

Mr. ALEXANDER M. ALLAN, formerly a metal broker in Montreal, who blossomed out about a year ago into the Canada Dye Stuff and Chemical Company, with works at Upton, Que., and a warehouse in the city, and in which concern he was the only partner, has come to grief under rather unsavory circumstances. He is charged with forging paper presented to the Bank of Montreal for discount, and an officer with a warrant for his arrest has been unable to find him. Some of his creditors have initiated insolvency proceedings, and a meeting is called for the 16th inst., to appoint a curator. Those who know the man, and his abilities, express no surprise at the outcome of his operations.

The first week of the new year opens without any important failures to announce amongst Ontario traders, those that are chronicled being of a minor nature.—W. R. McClung removed from Paris last March, and resumed in Galt the same sort of business, boots and shoes, he had carried on in the former town and where he made no headway. He has now assigned.—In Milverton, a cheese-maker named Donald McGillivray has assigned, so has Robt. Wilson, a harness maker, of Norwood.—S. Greenfield, a grocer in Parkdale, has abandoned his estate to E. R. C. Clarkson, for the benefit of creditors.—The prospects of Wilson & Weir, confectioners of Windsor, were never thought to have been favorable, and their credit was weak; this, together with a lack of means has brought

about their assignment.—Geo. W. Weston, a dealer in builders' supplies in this city, has not been able to make any progress since his friends assisted him to begin business in 1886, and now the bailiff is in possession.—Upon money advanced by his father, Jas. Clark commenced business as a jeweller in this city three years ago. It is not surprising that an assignment has now resulted when it is known that he gave his business affairs very little attention and permitted gambling on the premises. He has left the city, and nearly every wholesale jeweller in town mourns a loss which in the aggregate will amount to about \$6,000.

WOMAN'S WORK.

We have to thank a correspondent for sending us a beautiful little pamphlet descriptive of the 1888 convention of the Association for the Advancement of Woman (formed in 1873), held in Detroit, Michigan, in November last. The president of this widely-spread organization is the well-known Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, and among its vice-presidents are Professor Maria Mitchell of New York, Rev. Antoinette Blackwell of New Jersey, Dr. Jenny K. Trout of Toronto. The membership of the association is nearly 500, and its objects are "to consider and present practical methods for securing to women higher intellectual, moral, and physical conditions, with a view to the improvement of all domestic and social relations." Among the topics for discussion at the recent convention were Manual Training for Girls, presented by Miss Ella C. Lapham of New York, Social Purity, by Miss Francis E. Willard of Illinois, The Functions of Society, by Mrs. Anna C. Bowser of Kentucky. From a brief paper by Miss Helen P. Jenkins, in the dainty pamphlet before us, we quote: "Already, women are in medicine and the ministry, in literature and in law, in professors' chairs in our colleges and on the platform, making fortunes in business and remarking creeds. * * The larger part of the philanthropic work of the world is in woman's hands; every reform looks to her for strength. But the end is not yet."

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"DRUMMERS AT DINNER."

The above is not our caption, but that of the *Winnipeg Free Press*, which devotes a column and a half to the sixth annual dinner of the North-West Commercial Travellers' Association, held at Winnipeg last Friday evening, the president, Mr. W. M. Ronald, in the chair. Every seat was occupied, and at least two hundred were present. The Premier of Manitoba, Hon. Mr. Greenway, Attorney-General Martin, and Hon. Mr. Norquay responded to the toast of The Legislature. The latter declared commercial travellers as "insinuating in their manners, genial and affable, and always got the best of what was going. They could adapt themselves to circumstances better than any men he knew. They had been in advance of the railroads, the forerunners of civilization and progress." Consul-General Taylor made, as he always does, a capital speech, dealing with commercial progress in this country and the future in store for it. Mayor Ryan's speech was witty and racy. In response to the toast of the clergy, Rev. Mr. Pedley declared, amid loud applause, that Jacob was the first commercial traveller in the world. He didn't know Jacob's other name, he said, but he did not seem to fall in with the suggestion of one of the company that it was Jake Holman.

The toast of "Commercial and Manufacturing Interests" brought out Mr. G. F. Galt, president of the Board of Trade. Mr. Galt said that the most valuable asset he had in his business was the experience he had gained on the road. He spoke of the grand future before the commercial and manufacturing interests of Manitoba.

In response to the toast of "Our Sister Associations," W. R. McArthur, of the Dominion association of Montreal, claimed that the Manitoba association had made more substantial progress than any other in the Dominion. Mr. Miller, of the C. T. A., replied briefly.

—A lady a day or two ago went into a store where they are selling books wonderfully cheap, and approaching a counter over which a charming young saleswoman presided, asked: "Have you got 'John Halifax'?" "No," was the saleswoman's reply, "we're just out of 'John Halifax,' but here's 'John Nicholson'—will that do?" The lady thought it would not do. But the little saleswoman was determined to effect a sale. So she went on: "Do you like deep books, ma'am? Here's 'Ten Thousand Leagues under the Sea'—that's a very deep novel!"—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

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