

A SMALL store-keeper of St. Stanislas de Notska, Que., named E. Vachon, has got into difficulties and is offering 50c. in the dollar cash. Shows liabilities of about \$1,200 and assets perhaps \$700.

ANTOINE LEFEBVRE, a grocer of Montreal, has Assigned in trust, his troubles being brought about by those of W. B. Deemartean & Co., by whom he was principally supported. Liabilities about \$4,000. Assets \$1,600.

A COAL and commission merchant of St. John, N.B., named Peter T. Sherman, has assigned, with liabilities of about \$17,000 and assets \$12,000. No preferred creditors but his father is said to be a creditor for some \$12,000.

AN assignment in trust has been made by Alex. Paul, a general dealer of Brownsburg, Que. A short time before he had made arrangements to sell out at 60 cents on the dollar; but the sale fell through. He shews a surplus of about \$5,000 largely in book debts, over liabilities of about \$10,000.

ROBERT BAXTER, a furniture dealer, of Halifax, N.S. has assigned in trust. Liabilities are \$11,000, but no figures of assets have yet been given. He has, however, offered 80c. on the dollar payable in six, nine, and twelve months. There are said to be some matters, in connection with his failure, which need investigating and his offer is not considered likely to be accepted.

H. J. PAINE, Liquors, &c., Montreal, has assigned in trust. He had been pretty slow in his payments of late, and not being able to meet the notes maturing last week, interviewed some of his creditors who told him to take an inventory and make a shewing of his position which resulted as follows. Liabilities \$17,217 and assets \$10,308.46. Some of the creditors hold security for their claims.

THE firm of Messrs. Fisher & Fisher has secured premises on Wellington street in this city, to do trade in men's furnishings, and one of the firm sails from New York next week on the steamer *Arizona* in company with Mr. Geo. W. Neild an experienced buyer, for the purpose of selecting their goods in European markets. Both members of the firm are well known in this department of trade.

MESSRS. Feron, Shaw & Co. have commenced business at Winnipeg as grocery and general merchandise brokers. Both the partners hail from Montreal, where Mr. Feron was long in the employ of the Montreal Loan & Mortgage Co., while Mr. Shaw has had considerable experience in the wholesale grocery and drug business. The firm solicits correspondence with those who may be desirous of extending their connections in the North-West.

BEFORE the parliamentary committee on inter-provincial trade Mr. R. A. Hunt, merchant, of Summerside, P. E. Island stated that the principal article received on that Island from the upper provinces was flour; about 65,000 barrels were imported from the upper provinces and only 815 barrels from the United States last year. The freight on flour averaged 70 to 75 cents per barrel. Dr. Fortin said that four-fifths of the fish produce went to the West Indies, Brazil, Spain, Portugal, Italy, &c., there being no market for it in Canada, as the fresh fish used by us comes mostly from the United States.

A GREAT many persons will regret to hear of the failure of the Barrie Postmaster, Mr. James Edwards. This misfortune, we understand was caused by the too liberal practice of endorsing other people's paper and sometimes paying farmers too high rates of interest on money deposited with him. But the bad feature is that present appearances of getting the principal, unfortunately are not of a promising character.—In conse-

quence of this failure the postmaster's son, Mr. E. H. Edwards, who carried on a snug book trade, has been obliged to assign with liabilities of about \$6,000 and assets of \$3,500.

VITTY & Co., of Bedford, Que., general store-keepers, have assigned in trust with liabilities of \$8,000 and assets nominally \$8,100.

E. E. HENAU, a small hardware dealer of St. Jean Baptiste village, has assigned in trust owing \$1,200 and nominal assets of \$850.

STILL another disappointed husbandman who pined to be a merchant, is Elie Touchette, of River David, Que. Monsieur Elie sold his farm some three years ago, and opened out a general store. He did not find store-keeping all that he fancied it, however, and he has been unsuccessful and assigned some days ago. The liabilities are \$2,502.69 and assets \$2,608.51. He has made an offer of 40c. on the dollar but creditors would not accept this and told him they would not take less than 60c. on the dollar, three, six and nine months secured, and he is now trying to get this security.—Normandin & Frere, general dealers of the same place have also assigned in trust.

At the opening, by the Princess Beatrice the other day, of an Art College for women, Mr. Mundella, M. P. dwelt upon what is being done in Paris and elsewhere in France by the foundation of free schools of art for female students. Sir P. Cunliffe-Owen spoke of the importance of these schools in connection with the great question of the employment of women. He did not see why we should go to Germany for workmen, who were paid £4 or £5 a week, as chromo-lithographers, when the work might be done by young women from our own art schools. At Dumbarton, in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Denny, he had seen ladies employed to design decorations and fittings for the steamship saloons, &c.

