

## Mercantile Summary.

AN assignment has been made by Mrs. M. L. Parker, who is a dealer in clothing at St. Catharines. An extraordinary statement was placed before creditors in this case. This showed liabilities of about \$13,000, against which was only \$2,000 of nominal assets. Under these circumstances creditors will not expect much dividend, if indeed they get any.

THE Trenton firm of Barber & Broatch, dry goods dealers, have dissolved, and the latter is endeavoring to arrange a compromise. —About the first of the year the dry goods premises of James B. Williamson, Guelph, trading under the style of J. D. Williamson & Co., were damaged by fire, and it was thought the loss was covered by the insurance, which has been paid. Now creditors are offered 87½ per cent. of their claims

A VERY respectable firm at Vankleek Hill, Ont., F. Routhier & Son, in business as foundrymen and general merchants for over twenty years, have had to assign. —M. White & Co., tailors, Brockville, are asking creditors to accept 50 cents on the dollar. —B. G. Kelly, a baker of Carleton Place, Ont., is reported insolvent. —H. S. Alesph, butcher, Cornwall, Ont., is offering his creditors, who are mainly local, 25 per cent.

SINCE the year 1880 Campbell Brothers have carried on the hardware business in Winnipeg, and for a long time did a good and satisfactory trade. In April last they claimed indeed a surplus of \$18,000 over liabilities of \$13,000. Now, suddenly, they assign. We have not learned the reason. —In last September, Epstein & Tormey removed from Spokane, Wash., to Trail, B.C., and opened a general store and saloon, investing \$4,000 therein. Already we hear of their assignment, in spite of the activity and increase of population said to characterize that quarter of British Columbia

FROM Quebec city we hear of the embarrassment of L. J. Savard, who bought out the shoe business of J. Simard in January last year. He proposed a settlement at 75 cents, which did not meet with favor from creditors, and he has since assigned. The liabilities are placed at \$13,000. —M. B. Berry, of the same city, engaged in the manufacture of asbestos goods, is arranging an extension on an indebtedness of about \$5,000. He shows a good surplus. —Wm. Mann, baker and confectioner, is reported to be offering 30 cents on the dollar.

THE Imperial Bank has opened an office at Vancouver, B.C., under the management of Mr. A. Jukes. The bank now has branches in the west, at Winnipeg, Man.; Brandon, Man.; Portage La Prairie, Man.; Calgary, Alberta; Edmonton, Alberta; Prince Albert, Sask., and Vancouver, B.C.

THE report of the English firm of Rylands & Sons for the half-year ended December 31 shows a surplus of £117,866. Out of this it is proposed to declare a dividend at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum, tax free, leaving £24,116 to be carried to the credit of the insurance fund. This fund will then stand at £63,185.

STEWART & Co., shirt manufacturers, Guelph, have been in business thirteen years, but unfortunately not always successfully. In Dec., 1893, they put their affairs into the hands of an assignee, and made a settlement with their creditors. Another assignment is now announced —Six years ago, A. M. Anderson opened a boot and shoe store in Owen Sound, but his disposition has been to extend his business too rapidly, and he has, at times, found it difficult to meet his bills. A year ago he claimed a surplus of \$2,250, but this has disappeared. At a meeting of creditors held a few days ago, they declined offer of 50 per cent., and further time was granted him to amend his offer, which was not sufficient.

ONE of the surprises of the season is the failure of Donald McEachren, general storekeeper at Clifford, who has been in business over a quarter of a century and met his bills promptly. We have not heard the cause of his trouble, and the assignment has been made to a private banker in the village. —Another well-known dealer in dry goods is W. M. Wightman, of Oshawa, who has always been well spoken of. A short time ago it was reported that he had a surplus of \$12,000 in his business. During the past few years his trade has somewhat diminished, and he has now assigned. When retailers such as these are added to the many who for months past have assigned or failed, it is enough to cause all business men to look about them to find whether all this ramified disaster comes or is tending.

THE failure of James McDougall & Co., Montreal, wholesale woollens, the third in this line within the last few weeks, is a disastrous one, the figures submitted at the meeting of creditors held last week showing a most lavish

extension of credit by this firm to the very weakest class of risks. In one case, a balance of \$9,500 is shown against a customer, to whom a reasonably conservative house would not extend a line of one-tenth of that amount, and of \$35,000 of book debts, apart from the above amount, some \$29,500 are appraised as doubtful. The direct liabilities are some \$62,000, and indirect \$60,000, of which it was calculated that \$16,000 would rank against the estate, but this estimate is generally regarded as a low one. The chief English creditor, who is interested to the extent of \$42,000, made an offer of 30 cents, cash, for the estate, which is doubtless more than could be realized if the estate were wound up by an assignee. Mr. McDougall was formerly of the firm of Mills & McDougall, which liquidated several years ago.

FAILURES in Montreal, not elsewhere noted, are as follows: O. A. Willie, a furrier in a moderate way, has assigned on demand showing liabilities of \$3,117. —A. Levesque, restaurateur, is insolvent, owing \$1,900. —F. Duclos, plumber, surprised his creditors last week with an offer of 10 cents on the dollar, showing deficiency stated at over \$19,000. Creditors want fuller explanations before granting any compromise. —Hempy & Stryde, bakers and confectioners, are compromising debts of \$1,600 at 40 cents, and will dissolve. —Mercier & Villeneuve, grocers, reported last week as failed after a year of business want creditors to accept 25 cents on their claims. —Moses Ellinson, clothier and peddler, has been put into insolvency; he owes \$4,648. —J. N. Gravel, furniture dealer, has abandoned his estate; liabilities \$2,700 —Zenophile Dupuis, grocer, has done likewise, owing about \$1,000. —J. M. Ingles, a jobber in watches, &c., has now fyled consent to assign on the demand of his landlord.

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