goons.-There has been a decided improvement in the way of rensittances received here during this past week, and the chances now are that, with good sleighing roads throughout the country. more may be done in the way of selling winter goods for the next month than was expected. Our Oity retail people have pulled down their stock of all kinds of winter and fancy goods splendidly during the last few wecks.
Fisir-- There has been litile or no alteration during the week, and the demand is very emall, as is usual during the holiday season.
Phour.-Alhough the transactions in flour have not been numerous, the market has had a hardening tendency throughout the week, and closes to-day firmly at an advance of ten cents per barrel on Spring. Wheat flour, and twenty to twenty fivecents on White Wheat flour The withdrawal of the water from the Lachine Camal, and the consequent stoppage of mantifacturing by the Uity Mills, is causing a higher demand for Untario flour.
Funs and Skiss.-We report no change in this department, although lower prices are quoted by many dealers. There is nothing, judging from the present onllook, to warrant higher rales and it is possible that later quotations will be lower. We quote:-Rat, Fall, 12 cts . to 15 cts ; Do , Winter, 15 cts . 10 , $20 \mathrm{c} . ;$ Coon, 25 cts . to 75 cts ; Fox, Red, Si20 to $\$ 1.50 ;$ Fox, Cross, $\$ 2.00$ to $\$ 5.00 ;$ Marten, Pale, $\$ 1.25$ to 51.50 ; Mink, Western Canada, Good colors, $\$ 2.00$ to $\$ 2.50$; Mink; Eastern Ganada, prine large, $\$ 2.00$ io $\$ 2.50$; Mink, Eastern Ganada, jrime small, $\$ 150$ to $\$ 2.00$; Ott $r$, Dark, Irime, 56.00 to $\$ 9.00$; Fisher, Dark, prime, $\$ 7.00$ to $\$ 9.00$; Lyox, $\$ 1.25$
to $\$ 2.00 ;$ Beaver, Finl, clean pelt, per 1 b , \$1. 25 to $\$ 1$ so; Do, Winter, clean pelt, per lb., \$1.25 to $\$ 1.75$; Bear, large prime, $\$ 8.00$ to $\$ 12$.

Handware- There is Hothing of importance to twote during the week Iron keeps firm, and tin plates slow an advance in the English market. We look for no advance here in either at present, as stocks are about sufficient for the supply. Trade is quiet as must be expected at this season.

Leatheit--Nothing important to note this week; this being the holidity week, business will be dull; prices are all maintained. B. A. Sole and Bufflo do. have adrauced. See j'rices Current.

Live Stuck.-The arrivals for the past week showed a considerable fitling off from the previons week, there being only 32 carloads in ally, 14 of these being cantle, 12 of sheep, and 6 mised londs of cattle and sheep. "The supply was grearly in excess of the demand last week, and some very low sales were made; prices stull remain easy. Butchers, in this market, are in full supply for some time. Hides, pelts and tulluw as yuoted hast week.

Lumame-Lumber business is almost at at stand-still, wot over hali the quantity moving from the yards that was this time last winter. Litule more than half the average yearly number of houses are being built, consequently lumber has been sold ata very small advance above cost, and the profit, if any, has gone to the producer or wholesale merchint. During the suminer many auction sales were called to realize the needful; with joor results. Old stocks bought at current rntes of 1873 and ' 74 , brought 20 to 30 per cent. less than cost, while some, with in full attendance of buyers, were withdrawn, as moderate prices could not be obtained. We are confident depression bas tonched bottom, and though profits are very light, losses are few, esjuecially when truders are not pushed for immediate payment. The taxing of vacant city lots to their thll value, which furmerly paid nothing, if notrented, will oblige the owners to build or sell to persons who will take adrantage of cheap building materinls and labor to put ap buildings which will rent low to suit the times There beiug no whalesale trusactions in lumber here in winter, we give our retail prices which will agree with those charged at the principal yurds:
Ash; 1 to 4 inches, per M....... $\$ 1600$ to $\$ 2000$ Aslh, timber, per M............... 2000 to 2500

Birch, 1 1o 4 inches, per Mr..... 1800 to 2200 | Birch, 1104 inches, per M...... 1800 to 2200 |
| :--- |
| Basswod, $\frac{2}{8}$ to 2 inches, jer M. 1500 to 2000 |

Basswood, extra wide, per M... 2000 to 2500
Black Walnut, ne- ML .......
Cedar, round, lineal foot...
Cedar, fat, lineal foot...
Vedar, sybare, lineal foot.......
Elim, 1 to 4 inches, per M..
Elm, timber, per Al .
ches, per. 6000 to 100

Hemluck, 1 to 3 inches, per M.
Hemlock, $3 \times 3$, scantling, ench.
Hemlock, 3x4; scamiing, each.
Henulock, timber, per Mi........
Henlock, timber, jer
Maple; hrd, per M....
Onk, 1 to 4 inches, per is.
Pine, gond clear, per M. $\qquad$
Pine, $\mathbf{c}$ mmon, wer M......
Pine, sound, 1 inch, planed....
Pine, sound flooring, planed...
Pine, strips, 1 to 2 inch., per M 0900 to
Pine, strips, planed, 1 to 2
inches, per M...................... 1100 to
Pine, common 3 inch culls,
per M................................
Pine, common 3 incla planed
pine, timber, per i................
0600 to 0700 to
Pine, slangles, per M................
Pine. $1 \frac{1}{4}$ lath, per M. 03 00 t
Pine, $3 \times 3$
Pine, 3x4 scantling, each.
Pine, $1 x^{\prime 3}$ furring, encli......... . 00

Siruce, 1 to 2 inches, ${ }^{\text {, }}$ Ser Ma.....
Spruce, phaned, 1 to 2 inches,
per M............................. 1000 to
Spruce, 3 inch, per M..............
Spruce, timber, per M............
Spruce, furring, $1 \times 2$, enchi.....
Spruce, wall strips, $2 \times 3$, each.. 0005 0nt $^{\text {to }}$
Spruce, scantlin. 5 , 3x3, each... 0007 to 0008
Spruce, scantling, 3xt, ench... 0009 to 0010
Choien lots may bring a little more than the above rates.
Olls--Oils of all kinds are very quiet. Olive oil is considerably firmer, and higher fignres are
asked, but without much business. Oiner oils
are withont change. Nroal Stores.-Turpenline in the New York murket has been very much excited, and the price has materially advanced, the price in this market being goc. Lo 602 c ., but with few sales. Rosins nad other Naval Srores have participated in the rise, and still higher figures are looked for. Paints are dull and prices unchanged.

Provisions.-But er.-No change to note market continues quiet in absence of shippers who cham their home advices are too blue to warrant present asking rates. Cheese-Mamet quiet nothing in the way of sales to note.

Eabt.-The demand is good, and prices continue unchanged;-Livelpool Coarse, gese. to 65 c .; Fine, 75 c . to 30 c . ; Factory Filled, $\$ 1.25$ o $\$ 1.45$.
Tonaccos.-There is no change to note. The demand for manufactured plug contintes fair for small lots and for the season of the year should be called grod. Priens remain firm at last quotations. Cut tobaccos are ibout at a standstill except for a small demund in the better grades, in the lower it being impossible yet to compete with the prowers who madufucture without pnying duty. Cigurs are in fait demand and prices remain steady. Some manufacturers have reduced their prices, but not to effect last quolations. A considerable trade is now being done in Cigarettes in varions brands. These are not manufictured to any extent in Cannda, the bulk being imported from Rnssia, Germany and the United States, principally from the latter. Prices range from $\$ 4.00$ to $\$ 15.00$ per m .

Wholesale Groceity Manket-- Wholesale business is quiet, and with a peneral range for staple goods, showing scarcely any alteration for most articles. Sugars are dull, without disposition manifested to buy beyond actual wants. The tone is on the whole easier, at the same time stocks are not very large of Yellows. Ieas-Also very quiet with the figures nominally about as before for almost all kinds. Some remote hints are up making renewed duty agintion probable; at all events with the turn of the year an improvement is reasonably to be looked for. Stocks in the country are generally light. Mnlasses and Syraps-Litile to report at about former prices. Rice-decidedly ligher in England and making cost well up to $\$ 4.50$ here to import. Prices here are $\$ 4.20$ to \$4.40. Fruits dull for nearly all kinds. Curronts are reported high at Patras.

