

J. & J. MUELLER, butchers at Waterloo, Ont., and James and John Beadle, brick-makers at Yarmouth, N. S., have assigned.—D. A. McLeod, dealer in boots and shoes at Woodstock, has called a meeting of creditors.

ECHOES FROM THE MIKADO.—

A merchant alone in his desolate store
Sang, "Willow, tit-willow, tit-willow,"
I said to him, "why are you pacing the floor,
Singing willow, tit-willow, tit-willow?"
"Alas!" said he, when he smothered his cries,
"I thought it was nonsense to advertise,
And now I've no custom at all but the flies,
Oh, willow, tit-willow, tit-willow!"

It now transpires that there is no appropriation with which to defray the expense of diffusing Liberty's light over New York harbor. Mr. Bartholdi's statue will not, therefore for the present be illuminated. It costs \$70 per night to supply the electric lighting.

It is reported in the *Mail* as "a rumor in official circles," but elsewhere stated as a fact, that Mr. John F. Wyld, of Halifax, is appointed to visit the British West Indies and report to the Dominion Government upon the best methods of developing trade relations between those colonies and Canada.

A SUBSCRIBER in the county of Grey, in remitting for his paper, tells us that "I do this with pleasure. Were the subscription \$4 per annum instead of \$2 I would cheerfully pay it rather than be without the *MONETARY TIMES*." From Huron county we get the following testimony. "Continue the paper by all means, it is a valuable weekly visitor and record, and we enjoy it very much."

Most of the storekeepers of Richmond, Que., have signed an agreement to close their places of business at eight o'clock p. m. from 1st October to 15th April, and at 9 p. m. during the summer months. This is called by the *Times* "Early Closing." Probably the clerks in these shops do not so regard it, but the loafers and counter politicians may think it too early to shut shop.

THE following sales have been made of businesses at various points in Canada:—John Ewing, grocer, Arthur, to Collier & Carberry.—C. B. Goulding, general store at Tilsonburg, to Richard Tindall.—Jas. Cameron, dealer in oils, to A. Pemberton.—In the same place W. McMillan has sold his grocery to W. D. Stewart.—At Peterboro, George G. Pope has bought the grocery stock of Wm. Gordon.—Wm. C. Bell & Co., confectioners, sold out to R. Brown.

AFTER more than a quarter of a century's experience in trade, John Shaw, miller at Normandale, has assigned. Up to about three years ago he made but slow progress, and since then has met with some reverses. In January last he obtained an extension of time and refitted his mill, but the terms of this arrangement he failed to carry out. The result is as above stated.—S. A. Huntingdon, dealer in hardware at North Bay, commenced about a year ago without any previous training. Now he has assigned.

THERE was formed last week, by the grocers of St. John and Portland, N. B., a large number of whom met in Dockrill's Hall, in the first-named place, the St. John City and County Grocers' Association. This name was adopted on motion of Mr. A. Malcolm, seconded by Mr. M. Gallagher. Messrs. W. H. Merritt, J. F. Dockrill, Andrew Myles, George Robertson, M. Gallagher, Charles McMichael and Hiram White were appointed a committee to draft a constitution which was to be considered on this day week, when the officers were to be chosen. We learn that a majority of the grocers have joined the association, which has no connection whatever with any other similar association.

On the 10th inst. was held a meeting of the creditors of H. E. Hughes, who keeps a restaurant here. He stated that owing to continual ill health his business had gone behind. He estimated his liabilities over \$6,000, and his assets were almost \$1,000 less. The meeting seemed favorable to a compromise, which may be decided upon after further investigation.

It was in 1883 that F. & J. Skelding began the hardware business at Neepawa, Man., but they always granted credit too freely and now reap the consequences in coming to a dead stop. They have assigned.—Mrs. E. Vidal, grocer, at Winnipeg, after being in business about a year can boast of seventeen creditors. If there be any dividend it will doubtless be small, but creditors will have the consolation of not losing much.

ABOUT a year ago, D. M. Kinsey, grocer, removed from Doon to Berlin, and has been laboring under difficulties in his endeavor to effect a compromise. In this he has failed, and now assigns to J. Donaldson.—At Ailsa Craig, R. Lambert & Sons, dry goods dealers, are in trouble and make an assignment, after being in business many years. A meeting of their creditors will be held next week.—Alfred West, a tailor in Chatham, opened his store last spring. The little assets he had were encumbered with a chattel mortgage, and now he has made an assignment.

