

tions of detail which have been introduced from time to time.

These Acts have met with a great deal of abuse; but yet the Legislature of the Dominion, after serious consideration, and reports from the different Boards of Trade throughout the country, have concluded to continue to apply the same principles, with one marked modification, namely, the abrogation of the power of voluntary assignments. This is the greatest change effected by the present Act. A lesser modification is its extension to joint stock companies. This was necessary in view of the large and daily increasing share of the trade and manufactures of the country, conducted by incorporated Companies.

An important change is also made in reference to the Province of Quebec, by an attempted abrogation of the law of that Province, which gives to the unpaid vendor the privilege of taking back his goods, or obtaining at least a lien upon their proceeds, provided the goods be in the same condition as when sold, and that the privilege be exercised within fifteen days of their sale. The constitutionality, however, of this enactment is doubtful, as it seems a direct interference with the civil law of the province, and not a positive and necessary outflowing of any enactment of insolvency, and therefore opposed to the principle of the Confederation Act.

The editor regrets to have to point to one serious defect in the present Statute—viz, the carelessness of its grammatical construction. Instances of this are pointed out in the notes to the sections. We might refer specially to the fourth section, which treats of the “demand of Assignment.” There is great ambiguity and obscurity

*See 4.*