Wooti.-A frir denmund is felt for Wool of desirable quality for home consumption Prices remain quite firm for Canadina and Foreign, viz, Cape and Australian, chiefly the former. The ndvance in price of a month ago is still maintained, with light stocks on hand.

## SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

Leith, Dec. 12.-The shimmer of the Seas, three-masted schooner, of Lowestoft, Graystone, arrived here last night from Montreal, with damage to bulwarks on bothsides, having experienced heary weather. The voyage oecupied nearly 50 days.
Note.-The Shimmer of the Seas carried 12,801 bushels Indian corn, shipped by Messrs. D. Butters \& Co. She cleared from Montreal on $20 t \mathrm{October}$.

## IMPORTS.

Comparative statement of Imports at the Port of Montreal per Grand Trunk Railway, Lachine Canal and the River, from lst January to 28th December, 1875 and 1876:

|  | 1875. | 1876. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ashes | 17,500 | 14,821 |
| Butte | 142,554 | 133,335 |
| Barley. | 148,512 | 233,851 |
| Bacon. | 29 | 249 |
| Corn ............................ | 1,722,230 | 3,838.237 |
| Qheese.......................... | 541,346 | 335,860 |
| Flour........................... | 1,011,381 | 917,176 |
| Lard.........i.................. | -350 | 41,795 |
| Onts. | 173,916 | 2,425,010 |
| Peas. | 945,523 | 763,545 |
| Park | 21,888 | 13.769 |
| When | 7,954,763 | 5,978,116 |

## mbMADES.

Ashes-l Receipts for the week; 77 brls. Pot, bris. Penrl. Decrease, 2,079 bils.
liutler-Keccipts, 233 brls . Decrense, 9,219 brls.
Barley.-Receipts, 2,400 bush. Increasc, $85,-$ 339 busli.

Bacon.-Receipts, none. Incrense, 220 boxes.

Corn.-Receipts, 40 bush. Incrense, $2,116,007$ busil.

Cheese.-Receipts, hoxes. Decrense, 205,48i buxes.
flour.-Reccints, $8,000 \mathrm{brls}$. Decrease, 94,205 brls.
lard.-Rectipls, $1, \overline{0} 97$ bils. Increase, $41, \pm 4 \overline{0}$ brls.

Oiets.-Receipts, 4,900 bush. Increase, 2,251,094 bush.

J'eas-Receipts; 4;0 bush. Deciense, 181,978 bush.

1 'ork.-Receipts, 10 brls. Decruse, 8,119 brls.

If'heat_Meceipts, 1,200 insh. Decrease 1,9た6,647 bush.

## EXPORTS

Comparative statement of Exports of leading articles at the Port of Moutren!, from the Ist Januat's to 28 th December, 1875 tund 1876.

| 1875. | 1876. |
| ---: | ---: |
| 15,039 | 12,964 |
| 162,266 | 202,862 |
| 1,304 | 31,929 |
| 15,966 | 39,460 |
| $1,686,255$ | $3,777,835$ |
| 634,388 | 531,907 |
| 426,326 | 390,452 |
| 24,085 | 46,393 |
| 204,347 | $3,017,746$ |
| $1,726,844$ | $1,418,900$ |
| 7,442 | 12,319 |
| $7,302,611$ | $5,285,280$ |

nEMAMKS.
Ashes.-Exports for the week, 30 brls. Pots. Decleuse, 2,670 brls.
biuller.-Lxports, 3,690 bils. Incrense, 40, 596 brls.

Burley.-Exports, bush. Increase; 80,625 bush.
Bacon.-Exports, 1,414 boxes. Increuse, 23,494 bexes.

Corn.-Exports, 12,826 bush. Increase, 2,091,550 bush.

Cheese-Exports, 1;146 boxes. Decrease, 2,481 buxes.
hour-Exports, 100 brls. Decrease, 35, 374 bris.
fiard.-Exports, 1,054 brls. Increase, 22,308 brls.