A MEETING of the creditors of Messrs. Charlesworth & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, took place in this city on Wednesday last when an offer of settlement for 45 cents on the dollar was discussed. It was agreed to appoint a committee to investigate the affairs of the firm, and report by the 15th. The firm's proposition was to furnish notes at 3, 6, 9, and 12 months, and this will probably be accepted if the committee so recommends and security is furnished. Mr. Watson, who has advanced the concern a large sum and is partially secured, will have to agree to leave this money in the business until the merchandise creditors are paid.

THAT "music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," we are told by the poet. Whether the South African gentleman, who has written Heintzman & Co., of King St., this city, for particulars regarding their well-known piano, intends to make the experiment on the untamed Hottentot of that sun burnt clime, he does not state. Seeing one of these instruments at the Colonial Exhibition he now seems to intend taking a specimen back to his home on the West Coast of Africa. We also learn that an English nobleman gave the organist of Windsor Castle instructions to select a piano for him, and the choice, as against the Chickering of New York and Broadwood of London, fell on Messrs. Heintzman's "parlor grand." No slight testimony, this, to the worth of a Canadian article.

MR. McNICOL, of the Regina Milling Company, writes to correct something said by a correspondent in our issue of the 29th ult., where, under caption "Regina Commercially," reference is made to the Regina Milling Company. "I made no reference, nor did I enter into any explanation as to the samples of flour which stood on exhibit. I was satisfied with the verdict of three most competent judges awarding us first prize for strong bakers' flour, and their acknowledgement that there was scarcely any conceivable difference between the samples of patent shown by the Regina Milling Co., McMillan Bros. and Ogilvie Co., (not the Hudson Bay Co.) I deny having said the flour on exhibit was made from frosted wheat.

The strength of the samples would be evidence against such an assertion; but as you associate the name of Major McGibbon, Inspector of Indian Agencies, it is not at all improbable that his circuit of inspection included, in eastern opinion, the Assiniboia Agricultural Society—hence the mistake."

TESTIMONY as to the advantage of the cash system is borne by McClure & Co., general merchants, Grimsby. "Business has been very good with us for the past season. This is our third season here, and we find our rates increasing every year, which speaks well for the cash system. On commencing business here we were told a cash business could not be done, but we have done it and made it a success, and we have yet to lose the first dollar by a bad account." On the same subject the general store firm of Messrs. Flagler & Clark, of Wellington, writes us: "On the 15th of the present month we go in for a cash business. No more credit. Think the coming winter's trade will equal, if not exceed, that of last year. Trade just now is quiet. Farmers complain of hard times. Pea crop good hereabouts. Barley low."

OUTSIDE the several large shoe and leather failures, noted elsewhere, there have not been many failures of consequence in Province of Quebec during the past fortnight. O. Proulx, carriages, St. Guillaume d'Upton, has assigned; T. Lang, general dealer, Bristol, has placed his estate in hands of trustees. In Montreal, Wm. Knowles, general dealer, has left town, and his estate has been placed in insolvency; Chas. Nelson, hardware, has assigned, as also have Wilson & Cowley, printers. J. H. Morden, dealer in tins at Cowansville, is reported as having left the country; L. Plamondon, hardware, St. Hyacinthe, is offering creditors 25 cents on the dollar. J. E. Beauchemin, agricultural implements, Sorel, is asking a settlement at 20 cents in the dollar, and Wm. Boivin, contractor, of the same town, is seeking a settlement on the same basis. The Bolton Veneer Company, with headquarters at Montreal, has called its creditors together.

An enterprising Yankee publisher has sent us a circular which is devoted to the praising of his "Marvelous Library." This library consists of 45 books, mostly sensational novels, which he proposes we should purchase from him at an expenditure of 1 cent per copy, or 45 cents for the entire number. For our convenience, generous fellow, he will furnish us with an electrotype of the list and as a consideration for this we are to publish his advertisement, a COLUMN long, for at least *three insertions*. Now, as an advertisement of this extent means at least \$40 to us we were puzzled, for the time, to see how we could make any money out of the transaction. But it is all as clear as moonshine, for we read farther on that "you can use them in large quantities as premiums for subscribers to your paper, or if you prefer you can sell them to your readers." Commend us to a Yankee for ingenuity! But we really must decline this "tempting" offer. Much as we should like to know what was "Jasper Dane's secret," whether "Lady Gwendoline's dream" was the result of a disordered stomach or troubled conscience, whether "A Golden Dawn" brought the hero a fat bank account or merely cheap sunshine, we repeat we must decline. Selling books has no charms for us, and our subscriber tells us that we give the best \$2 worth in the columns of the *MONETARY TIMES* of any trade paper in Canada, and therefore, as a premium, the "Marvelous Library" series possess no attraction for us or our readers.