

THE Hamilton *Spectator* says that Reid, Birely & Co. made to their creditors last week these propositions: They offered 5 cents on the dollar, cash, which they say is equal to the value of the stock and fixtures, and assigned the book accounts, amounting to nearly \$19,000, in trust for the benefit of all creditors. This was accepted by all present at the meeting. The direct liabilities are \$19,764.

MARK HILL, baker and confectioner, of Hamilton, whose failure was announced a few weeks ago, has succeeded in compromising with his creditors at 50c. in the dollar at 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 month's secured. This experience will probably be a lesson to Mr. Hill to curtail the credit he has hitherto so liberally given to his customers.

MR. PETER McLAREN, the well-known lumberman of Perth, has purchased a phosphate mining site in Bedford, Lanark. This phosphate deposit is considered one of the most valuable in the Perth district. The vein is 20 feet wide. Mr. McLaren intends to begin operations on this new property as well as his Otty Lake property in the spring.

An offer of 70 cents on the dollar has been made to creditors by P. Knechtel, a manufacturer of felt boots at Hanover.—There is some disagreement between the partners of the Lindsay-Seldon Furniture Co. of Peterboro, and a dissolution has followed.—C. F. Decew, a general dealer at Watford, has assigned to a Hamilton creditor, who has just about completed, at 40 cents on the dollar, an arrangement with others interested.

THE Canadian Pacific Telegraph Company's wires have reached St. John, and arrangements are being made to run them through Nova Scotia to Canso, where they will connect with the Mackay-Bennett system. Nova Scotia business men are rejoicing at the prospect of early telegraphic competition, but the companies do not see much to rejoice at in it, considering the tariff of rates.

NOTWITHSTANDING the rolling-stone disposition of H. D. Johnston, he found no difficulty in getting credit from several leading firms here. Last October he commenced to auction goods from one of his two general stores in Thamesville, and to-day it is reported that his former haunts know him no more.—William Doidge, tailor, Coldwater; Nap. Henroid, general storekeeper, Coplestown; W. C. Good, drugs, Goderich; Joshua Waldon, shoes, Queensville; J. M. Beattie, grocer, Shelburne; and Abbott & Watson, builders, Toronto, have assigned.

UNFORTUNATE investments in real estate are said to have caused the present financial difficulties of B. H. Rothwell, dealer in books and stationery at Brantford. He shows liabilities of \$11,000, which he is trying to settle at 40 cents on the dollar, but creditors are not willing to accept this, and object that he had been selling below cost.—R. Bicknell, a grocer at Dundas, is reported to have left the place hurriedly.

A GODERICH man, writing to the *Signal*, gives an account of a trip from Goderich to Amherstburg fifty years ago, to get \$10,000 from the branch of the Bank of Upper Canada then established in the latter town. He says that they stopped at Bullock's Hotel, then the best in the place, and the morning after their arrival they started in search of the Upper Canada Bank, and, after scrambling sometimes over and sometimes between tea-boxes, soap-boxes, candle-boxes, etc., etc., they found "Jamie" Dougall, the manager, afterwards of the well-known Montreal firm J. & J. Dougall, ensconced in a low-ceilinged little back shop.

A HARNESS-maker in Chesley, Thomas Cowan by name, has failed with an indebtedness of \$1,300, and assets about half this sum.—Jacob Foster, doing a small grocery trade in Brantford, would like to settle with creditors at fifty cents on the dollar.—Benjamin Trip, a steady and industrious harness-maker at Thorndale, has made an assignment.—The troubles of F. Qua & Co., in the stationery line of trade on King street, in Toronto, have resulted in an assignment.—Saml Wilson, a dealer in cigars, also in this city, is trying to arrange a compromise. When he retired from the firm of Taylor & Wilson some years ago he showed a good surplus.

"THERE is no article more thoroughly use less than a poor brush; and the best will be found the cheapest in the end." If anyone desires to controvert this assertion, doubtless Messrs. Chas. Boeckh & Sons will take up the cudgels against him; for it is they who make the statement we have quoted. The catalogue of this old and respectable house includes painters', varnishers', kalsominers', artists', household, toilet, stable, and machine brushes; and their new lines of solid-back goods are described as the strongest and most durable in the market. The new four-storey factory of the house is a handsome and complete structure.

Not being satisfied with former experiences in the line of log-rafting, it is stated that Messrs. Leary and Robertson project two other

rafts, one to be built in the same locality as the first enterprise, the second on some point of the River St. John. Each raft is to contain about eight million feet of lumber, and they will be much larger than either of their predecessors. Such wholesale depletion of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia forests is not universally welcomed.

An assignment has been made to Townsend & Stephens by John Couture, manufacturer of boots and shoes at Hamilton. His statement shows liabilities of \$1,800 and assets \$2,000.

At the annual meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade last evening, after an exciting contest, Mr. W. D. Matthews was re-elected president, receiving a majority over his opponent, Mr. D. R. Wilkie, of 53 votes out of 637 cast.

A SPAN of an iron bridge being built over Bear River, Digby Co., N. S., by the King Bridge Company of Ohio for the Government of Nova Scotia, was caught up by a blizzard which raged in Nova Scotia last week and carried into the river. The loss will be from \$5,000 to \$6,000, for the bridge had been completed only two days before.

THE value of the halibut which wrecked the business reputation of the Halifax Collector of Customs and required his resignation was only about \$400. The cost of repairs to the American fishing vessel which caused all the trouble was 50 cents. Great results from small beginnings flow.

"YOUR story about Down-East deacon and his unfermented wine, told in your Summary the other day, reminds me," says a correspondent, "of an analysis which was made a year or two ago of Chicago whiskey by a clergyman. In rye whiskey he found arsenic and concentrated lye, while in gin he discovered turpentine and blue vitriol; in brandy he found ether, sulphur, spirit of cognac, and arsenic; and in what was known as 'Forty-year old Bourbon,' both fusel oil and arsenic."

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

ANGLI.—Shall answer you next week. W. E., St. Thomas.—We understand Montreal to be the headquarters. Write to Mr. Alex. Ramsay of that city.

E. D. A., Annapolis, N. S.—You will observe that we have dealt with the subject much upon the lines suggested in your enclosure.

J. G., New Hamburg.—Sorry that we cannot inform you further than that the person named does business at 362 Queen street west, Toronto.

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