Oats.-Exports bush. Iucrense, 2,813,399 busli.
l'eas-Exports, 400 bush. Decreise, 307,944 bush.
I'ork.-Exports, 271 brls. Increaze, 4,877 brls.
Wheat.-Exports, $807^{\circ}$ bush. Ducrease 2,017,331 bush.

RAILWAY RETURNS.
Grand Thuse Rallway--Return of traflic for week euding Dec. 22 nd, 1876 Gud the corresponting week, is70. 1876.-Passengers, Mails nud Express freight. $\$ 47,02$ ) ; Merchandise, 5110,788 ; Total, $\$ 157,808$. 1875.- Hussengers, Mails and Express Freight, S44, 657 ; Merchandise, $\$ 149$, 48\% ; Toral, $\$ 194,139$. Decrease $\$ 36,33$ I.

Midland Rallivay of Canada-Port Hope, Dec. $27 \mathrm{th}, 1876$. Statement of traffic receipts for week, from 14 th to 21 st Decmber, 186 , in comparison with same period lasi year:-Passeat fers, $\$ 1,313.43$; Freight, $\$ 1,235.13$; Mails and Express, S. 40.08 ; Totil, $\$ 3,788.64$; Shme week last year, $\$ 2,940.30$. Decrease $\$ 151.66$. Total tratlic to date, $\$ 268,723.54 ;$ do year previous, \$270,776.16. Deerense, S11,052.6:.
F. WHITEHEAD

Sccretary.
Nomithon Railivay of Canada.--The traffic receipts fur Reek ending 15 th Deic., $1870 .-$

Passengers, $\$ 3,521.38$; Freight, $\$ 0,704.30$; Mails and Sundries, S48997; Total receipts for current weok, $1876, \$ 10,71505$. Corresponding week of 1875 ; $\$ 10,651.63$. Incre: se $\$ 15+, 02$ Total traffic to date, $1875, \quad 5759480.26$. Total traflic to date, $1875, \$ 711,012.32$. Increase, \$47,577.94.

THOS. HAMILTON:
Toronto, 21st Dec., 1876.

## Dinuramice.

## HEXVEN'IPL ANNUAE. IE ESOXS

 OF THEGlobe Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York, FANOAIEY, 1876.
Bniance from last nccount. . . . . . . . . . . 3.50 .50 .69510 1'reniums received during the ycur is Interest and lients received durimg thes
otheritems reccived during the year isfö
214.54224
$\therefore \quad-84,883,680$ 74
Pajd for Losses and Endowments. . . . . . 343,054 is Pidi for Policies surroulered, Returi l'remiunss and kebate to l'olicy holders Patif fur Commissions and Salaries to
 Pinit for anl other expenses. ...................
Bnhace to new account................. 117.24550 Balance to new account........................ $3,950,908$ 68

## LIABItitres.

Policy Reserve at 41.2 per
cent interest........... $3,564,51900$
Less value of Hisks reinsured. $\quad 1,96800$
Policy claims adjusted, not due amd un- $83,502,5: 5100$
olicy chams adjusted, not due and un-

Reserve for other labinst the Compuin..........114,90600 00 Surphus to Pulicy-holders .................. 607,00000

$$
\text { ! } \sec 0 \text { ond }
$$

Assets.

S1,213, U35 68

Loans on Bonds and Mortgagesand lieal
Stocks und Bonds owned int markot va-

Loans on Policies in force.
$2,3^{\prime} 1,64167$

Cash on hand atid in Bunks.

reminms uncollected and deferred, less
All other items................................................
$1,161,35539$ $33,361.90$
219,840 $76.840 \quad 57$

172,63942
40,33736
Dec. 81, Surplus to Polley-Holders a S $54,413,08563$ In force Dec. $31,1875,-10,818$ Policies,
insuring. ..................................... $\$ 21,744,480 \quad 00$ trom the undivide surphus the Board of Truster, hatw dectar-


PLINY FREEMAN. WM, STURGIS,
President. : Mang'r of Agencies.
TAMESM. EREEMAN, E, K, SEWELI; Secretary. Actuary.
J. F. BURNS Manager in Chief of Agencies.
J. D. WELLS, General Manager for Ganada.