SOME of the party journalists, who have for weeks past quoted from THE MONETARY TIMES the number and names of failures that were taking place week by week, in order to show "how badly the National Policy is working," will find cold comfort in to-day's issue. In this province only two small failures are noted: C. J. Powley, who has mills at Marchmont, has become insolvent through the recent failure of R. R. Weir, Orillia.—In Hamilton, the firm of Stewart & Appleton, who began the grocery business a few months ago has assigned. They found the business it appears, too small for both and besides they did not harmonize very well. This has ended what to them at least must have been an unpleasant experience.

THE creditors of Robert Brown, a general store-keeper at Mountain City, Man., are hotly pursuing him. Although he has been there about four years he fell behind with his payments last winter. About a month ago he gave a chattel mortgage to a London, Ont. firm, and a fortnight since a judgment for \$1,700 was obtained against him. Now a scramble is going on for what is left.—In Emerson, the men's furnishing store of J. Angus & Co., has been closed by creditors. It is found that \$3100 out of \$11,000, are secured by a chattel mortgage. His assets are nominally equal to the liabilities.—E. Cope who began business as a tailor in Brandon, August last, has given two chattel mortgages which cover all his assets.

A WHOLESALE firm having written to a correspondent—a country merchant who applied to them for goods—asking him on what terms he wished to purchase goods, he replies in a way that is as agreeable as it is unusual. It is something to have a man say, nowadays, that the

only terms he can offer are those of cash payment. The following is the letter:

Spence, April 10th, 1883.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your letter of the 3rd, I have simply to say that I have only one way at my command in which I could pay you for goods purchased from your firm, and that is cash, if this kind of payment will suit I could purchase (if your goods suit me) if not, I can't. I think the above will answer your question, viz., how do you purpose paying for the goods, (the question seems so simple.)

I remain yours &c.

H.

Spence P.O. Ont.

SEVERAL changes have taken place in business circles since our last. Among these are the following in Toronto: Foster Davidson & Co., wholesale saddlery and hardware, dissolved—A. M. Foster retires, and Chas. M. Davidson continues alone under style of Chas. Davidson & Co.; The Union Window Shade Co. have admitted A. R. McKinley as partner, and the style is now Macfarlane, McKinley & Co.; Grant Barfoot & Co., lithographers, have admitted David Sutcliffe Eastwood, into partnership under same style. Samuel Howel & Co., wholesale grocers, Ottawa, have dissolved. The hardware firm of Hambly & Amey has dissolved; the former continues. At Glencairn, M. N. Stephens, general store has admitted his two sons, Sidney T. and Marshall N. into partnership, style now M. N. Stephens & Sons.

AN exchange has some sensible things on the subject of Reform in school instruction. "Children," says the *Chicago Journal of Commerce*, "learn easier than men. Boys become efficient in mechanical affairs much quicker than older persons. Few boys but take an interest in mechanical operations and are found anxious to have the use of tools and appliances. The genius for making something is latent in every child's nature. Then why take the education of the child away from all this natural inclination, away from all this practical part of life and instil into his mind false ideas of the importance of purely literary or metaphysical abstractions?" That is, of the importance and gentility of Latin and algebra, and the relative fruitlessness and vulgarity of trades. Not all children should be mechanics. But no one is injured by knowing something of mechanical appliances, and by educating the eye and hand as well as the memory and reasoning faculties. Children succeed as men best in what they have a taste for, and should be given the insight into practical affairs and be allowed to choose their pursuit.

WINNIPEG is indulging in a "mining boom" on the strength of mineral prospects in the Lake Winnipeg and Keewatin districts. Referring to the scepticism shown, even in Winnipeg, last summer on the result of mining in the Lake of the Woods District, when the Keewatin Mining Co., was formed, a letter to the *Montreal Star* says: "But by degrees evidence of the most convincing nature was produced in the way of assays, mill tests, &c. which now amounts to proof that gold and silver in paying quantities exist in the above named Districts." The Keewatin Mining Co. is said to have obtained the richest lead in the North-West. But thanks to a few Winnipeg gentlemen who had faith in the Keewatin mines, this company is not wholly American, the following being on its directorate: Hon. John Norquay, Premier of Manitoba, President; Hon. C. P. Brown, Alderman, J. B. Cameron, Winnipeg, and Capt. John Allan, M.P.P. for St. Clements, formerly of Montreal. Several other companies are already formed. The chief are the Lake Mining Company, of which Judge Walker is President, Duncan McArthur Esq., on the directorate. Winnipeg Consolidated Gold Mining Company boasts as officers: