

THE following are some of the changes in business in this province during the week: Reid & Elliott have bought the banking business of R. C. Struthers at Essex Centre.—C. R. Oaten, Hamilton, has sold his men's furnishing stock to George E. Barr.—John Jackson has bought the general stock of E. Earl, at Scugog, and F. G. Ball, of Shedden, has sold his general stock to J. Morrison & Sons.—Thos. Johnston has also disposed of his general stock at Centreville.

A GREAT deal of surprise was expressed when the failure was announced of John Birrell & Co., London, one of the oldest and most respected dry goods houses in Western Ontario. Up to the time of the announcement their position had scarcely been questioned by the public. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that creditors could not readily understand an offer of composition at 45 cents. But it is feared that this sum is about all the firm can afford to pay. Its direct liabilities are about \$125,000.

A GENERAL storekeeper of some years standing at Upton, Quebec, Raphael Larocque by name, who has been operating in hay of late years, not with very good success, has assigned on demand. Liabilities will probably reach \$15,000, if not \$20,000.—L. Moquin, a young man of Lake Megantic, Que., began store-keeping about a year ago, with little capital and less experience, and in a place where there was already much overtrading. The result was not hard to predict. He is now offering creditors 25 cents on liabilities of \$3,200.—J. Hebert dit Lecompte, doing a small country

hotel business at Ste. Monique, Que., has assigned upon the demand of a Montreal grocery house, and is reported to owe some \$11,000, figures which are hard to understand in his case. Credit was cheap, evidently, in all three instances.

SINCE the death, some years ago, of Isaac C. Chilman, who did an extensive baking, etc., business in Hamilton, the work has been continued by his sons and their mother. Lately they have been getting behind, and an assignment has been made. It is expected that the estate will pay a good dividend.—In the fall of 1887, Becker Bros. quit the farm and began general storekeeping at Bismark. Now an assignment has been made.—After being ten years in the shoe business at Caledon East, John H. Wallace has found it necessary to assign. The sheriff is in possession of the tailoring stock of B. McCormack, at Goderich, and he has also assigned.

H. RANSFORD, who had leased the large hotel and sanitarium at Banff in the Canadian National Park, has found it difficult to pay a rental of about \$4,500 a year, with other expenses, and has assigned to G. C. King. Creditors need not expect a large dividend.—The general stock of C. A. Bradford, Brandon, amounting to \$3,500, is advertised for sale.—In 1884 Felix Plante bought a bankrupt stock of goods at 45 per cent. and opened out at Moose Jaw. Being shrewd and careful, he did pretty well for a while, but latterly his business did not receive proper attention and he has assigned.—An extension of one year is granted Boulton & Co., general dealers at

Russell. In the meantime the creditors have placed S. A. D. Bertrand in control during this year, and as there is an apparent surplus of \$17,000 in the shape of accounts, real estate, etc., it is hoped that they will be able to realize payment in full.—Philp & Co., wholesale dealers in fruit, etc., Winnipeg, have found it necessary to consult creditors, and an assignment has been made.—H. S. Weeks, grocer, in the same city, is in a similar position.

AMONG recent minor failures are those of Daniel Fox, baker, etc., Petrolia; F. Mehlenbacher, shoe dealer, Rainham; T. A. Clark, general storekeeper, Staffordville; T. H. Crawford and Samuel Saunders, both Toronto grocers.

EARLY in the present week a meeting of the creditors of Daniel McLean, wholesale leather merchant, was held in Toronto. The statement presented showed stock on hand, \$36,717; bills receivable and open accounts, \$29,587; cash on hand, \$519; adding an apparent surplus of about \$8,000 in real estate makes the assets exceed \$74,000. The direct liabilities are over \$80,000 and the indirect about \$90,000. In February last Mr. McLean thought that the sum of \$10,000 which he borrowed from Mr. D. W. Alexander, secured by a third mortgage on his warehouse, would tide him over his maturing obligations, but he was entirely too sanguine. He found it difficult to make collections from many of his smaller customers, and a suspension could not be avoided. The creditors present at the meeting seemed favorably disposed toward Mr. McLean, who is very much disturbed about his unfortunate career, and expressed himself anxious to pay 40 cents on the dollar in 3, 6, 9, and 12 months, the last two payments to be secured. The creditors then appointed Messrs. Davis, D. W. Alexander, Henderson (representing Toronto and Standard banks), Peckham, of R. Park & Co., Newmarket, and P. Jacobi to examine the estate, and close it up if they were not satisfied that a correct inventory of the stock and other assets had been taken. It was further arranged that in the event of all the creditors not agreeing to these terms of settlement, that Mr. McLean should assign to Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson, who should associate with him Mr. Knowles, the insolvent's bookkeeper.

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