

## XVII.

TO save your humble servant, and to lay the responsibility on some one else we copy *verbatim et literatim* an article from the "HAMILTON EVENING TIMES" of July 9th, which will give your readers some idea of how the Canadians here persevere and get on :

"In these times of considerable commercial depression it is a pleasure to be able to make allusion to one branch of Canadian industry which is progressing in a most satisfactory manner—an industry which, though it has its headquarters in this city, has ramifications throughout the entire Western Dominion as well as the Eastern and Western States. We refer to the very extensive wholesale and retail marble business, and its connections, of Messrs. Hurd & Roberts, of Hamilton, to which, at some little length, we propose to refer to-day. We might say, however, that in a very short time the retail branch will be disposed of, and every attention paid to the wholesale portion. For that purpose the agents are already being called in and preparations made to sell out the present business on Merrick street. A retrospect of a few years will not be out of place in this sketch, in order to afford some idea of the humble commencement of the business, which has now reached its present great proportions, being, we can safely say, the most flourishing in Canada. Twenty-seven years ago Mr. H. H. Hurd arrived in Wellington Square and opened a shop, we may believe, under no very cheerful auspices, for in addition to the natural dullness of the trade he was assured by an old resident that he could not hope to dispose of his large stock of marble in this country—his "large stock" consisting of no more than two horses could draw and not exceeding in value the sum of \$200. In that somewhat remote day, the demand for handsome monuments and tombstones was very slender ; people were contented with the most modest memorial tablets and headstones, and, often, with none at all. In the face of this, one may imagine that the prospects were not of the brightest kind. However, Mr. Hurd went boldly and assiduously to work, with