

ABOUT four years ago Levi Palmer began business in St. Thomas in the fancy goods line, and his experience does not warrant a person in believing that a "99 cent store" is always profitable. Better get the other cent in every case if one would succeed. The sheriff entered Levi's premises on an execution of \$900.

A NUMBER of prosecutions, in connection with the late lottery are said to be contemplated, in Toronto. If prosecutions there are to be, they ought to be directed against the prime movers in the business, at head quarters; for they it is who have made the principal profits and without whose initiative there would have been no lottery.

MR. WM. ELLIOTT, grocer on St. Catharine street, Montreal, has assigned in trust to W. D. McLaren & Turner, Rose & Co. His troubles are brought about by those of the Canada Manufacturing Co., of which he is a creditor for some \$4,000. He has been in business a few years, having succeeded to the old established retail grocery of W. D. McLaren.

CONLEY & CORMICAN, who have a boot and shoe store in Ingersoll, opened two branch houses in Winnipeg about a year ago. In January last they claimed a surplus of more than \$10,000. They have allowed their paper for large amounts to be protested for non-payment and now the sheriff is in possession. Their assets are composed of stock and real estate.

THE floods, which are doing immense damage at various points on the Ohio, should teach us not to build cities on the banks of rivers liable to be overflowed. The experience of Winnipeg last spring points in the same direction. Along the Qu'Appelle and other rivers of the North West this warning needs particularly to be heeded. After all the disasters from floods, in Europe and America, there will be no excuse if we fail to profit by the sad experience of others.

MR. P. B. BARNARD has been in the dry goods business in Hamilton quite a number of years, during which time he has more than once gone to his creditors for favors. In 1876 he compromised at 62½ cents on the dollar. In May 1881 his principal creditors wrote off one-half what he owed them; now, again, he is asking a general extension of time, payments to spread over eighteen months. He shows assets of \$25,000 which are some \$7,000 in excess of his obligations.

MR. EWEN McQUEEN, of Petrolia, after struggling as a general dealer for years, has at last succumbed to his difficulties and assigned. — In St. Catharines, Mr. Adam Purvis, dealer in millinery, after being in business about twenty years, living in a very economical way and having the assistance of his wife in the shop, has failed; assets \$4,300 and liabilities \$5,000. The stoppage of a millinery house which principally supplied him, probably accounts for what would otherwise be surprising.

A DEED of assignment for the benefit of creditors was lately drawn in Toronto, in which the schedule of real estate was filled up with "One horse, one single waggon, one sleigh and one set of harness" A question being asked about the matter in the assignee's office the answer was made, "well is it not real estate? we can show where the money came from." Surely this precious functionary must be the same as inserts the following advertisement, in a recent issue of a city daily:

THOSE IN DEBT OR DIFFICULTY, CITY or country, should apply personally if possible or by letter to — Assignee in Trust, and have their matters quickly arranged without stoppage of business; charges moderate; consultations free; bring writs and summonses with you.

Matters, surely, have not come to such a pass in Ontario as to justify traders in taking refuge in such a commercial Cave of Adullam as is here sought to be formed.

THE first call upon the Richelieu Bridge Company has been made and very generally met. The shareholders will meet at Clarenceville on the 19th inst.

MESSRS. Whitesides, of Champlain, N. Y., have purchased seven hundred cords of wood from Mr. Bachand, of Roxham, Que., at \$1.50 per cord and are drawing it to their paper mills.

A NEW industry in the Southern States is the making of pressed wooden plates. A factory in Newbern N. C. is turning out 100,000 per day, and there are two other factories, one at Frankford, Delaware, the other at Sunderland, Vt. for making the same articles.

THE Hamilton Homestead Loan and Savings Society is the name of a newly formed loan company in Hamilton. At a meeting of stockholders on the 7th, Mr. J. H. Stone was elected president; Chas. Armstrong, vice-president; W. J. Grant, A. A. Anderson, Wm. McDonald, C. H. Foster, and Thos. Smith, directors; J. A. Studdart, secretary.

THE annual meeting of the shareholders in the Ottawa & Gatineau Valley Railway was held in Ottawa on the 7th inst. The following gentlemen were elected as directors for the ensuing year:—J. M. Currier, president; C. H. Mackintosh, M. P., vice-president; J. Murray Mitchell, managing director; Luke Henry, of Aylwin; and Dr. Duhamel, of Hull; H. B. Mackintosh is secretary.