He id onice for Dominton, iti St.'Jumes Stred, MONTREAL:

## The Mercantile Agency,

 ESTABLISHED. 1841 .OWest and Laryést Mercantile Agency

## 

## A CENERAL REFERENCE BOOK,

Contaning the names of over Six Huvored Pinousa sio burilloss -men, is issued in Junuary und July of each year.

A Complote REFERENCE BOOK of Canada,
Carcinlly revised by riruvellers of our own training, appearsin Jauuary, Mareh; July, and september of appears it Jauunry, ward, Jear, with Wrekly Change Sheets. In connection with above, the attentio ments called to the
GOLLECTION S EPARTMENT,

Tlrough which past due chaims pass with regularity promptuess and success

## DUN, WHIIGN \& COO,

$201 S T$ JAUES STREET, MONTREA\&.
Seventy Associate Oncesin the principal Citic. of thi Woria.

## Bank of British North America

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

The Cunt of Ditectors hereby give notice that a hatfyenry dividend al the rate of thirty shillings per slare on the Capital of the Bank will be piyalhe on the sth DAY OF JANUARY, 1877, to the proprietors of Shares registered in the Colonics.

The Dividend will be payable at the rate of Exchange current on the Frferil Day of January, 1877, to be fixed by the Mangers. Notransfers car be made between the 23 ra inst. and the 5th prox., as the books must be closed during that period.

By order of the Court.
R. W. BRADFORD,

Secretary.
No. 3, Clement's Isane
Lomburd Street, 2 . C. $\}$
Dec. 15th, 1876 .

## NOTICE.

The Ist proximo, being New Year's Day, this Office and the Receiving Houses will be closed at TEN A.M.

All afternoon mails for Canada and the United States will be closed at TEN a.m., and the English mail at TWO p.m.

Letter Carviers will make only one delivery, at 8:30 a.m.

> G. LaMOTHE, P.M.

Montreal P.O., 22nd Dec. 1878.



## WALKER \& LABELLE,

MANOFAOTURERS OF IMPROVED

## BALL,

BUTESON,
SQUARE,
POYYDERE, LIQUID WASHING BLUES, \&C., $486 \& 488$ St. Paul Str., P. O. Box No. 1959. HONTREAL.

Deg Orders solicited from the Wholesale Druggists and Grocers. Prices on application.


DEPARTMENT OF TEE INTERIOR, Ordnancer and Admmality Iands Branch, Otтawa, 25th November, 1876.
Public notice is hercby given, that, on Wednesday, the 20th December next, at noon, will be sold by Public Auction at the salesroom of Benning \& Barsalou, 50 St. Peter street, Montreal, Anctioneers, a proper:y known as the Hochelaga Barrack property, situate on the St. Lawrence River below hontreal, and extending from the said river northerly to land taken by the Northern Colonizarion Railway, by a breadth shown on a plan by Rielle, P.L.S., and dated Montreal, 30 h Uctober, 187 c, a coys of which is on riew in the office of the nbove auctioneers.

One-fifth of the purchase money to be paid at the time of sale, and the balance in four equal annual instalments with interest at 8 per cent.

Further conditions at the time of sale.
E. A. MEREDITH,

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.
WILLIAM F. COFFIN,
Gommissioner or Ordnance and Admiralty Lands.

## THOS. LEEMING \& CO, COMMISSION MERCHANTS and <br> EXPOR'R AGENTS,

For the Purchase and Sule of BUTTER, CHEESE, PROVISIONS,

GRAIN AND FLOUR.
establistied in 1809.
CORNER KENG AND IFTLLLAM STS., MONTIELAL

## Banque $D^{\prime}$ Hochelaga.

## NOTICE

IS HEREBY GIVEN that a DIVIDEND Ow THIELE and a HALEPER GeNT.
upon the paid up Capital Stock of this Institution, has been declared for the current Halfyear, and that the same will be payable nt its Banking House, in this City, on or after

TUESDAY, the Second Day of January next:
The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st December next, inclusively. By order of the Board.
J. S. PAQUET, Cashier. Montreal, 28 th Norember 1876.

