

Sector States

difficulties through losses from stock transactions, a meeting of their creditors was held on Friday last. A statement showing liabilities of about \$20,000 and assets of \$2,000 was submitted, and the meeting adjourned to give the firm an opportunity to complete a transaction which may considerably increase their assets.

MESSES. PARKER & MCPREE, victuallers, Halifax, are reported to have failed, and a writ has been issued against Valentine J. Slattery, general dealer at Gabarus, N.S., under the Absconding Debtors' Act.-Messes. Develuy & McGhee, proprietors of the Spool factory at Yamachiche, Que., are reported in difficulty.

DURING the past sensor of navigation 321 ocean steamers, representing a tonnage of 446,457 tons, errived at this port, against 354 vessels, representing 475,741 tons, last year. There were ten more sailing vessels in port this year than last, the figures being 366 against 356, but the tonnage this year aggregated only 85,472, against 152,530 last senson.

L. HERSMAN, the absconding shoe dealer from Galt, Ont., it will be remembered, left no trace of his affitirs behind beyond a small remnant of his stock; and now it is stated that the creditors, nearly altogether in Toronto and Hamilton, have resolved to expend the trifling proceeds of the sale in trying to trace the absconder. May they succeed.

THE CASE of Bridget Clark of this city vs. the Canada Fire and Marine Insurance Co. is still undecided, and being so, is made the subject of occasional notices by writers who have as much knowledge of insurance as they have of Conic Sections. A five line paragraph in an evening paper one day last week, making the Citizens Ins. Co. the defendent in the Bridget Clark claim, was made the text in the follow-ing issue of a local weekly paper for an editorial article in which the Citizens Ins. Co. was handled without gloves, although that Company had no more to do with Bridget Clark than the man in the moon.

CHARLES MASON, general storekcoper andtruder at St. Margaret's Bay, N.S., has assigned



to a Halifax creditor; his effects being pretty much covered by a bill of sale, it is expected that the dividend will be small.—John M. Haslings, grocer, St. John, N.B., Thomas Muir, shipbuilder, Shelburne, N.S., and Henry Zieman, tinsmith, Tavistock, Ont., are also reported to have assigned.—The stock of John A. Smith, furniture dealer, Toronto, previously referred to, has been sold out by auction.

HENRY MOAFEE, general storekeeper at Walkerville, Ont., referred to last week, has compromised at 65c on the dollar.—A meeting of creditors of John J. Arsenault, general dealerat Tignish, P.E.I., also alluded to last weeks was held on Tuesday last, when an offer to compromise was submitted but with what result we have not yet learned. Arsenault commenced business some three years ago with very limited means, but might probably have succeeded had he not launched out into the lobster packing branch, and got beyond his financial depth.

THE recent manifesto of the Insurance Department at Ottawa as affecting Mutual Benefit Associations has had the effect of causing the Mutual Benefit Associates of Rochester, N. Y., to withdraw from Canada. The alternative of making an immediate deposit of \$15,000 and a proportionate reserve according as required, apart from being subject, as all Canadiau, British and other American Companies are. to periodical examination by the Superintendent of Insurance, was possibly more than it could bear. Major Hopper, to whose energy the Rochester concern is indebted for its large membership of 1700 in Canada, has transferred his services to the Mutual Life and Accident Co., of Montreal, and has arranged with the Rochester "Associates" that they any of the aforesaid 1700 members) may enter the Canadian Society without further cost, on producing a certificate of unimpaired health. The Canadian "Mutual Benefit" Associations are henceforth subject to examination by the Insurance Department, and in every respect amenable to the Insurance laws of Canada.

THE FIRM of Payette & Bourgeault, booksellers and dealers in fancy goods, this city, whose suspension was referred to in a recent issue, have effected a compromise at 75c on the dollar secured of liabilities amounting to \$15,000, payable quarterly, extending over fifteen months from the 20th December inst., without interest. Their first offer of 50c on the dollar cash, on a supposed surplus of about \$5,000; was not accepted, and the statement submitted at the meeting: of creditors held last week showed assets consisting of stock valued at \$15,000 and book-debts amounting to \$6,000,-a nominal surplus of \$6,-000. The firm, since the 1st May, 1878, consisted of Mrs. Charles Payette, widow of the late partner, and Mr. G. S. Bourgeault, who conducted the business since that date, and who, it is stated, now intends to continue the business alone. The firm became involved in difficulty prior to the death of Mr. Payette, but obtained assistance and was finally reorganized as already stated. Their success, however, for a considerable time past has been considered doubtful, and the creditors, in view of the amount of accommodation paper that has been circulated, are generally of opinion that an assignment should have been made fully six months ago. It appears that the immediate cause of the suspension was a cable received from an English house to stop the delivery of a large consignment of goods intended for the firm.

AN AMENICAN commercial traveller who has frequently visited this city on his rounds is said to have recently victimized many persons