

EIGHT attachments in Ontario, seven in Quebec, two in Nova Scotia, one in P. E. Island, eighteen in all this week, of which four are general stores. Six assignments in Ontario, three in Quebec, and four out of the nine, general stores. There are no less than eight failures among shoe men and firms, the more prominent of which we note elsewhere. Messrs. John McDonald & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants, Halifax, have been served with a writ of attachment; Messrs. Cameron, MacKenzie & Co., fancy goods dealers, of Montreal, are asking indulgence from European creditors, and a writ in insolvency has been issued against Messrs. W. F. Ross Co., jewellers, of Toronto; Loch & Galbraith, liquors, Guelph, are compromising, and H. M. Hyam, St. Catharines, calls a meeting of his creditors.

THE Farmers in Howard township, Kent County, are organizing a purely farmers' bank to loan at 8 per cent, on real estate security. It will be conducted on the joint stock principle, making half-yearly dividends. Deposits, it is said, are already guaranteed of from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

THE fire alarm telegraph has been set up in St. Johns Que. There are five alarm boxes besides the signals which are established between the fire station and water-works.

THE Customs Revenue of the port of Halifax for 1877 was \$1,053,692.65; in 1876 it was \$944,924.05, showing an increase of over ten per cent.

In the pushing town of Orillia, some years ago, two young men, brothers, sons of a most respected and well to do farmer in the neighbourhood, started a hardware business; no capital of their own to speak of, but being of good character, they got large credit, did a large business, dressed well, and lived in quite a different style to what they would have done as plain farmers' sons. Lately the firm came to grief, assigned, and their father's property which they had involved was put up for sale. In the same town not very long ago, two young men without capital, started a drug store, quite an extensive establishment, large stock purchased from confiding merchants, and altogether a flourishing business; rather slower in paying than in purchasing, but very free in promising to pay. Very shortly after the hardware firm, they also came to grief, and as yet have paid nothing. This non-payment of indebtedness, though a source of grief to their creditors, appears to be no embarrassment to these pushing young men, as will be seen by a letter to a firm which is a creditor of the druggists, and which would indicate that one of the hardware young men and one of the drug young men had joined hands for a fresh levy on the wholesale trade. In this letter, which we have not room to publish, they state that they have bought out the business of a stationer, &c., "for cash," and desire to open an account for credit. Query, where did they get the cash?

MERCANTILE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—We have received from this company, only this week, a copy of the report of its business for the past year. About five weeks delay seems a needlessly long time to keep the general public waiting for information, especially when insurance reports are enquired for, and much more closely scrutinized than they were some years ago. Some of the companies will be expected to furnish fuller information in their reports than they have previously given. This company gives, however, in a condensed form, a complete statement of its receipts and disbursements, its assets and liabilities. It has issued 1,885 policies, amounting to \$2,211,325; These yielded the sum of \$28,029. This, with the interest on its investments, amounts to \$30,559. After deducting losses paid, \$8,701, which is 32 per cent. of the premium receipts, reinsurance expenses, etc., a balance of \$11,008 remains from receipts of the year. Adding to this amount the balance from 1876, the company has been enabled to increase its reserve or balance to \$18,988, and its assets from \$28,449 to 38,988, a very good showing.

—The Montreal Board of Trade held its annual meeting on the 8th instant, the retiring president, Mr. Andrew Robertson, in the chair. The report which was adopted, dealt with subjects of general as well as local importance. Mr. Robertson delivered an excellent address, containing suggestions of practical value, especially upon the pressing question of insolvencies. Mr. Henry Lyman was chosen president of the Board; Mr. F. W. Henshaw, Vice-President, and Mr. John Kerry, Treasurer.

—The second annual report of the Directors of the North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Company states that the net profits of the year ending Nov. 21st, 1877, are £8,042 2s. 9d. stg., out of which £5,000 has been appropriated to a dividend of ten per cent., leaving a balance of £3,042 2s. 9d. Of this balance £1,857 19s. 6d. has been appropriated to the payment of expenses attendant on the issue of debentures and payment of commissions to country agents, &c., and \$954 10s. 0d. has been added to the reserve fund, leaving a balance of \$229 13s. 3d. to be carried to next year's account. The company has thus paid a dividend of 10 per cent., and practically added about £2,000 to the reserve fund in its second year. The paid-up capital of the Company amounts to £79,895; but the second, third, fourth, and fifth issues of shares were made at a premium, and these premiums, along with £1,332 from profits, were added to the reserve fund, so that the latter now stands at £11,500.

—The Postmaster General has issued an order that all letters for Russell & Co., a bogus watch and jewellery firm of New York, be returned by Postmaster James to the dead-letter office, and that money orders to that firm be cancelled.

—James English is still at work on the red-wood tree he felled at Russian River Station some months ago. He has already made from it 250,000 shingles, 1,000 fence posts, 6,000 shakes, lumber for a dwelling-house and out-buildings, and has lumber left for 300,000 more shingles. The tree was 14 feet in diameter.—*Petaluma (Cal.) Argus.*

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G. B. SMITH & HENDERSON,

have just opened another lot of those

Knitted Wool Squares,
LOW PRICES.

Also, the desirable lines in clouds and other seasonable goods. Also, a lot of

WHITE AND EVENING SHADES

IN

KID GLOVES, Two, Four and Six Buttons

LAYER RAISINS,
LONDON LAYERS,
LOOSE MUSCATEL,
BASKET RAISINS,
CROWN RAISINS,
FRAILS FIGS

W. RAMSAY & CO.,
Cor. Front and Scott Street,
TORONTO.

WM. B. HAMILTON

(Late CHILDS & HAMILTON),

MANUFACTURER & WHOLESALE DEALER

IN

BOOTS & SHOES,

15 & 17 FRONT STREET EAST,
TORONTO, ONT.

PETER R. LAMB & CO.,
MANUFACTURERS
TORONTO, ONT.

Blacking, Glue,
Snow Blacking, Ivory Black,
Leather Preserver, Animal Charcoal
Harness Oil, Super Phosphate
Neat's Foot Oil, Bone Dust.

NEW FRUITS!
NEW FRUITS!

500 brls. Currants (old and new).
5000 ½ boxes prime new stalk Valencia Raisins.
50 cases finest Eleme Figs, 1½ lb. boxes.
250 bags New Filberts
100 bags New Brazil Nuts.
250 bags soft shell Almonds.
5000 boxes finest new Citron, Orange and Lemon Peels
our own manufacture.
250 bags New Walnuts.

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JAS. SHIELDS & CO.