## J. RATTRAY \& CO.,

Mantfacturers, Importers and Wholesale Dealers IN
TOBACCO, SNUFF, CIGARS, and genemal TOBACCONISTS' GOODS. manufactory:
No. 80 ST. CLIARLES HOLROMDEE STREET. WAREROOMS AND OFNOR:
428 ST. PALL cor. of St. Francols Xavikir St. MKONTEIEAL
ZUCCATO'S PATENT

## PAPYROGRAPH

By means of which 500 or more permanent fac simile impressions of
CHECUKATES,

> PHECE LXS'ES, DESIGNS,
> \&ic., \&c., \&c., MUSLC,

May be rapidly and very cheaply printed in an ordinary conying-press, direct from a writer's own mamescipt, and without employing ink or soiling the fingers.


Printige slide as in uso in an crainary copying-Pross.
A Large Number now in use in the Dominidh. Spectmens if printing unil incheriphive price-lith sent on npplication
MORTON, PHILLIPS \& BULMER, STATIONERS,
375 NOTRE DAME STREET, MONTELEA.
Agents for the Province of Quebec.
CANADA PAPER CO., (工IMITED,)

## LATE

ANGUS, LOGAN\&CO., manufacturers of
News, Book and Coloured Printing Papers.
ENVELOPE PADERS AND ENYELOPES,
Mranila, Brown, Grey and Straw Wrapping Papera, Roofing Felt and Matel Paper, Strawboard and loper Bags, Cards and Card lioard. Blank Books.
IMPORTERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OEFINE
WRITING AND JORBING PAPERS ENAMEL-
arille at Windsor, sherbrooke and Portneuf.
374, 376,378 ST. PAUL STREET. MONTREAL

Hoteln.

## ROSSIN HOUSE, TORONTO.

Rates . ... \$2.00 to $\$ 3.00$ per Day According to location of room.
Spectal ifates by weck or Month. Extra charge for rooms with Bath and Closets attached.
G. P. SEEARS.

A pril, 1876.

## OTTAWA HOTEL



IMFORTANT TO TRAVELLERS.

## GEEAT TBDOCTEON IN CHARGES.

The Proprictors of this well-known First-class Hotel have reduced their rates as below, according to location of Rooms:
601Rooniss with Etoard.... \$1.50 per day.

| 60 | 6 | 66 | 66 | 2.00 | 66 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 60 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 2.50 | 66 |
| 60 | 6 | 65 | 66 | 3.00 | 66 |

A limited number of SINGLE and FAMIISY BOARDERS taken for the winter months at reasonable rates.

BRUWNE \& PERLAY, Proprictors.


THE
ELIIS PATENT GAS-BURNER AND HEGULATOEE,
With Opal Globes. The best, the most ceonomical, the chenpest; 20,000 now in nse in this City. Adopted by the Government and all the leading Merchants and Manuficturers. Send your orders to the

MONTHEALE NOVGLTE CO.,
236 St. James street (up one flight) Proprietors and Manufincturers.
Gool Agents wanted in every efty where Gns is nsed

## JOHN H. WILSON, <br> Agont for the celebrated

LOCKMAN SEWING MACHINE AND THL
NEWYORKSINGETE.
$39 B U A D E S T R E E T Q U E B E G$

MONTREAL WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.-THORSDAY, DECEMBER 2SH;1876.



1876．Winter Arrangements．
1876

This Company＇s Lines are composed of the undernoted First－class，Full－powered Clyde－ built，Double－Engine，Iron Steamships：－

