

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Among the business changes of the past week we note the following: Dissolutions—Hurst & Ferguson, dry goods, Stratford, W. J. Ferguson continues; Stimpson, Wallace & Co., "New Dominion Organ Company," St. John, N.B.; S. L. Lawrence retiring; G. H. Boright & Son, general store, Sutton, G. H. Boright continues; Vineburg & Beaton, general store, Farnham Centre; Morin & Co., commission, Montreal, L. H. Durand retiring, continued by Louis E. Morin, sr., and Louis E. Morin, jr., under same style; Sommerville & Foster, oil cloth window blind manufacturers, Hamilton; R. & C. Beaty, custom house brokers, Hamilton; Finlay & Shepherd, general store, Meaford; Paquette & Boieson, dry goods, Montreal, Boieson Bros. continue; MacDonell & Everett, wool bleachers, Montreal, continued by Allan G. MacDonell under style of Montreal Wool Co.; A. G. Hopkins & Co., Hamilton Tea Co., Hamilton; and Harris & Berston, tobacco, St. Catharines. Eyfe & Garneau, dry goods, Québec, are about dissolving.

A demand of assignment has been made upon Stanley & Gernyn, general store, Exeter.

Angus McGregor, carriages, New Glasgow, P. E. I., is offering to compromise at 65 cents, secured, and Wm. Burke, builder, Toronto, at 33 cents on the dollar, cash.

Thomas Morris, boots and shoes, Galt, has compromised at 75 cents; and N. McEachran, tailor, Toronto, at 50 cents on the dollar.

The following are selling or have sold out: David Downs, trader, Granby; N. Hughes, flour and feed, Barrie; Harris & Johnston, boots and shoes, Ingersoll; R. Balfour, general store, Port Colborne; L. Bissonette & Co., dry goods, St. Catharines; W. K. Fulmer, general store, Rathven; and E. Hurdle, watchmaker, Wyoming.

The following have recently commenced business: Jackson & McLean, flour and feed, Barrie; Jas. Anderson, grocer and cordwood, Barrie; S. P. Logie, boots and shoes, Ingersoll; Rine & Potter, general store, Port Colborne; E. Fury, general store, Stonebridge; Wm. Templeton, drugs, Belleville; McCarthy & Stevenson, venetian blind manufacturers, St. John, N.B.; C. Y. Gregory, ship chandler, St. John, N.B.; Geo. Pomroy, grocer and baker, Castleton; Jos. P. Smith, grocer, Forest; Wm. Hagan, grocer, Listowell; Chas. Emery, grocer, Meaford; J. M. Adams, hardware, stove, and tins, Parkhill; Wigle & Moore, general store, Rathven, and Samuel A. Tyre, drugs, Thamesville.

The following are just commencing business: D. McGillivray, general store and ship chandler, Port Colborne; J. H. Tonkin, flour and feed, St. Thomas; M. S. Bradt, general store, Welland; and E. Hurdle, watchmaker, Petrolia.

The following are out of business: S. H. Palmer, furniture, Tilsonburg; A. Hogg, grocer, Meaford; and John Davies, general store, St. Ann's, Ont.

The following offer their business for sale: D. S. Dunn, grocer, Hamilton; Wm. McIntosh, mills, Newcastle; G. McKay, hotel, Wingham; Samuel Reeves, flour and feed, Ham-

ilton, and E. R. Mogg, grocer and baker, West Lorne.

The following have failed: E. Philpott, wagons, Bervie; Almon & McIntosh, bankers, Halifax; M. G. Mountain, grocer, Quebec; Noble & Murray, jewellers, St. Catharines; A. Dion & Co., grocers, Quebec, and W. A. Rose, boots and shoes, Nanawee.

W. C. Smith, hotel, Listowell; James & Bro., grocers, Brantford; and J. Patterson & Co., boots and shoes, Toronto, have called meeting of creditors.

J. K. Morris, boots and shoes, Blenheim, and W. Johnston, hats and furs, Belleville, have reopened their business. Geo. Sherran, watches, Thamesville, is opening a hardware store, having bought out Wm. Stanforth.

THE NATIONAL BUTTER AND CHEESE CONVENTION AT CHICAGO.