MR. A. G. MACKAY, who went from Stratford last season and did a good business in mens' furnishings in Winnipeg, sold out to Alex. Ross, a short time ago and now he asks his creditors to accept the situation. — Dry Goods houses were probably not prepared to hear that the Sheriff was "in" Alvin Polley's shop at Forest, at the suit of one house, and that others are likely to follow.

JOSEPH DUCLOS, dealer in dry goods in Montreal, is in difficulties and offering 50c on the \$ payable in four months and secured by his father-in-law, J. Leveille. Wm. Hood & Co. booksellers &c., in the same city, have assigned in trust to Mr. Robert Miller of the firm of Robert Miller, Son & Co. C. Brewster, dentist, who was also a manufacturer of skates, finds it necessary to call his creditors together in Montreal.

A MAN named Flemming, from Chicago, is charged with defrauding a number of persons after the manner of the "bucket shop" swindlers. These gentry receive small sums from a large number of individuals under pretence of clubbing them together for stock operations. Their advertisements, which are too apt to get into respectable papers, promise all sorts of impossible profits. Flemming is said to have dispensed his favors liberally from Windsor to Peterboro; at which last place he was arrested. We trust it will not hereafter be necessary to warn the public against these scoundrels.

THE vineyards in Europe are becoming less productive every year, and a famine of choice wines seems to be only a question of time. A German paper remarks that substitutes for grape wines are not meeting with much success, as of those offered the solution of anilin, is yet a trifle too poisonous for frequent use: as is also the case in wines based on sulphuric acid. But a scientist has come to the rescue by claiming to produce a fine and richly flavoured wine from turnips. The names so familiar on our wine lists may soon be replaced by such titles as these: "St. Julien a la Beet"; "Niersteiner Turniphein-wein"; "Extra Dry Carrot Juice," etc.

A BRONZE monument factory, whatever that may mean, is projected at St. Thomas, after the pattern of one in operation at Detroit. The

profits of the concern, the *London Free Press* is informed, will be fully 50 per cent. on the investment during the first two years! What, then, may we expect for after years? But are we not reversing the chronological order in bringing in the Age of Bronze after that of iron instead of before it? We suspect, after all, that the bronze monuments are likely to be plaster, clay or wood 'bronzed,' rather than constructed of the mixture of copper and tin properly known as bronze.

THE Canada Manufacturing Co., wholesale confectionery Montreal, whose manager, Mr. Richard Thomas, left that city a couple of weeks ago, after selling his stock as paid up when it was not, and without the knowledge of the other directors, have been obliged to call a meeting of creditors, which was held last Friday. Liabilities were then shown to be \$74,700, including paid up stock of some \$30,000, and assets nominally of \$56,000, great dissatisfaction was expressed at the meeting at the way affairs had been managed. After a good deal of discussion, Messrs. Tiffin, Elliott, Lightbound and J. M. Douglas, were appointed a committee to investigate the estate and report at a subsequent meeting.

IN Toronto, Mrs. J. Allen, milliner, has assigned in trust, partly owing to the stoppage of a wholesale house. At one time she did a large business in Montreal, and has been here about four years. Much sympathy is expressed for her, as she is a diligent woman, who thoroughly understands her business. About \$1,500 is the extent of her debts. — A bailiff is in possession of the premises of J. Holman, boot and shoe dealer, in this city, and he has assigned in trust; rather a poor result of four years' business. — Chas. Gregory, a Toronto builder, has failed, which is no surprise to lumber dealers. — Messrs. Baird Bros., grocers here, purchased the business of one Giles, and have been sued by him. They assigned on Wednesday. — A dealer in blank books, in Toronto, H. B. Butterfield, finds a bailiff in possession of his premises. This is done to secure damages to the *Grip* Publishing Company for an infringement of their patent.

THE Hon. John McMurich, one of the best known and most respected citizens of Toronto, has passed away, and was laid to rest yesterday. Some reminiscences of his life are held over for another issue.

—The Grangers complain that the loan companies, which hold their mortgages, are not taxed. Are they sure that such a tax would not, in the end, fall on the mortgagors? If such tax tended to prevent the influx of loanable capital into Canada through loan companies and thereby diminish competition among lenders, borrowing farmers would be injured; and that it would have such effect is at least probable.

—The business done by private bankers, in Great Britain, the United States and Canada, is large, especially in the first two countries. In the United States the Comptroller of the Currency has recently remarked on the absence of security for the obligations of private bankers; attention to the same subject is being attracted in England—see the *Economist* January 27th, 1883—and it is now said that Canada will be the first country to require such security. Exacting security for deposits would be a novel thing, in this country, though not unknown in the States, and its ultimate consequences might be far-reaching.