## Tons．

Sardinian．．．．．．．．．．． 4100 Lt．J．E．Dution，R．N．R． Circassian．．．．．．．．．． 3400 Capt．J．Wylie．
Polynesian．．．．．．．．． 4100 Gapt．Brown
Sarmatian．．．．．．．．． 3600 Capt．A．D．Aird
Hibernian．．．．．．．．．．．3434 Let．F．Archer，R．N．R．
Caspinn．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 3200 Crpt．Trocks
Scandinarian ．．．． 3000 Capt．R．S．Watta
Prussian．．．．．．．．．．．． 3000 Capt．J．Ritchie
Austriau．．．．．．．．．．．． 2700 Capt．IF．Wylie
Nestorian ．．．．．．．．．． 2700 Cupt．Barclay
Moracian．．．．．．．．．．．． 2650 Capt．Grabam
Pertirian ．．．．．．．．．．．． 2600 Lt，W．M．Smith，R．N．R．
Manitoban ．．．．．．．． 3150 Capt．MeDougall
Nora Scotian ．．．． 3200 Capt．Riclardson
Canndian．．．．．．．．．．．． 2600 Gapt．McLean
Corinthinn．．．．．．．．．2400 Oapt．Menzios
Acaitian．．．．．．．．．．．．． 1350 Capt．Cabel
Waldensiau．．．．．．．． 2800 Crpt．J．G．Stephen
Phrenicinn ．．．．．．．．． 2800 Capt．Scott
Newfoundland．．．． 1500 Capt．Mylins

## HRON PORTLAND．

| Prussian．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．． 23 Dec． <br> Sarmatian |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| Circassian | Jan． |
| Perluring |  |
| Polynesiau | ＊ |
| Sardinian． | ＂ |

Rates of passage．
Cabin．
．$\$ 80$ nud 870. According to accommodation．

Intermediate．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．S 4000 Steerage from Montreal 2630

The Steamers of the Glasgow Line are in－ tended to sail from the CLYDE to Portland at intervals during the season of Winter navi－ gation．

An experienced $S$ irgeon carried on each Ves－ sel．Berths not secured until phid for．
For Freight or other particulars，apply in Portand to H．A．Ahdas，or J．I．Fanser ； in Quebec to Allass，Rae $太$ Go．；in Havre to Jums M．Cumme， 21 Quai d＇Orleans ；in Paris to Gustave Boss ange，Rue du Quntre Sephembre； in Autwerp to Ava．Scumitz，\＆Oo．，or Richand Bense：in Rotterdan to G．P．Itrmans $\approx$ Son， or Reys \＆Co in Hamburg to W．Gibson \＆ Hfigo；in Bodedux to Lafitte \＆Vander－ cruyce，or Fi．Deras © Co．；in lielfast to Chare－ LEY \＆Malgolm；in London to Moyrgontais \＆Gremanorae． 17 Gracechurch Street； 12 Glasgow to James \＆Alba．Allan， 70 Great Clyde Street ；in Liverpool to Alhan Qhorhens， James Street；in Ohicago to Aldan ：\＆Oo．j 72 La Sulle Surect．

1耳．A A．ALKAN，
－Cornar of Yonville and Common Sirects

## CANADA LIPR ASSURANCR COMPANY，

The＂MINIMUM＂system of Assurances bas just been adopted by this Company；where， By a PARTIA亡 APPIICATION OF IHE PROFITS，RATES OF PREMIUM

## ARE CHARGED <br> LOWER TMAM HAVE EVER BEFORE

ibena orfared por furb Assunange．
The following are the rates for Assurance of each $S 1,000$ ，with prolits upon the system referred to：

| AGES． | Anvual PHEMIUSH． | AGE． | ANNUAL PIKEMIGM． | AGE． | ANSUAL म！EMIUM． | A（EE． | ANSUAT <br> PんBMIUM， |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21 | \＄12 90： | 30 | \＄17 50 | 39 | 82380 | 48 | \＄32 70 |
| 23 | 1310 | 31 | 1810 | 40 | $\because 470$ | 49 | 3410 |
| 23 | 1350 | 33 | 1860 | 41 | 2560 | 50 | 3570 |
| 24 | 1400 | 33 | 1920 | 42 | 2650 | $5]$ | 3760 |
| 25 | 1470 | 34 | 1980 | 43 | 9740 | 52 | 3060 |
| 26 | 1520. | 35 | 2049 | 44 | 2850 | 53.3 | 4170 |
| 27 | 1580 | 36 | 2110 | 45 | 2960 | 54 | 4400 |
| 28 | 1649 | 37 | 2200 | 46 | 3060 | 55 | 4640 |
| 29 | 1690 | 33 | 2980 | 47 | 3160 |  |  |

The above table，and a full explanation of the＂Minimum＂system，are published，and may be had upon application．