A convention of the dairymen of the United States was recently held at Chicago, and composed, as it was, of representative men, its deliberations have attracted considerable attention. We have been favored by Mr. A. A. Ayer, an extensive dealer in butter and cheese of this city, with a *resumé* of the principal points which came up for discussion, which we here append:

The Americans are bound to know the bottom principle and best methods of doing whatever they undertake.

The dairy farmer there is not one bit behind in this respect. He secures the best cow obtainable, and, for this purpose, weighs the milk and tests its quality, then fattens and sells the poor ones and keeps the good ones. Hence, different breeds of cattle and their care was one of the principal subjects discussed.

The second point was how to get the most out of the milk. The pool or deep-setting system was acknowledged the most profitable way in butter making. In many sections the milk is sold day by day to the factory or creamery man. It is thought by some that the generally adopted system will be selling milk the same as wheat or corn is sold.

The milling, or, as it might be called, patent store packing of butter was condemned, the ordinary dairy system rejected, the pool system for dairies recommended, and the creamery, butter factory, and cheese factory systems was commended as the truest and best place for converting milk into butter and cheese.

A uniform package of 56 lbs was advised for butter.

Butterine, shipped fresh to the English market, having annihilated the sale of stale butter, and the fresh supplies now available on this Continent having practically done the same here, all were forced to acknowledge that stale butter was a thing of the past.

The Western people boldly avowed their determination to supply the market with fresh butter and new-made cheese for the first eight months in the year, leaving the Eastern people to supply the last four and compete with them for the middle four. They gave abundant proof of this, as new cheese were freely coming into Chicago, and one factoryman was found who could offer his hundred tubs of new butter a week.

The absorbing interest seemed to be in butter, and the remarks on cheese were few and far between.

The writer talked on the requirements of the various markets, commented on the faulty manufacture and way of supply of the past, and suggested various improvements necessary in order to supply certain markets in the future.

We hope the day is not far distant when we may have such a convention here, in the Province of Quebec. It would be of incalculable good to our farmers.

THE PUSLINCH MUTUAL.—The experience of the Puslinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the past year does not appear to have been that of a very prosperous concern, judging by the following extract from its report:—"The directors, in presenting their annual report, beg leave to state that the company has met with the heaviest loss it has sustained since its formation in 1859, being that of Mr. Peter Stewart's barn and contents having been destroyed by fire on the night of the 22nd April, 1877, said loss amounting to \$666.66 on barn and sheep-house, and \$1,326.50 on ordinary contents. After strict inquiry into all the affairs it was found that the company was liable for \$666.66 on the buildings and \$1,310.00 on the contents, amounting in all to \$1,976.66. The directors having met, found it necessary to levy an assessment of 30 per cent. on the dollar on all the premium notes in the hands of the company." At this rate the loss of a couple more barns would have cleaned the company out.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE.—The condensed report of the business of this company for the past year, on another page, shows that its prosperity advances with unabated vigor and unvarying success. Despite the St. John calamity (£206,000) and other losses, the sum of £150,000 has been added to the Reserve Fund, besides paying a dividend of 35 per cent. The aim of the directors appears to be to increase the Reserve Fund to that extent that substantial dividends will, in the course of time, be realized from interest upon it. The general progress and position of the company may be seen by the following eloquent figures:

	1876.	1876.	1877.
Shareholders' Capital	£245,640	£245,640	£245,640
Life Assurance Fund	2,177,815	2,307,176	2,379,311
Annuity Fund	425,660	480,396	462,656
General Reserve Fire Fund	850,000	1,000,000	1,150,000
Profit and Loss	131,104	150,688	155,141
Other Funds	162,850	163,808	163,979
	£3,984,369	£4,288,508	£4,560,715
Other assets, including funds set apart for Globe annuitants, &c., as per balance sheet	1,183,841	1,205,525	1,253,645
Total assets	£5,168,210	£5,494,033	£5,814,360

THE ENGLISH VIEW OF THE SILVER BILL.—The *Pall Mall Gazette*, in the passage which we quote below, voices pretty accurately the opinion in England on the passage of the Silver Bill. The point which it makes that the matter to be considered is not the present or probable price of silver, but the fact that the American people have begun to tamper with their financial obligations, is, in the opinion of more than one American paper, justly put:—