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the contents of the safes were intnct．The fol－ lowing firms owned these safes：－
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# ROYAL CANADIAN INSURANCE COMPANY. TFIREE AND MEATENX: <br> <br> THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT <br> <br> THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT <br>  <br> Amsunt of Capital Subscribed $\ldots, \$ 86,000,000 \quad 1$ Amount of Capital paid up in Cash . . . 8579,780 <br> ASSETS. <br> O.S. Bonds and other Securities and Cash in hands of U.S <br> Brak Stocks and Bonds (Canadinu) <br> Due by Agents in course of transmission <br> Mortgages on Real Estate (1st 1ien) <br> Bills Receirable (Murine Premiuns) <br> Amount of Interest due and accrued <br> Due the Company for Salvages, Claims on Re-Insurances, <br> and Premiums due $H$. $\Omega$ <br> flice Furniture (Home and Foreign) <br> The above Statement is presented to the Canadian Pub atronage hitherto accorded by the Insurance community. <br> \$581,218:78 <br> 354,461 30 219,86047 <br> 219,86047 37,00000 <br> 37,00000 43,71407 <br> 16,716 52 <br> 562,50248 <br> 22,27274 <br> Cash on hand aud on Deposit ............................................ 50,252 50 <br> Total Assets LI....... ........ <br> Total Liabilities, including unpaid nad unadjusted Losses, and Amount required to re-insure all outstanding Risks........ $\$ 664,790$ 62 INCOME. <br> Premiums received. <br> Interest on Investments <br> Total Income during the Year <br> . $\$ 1,426,66271$ <br> Board of Directors. <br> $\qquad$ <br> $\qquad$ <br> $\qquad$ 



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The only Canadian Company solely devoted to Insurance against Accidents, and giving definite Bonus to the Policy holders.

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There is now No Excuse for any cm . ployee to continue to bold bis fricnds wador such serious liabilities, as be can at once relieve then and be

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49,193
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49,388
Total Ampets. . $\$ 293,794$
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Fire and Life Insurance Companv. egtablished 1809.

Subscribed Capital, - $£ 2,000,000 \mathrm{Stg}$.
Paid-up Crpital - - - - $\mathbf{E}_{250,000 ~ S t g . ~}^{\text {St }}$
Revenue for 1874 - $\quad$. $\quad 1,283.772$ "
Acemmninted Funds - - $3,544,752$ "
INSURANCES GGAINST FIRE
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Moderate Rates of Premium, and specinl schemes adapted to meet the various contingencies con nected with this depmrtment.
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## TUESDAY, THE 2ND DAY OF

 JANUARY NEXT.The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st DECENBER, both dinys inchsive.

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Cashier.
Monireal, 30 th November, 1876.

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Tuesday, the Second Day of January next.
The Transfer Dooks will be closed from the 10th to the 3 lst December, both days inclusive. By order of the Board.

W: N. ANDERSON,
General Manager.
Toronto Nov. 23, 1870

## STANDARD BANK OF CANADA.

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Six per Cent per Annum,
Upon the paid-up capital of the Bank, has this day been declared, and that the same will be payable at the Bunk and its Agencies on and after
Tuesday, the 2nd Day of January, 1877.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16 th: to the 31st day of leecember, 1876, both days inclusi ve.

By order of the Board:
J. L. BRODIE, Oashier.

Toronto, 21 st Nov., 1876.

## Imperial Bank of Canada

Notice IS HEREBY GIVEN that a DIVIDEND at the rate of
EIGET PER CWNT. PER ANNUM
upon the mid-lip Capital Stock of this Institution has been duchared for the current Halfyear, and that the same will be patable at the Head Olice of the Bink and a: its Bratoches on
GUESDAX, TIIE 2ND DAYOFTANUAIE NEXT.
The Transferbooks will be closed from the 16 th to the 8 ist of December, buh duys inclasive.
(By omler of the Board) D. R. WIJKIE,

Cashier.

- Turonto 284 Nav, 1845.

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(Signed, F. II. RELPH,

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REPORTS of the 37th Annurl Mecting and Balance Sheets can now be had on application to above onlice, or to any of the A gents througliout the Dominion.

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Secrelary.

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