

BUSINESS CHANGES FOR FEBRUARY.

Daniel Kennedy, jeweler, Springfield, Ont. has sold out; Gordon & Scott, hardware, Wingham, Ont., advertising business for sale; Robert Mitchell, hardware and tins, Chatsworth, Ont., leaving for Manitoba; Robert Sewell, stoves, &c., Toronto, assigned in trust; W. E. Dawson & Co., hardware, Charlottetown, P.E.I., business in future to be carried on by W. E. Dawson under old style; Evans, & Co., hardware, Collingwood, Ont., about dissolving; W. Perret, jeweler, Orangeville, Ont., removed to Manitoba; Rourke & Son, hardware, Charlottetown, P.E.I., dissolved; Allen & Borrowman, hardware, Amherstburg, Ont., have dissolved, Allen continues; J. Johnston, jeweler, Kingston, dead; C. & J. Allen, jewelers, Toronto, opening branch at Winnipeg.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Mr. J. JOHNSON, the well known jeweler of Kingston, is dead. The business will be carried on by his son in future.

THE government have decided to do away with bill stamps in future. A sensible move we think, so probably will most of our readers.

C & J ALLEN the well known jewelry firm of King St., Toronto, have established a branch of their business in Winnipeg, Mr. Joseph Allen being the manager.

THE jewelry trade of Toronto will soon be well represented in Winnipeg if things go on at the present rate. Mr. Charles Robinson, of the Sheffield House and Mr. Roberts, of the Rossin House, having taken up stocks for the purpose of opening out business there.

Mr. E. BEETON, a young and energetic watch maker has bought out the trade watch repairing business of the late Mr. Blundell. Mr. Beeton is a thorough mechanic, and we have no hesitation in recommending him to the trade as perfectly trustworthy in every way.

W. C. MIDDLETON, stationer, etc., of Arnprior, has assigned in trust. Liabilities, \$7,000; surplus, \$1,600. The cause of his difficulties in having too many irons in the fire—four stores, of which he was the proprietor, more than he could manage with success.

WE notice that Messrs. Zimmerman, McNaught & Co., are about in a few days to remove to their new premises 16 & 18 Wellington Street East, north side. Their new warehouse when finished will be probably one the finest in the city, and the firm and their customers will no doubt profit by the exchange.

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the *American Artisan*, a paper published in Chicago George Daniels. It is elegantly printed on heavy toned paper, and its reading matter is at once interesting and instructive. It should be taken by every one in the house furnishing trade who wants to know what is going on outside. We shall be glad to have the *Artisan* on our exchange list.

ROBERT SEWELL, a Yonge Street stove dealer, in this city, has failed for the second time. His first failure was while a partner of Whitehead in 1875. Their liabilities which were compromised at 50 per cent were then \$39,000. After this the firm

was dissolved and he continued with apparently poor success, although about a couple of years ago he claimed to have a surplus of \$6,000. Now his liabilities are \$6,000. Outside creditors need not expect a dividend.

THERE are so many suspicious reports being circulated at present about the late robbery of Messrs. Fox & Co. of this city, that we think it well that the gentlemen in question should clear them up. It is said that not only did the robbers take all their jewelry and customer's watches, but that they had sufficient knowledge of the trade and business to tear out and destroy the leaves of the watch repairing book kept by the firm. This is very unusual for ordinary burglars to do, for as a rule they are in too much of a hurry to get off to care about such trifles as watch repair records. We understand that the firm are also asking a compromise from their Creditors on account of the robbery. The affair looks suspicious to say the least, and the Creditors should demand and have a satisfactory explanation before they decide to grant this favor. Although these suspicious circumstances are gravely talked about, we think that ordinary fair play should prevent any one making any charges out of them until they have something substantial to go upon. The gentlemen in question should have the benefit of the doubt and be held innocent until they are proven guilty.

ONE of the most extensive and at the same time mysterious robberies that has taken place in the city for years was perpetrated on Sunday night of last week at the store of Messrs. Fox & Co., 129 King St. East, the estimated loss to the proprietors of the store entered and their customers being over \$3,000. The proprietors of the place, Mr. Fox and Mr. M. H. Saunders, have not very extensive premises, but had a fine stock. Their store is almost immediately opposite St. James' Cathedral, and over it a family reside. Every night the gas is left burning in the store, and in addition to this a policeman and a night watchman regularly pass the place. On Saturday night both partners left the store as usual, after seeing that the stock of jewelry had been placed in cases in the safe, both doors of which were carefully locked. On Sunday Mr. Fox called at the store and took out with him a dog which had been left on the premises. At half-past nine o'clock, Mr. Saunders visited the store and found everything right. About three o'clock the lady who lives over the store was startled by hearing a dull sound below and thinking there might be thieves about the premises got up and slammed the door to frighten them. She then listened and hearing no further noise fell asleep. In the morning about eight o'clock one of the clerks, James Murphy, arrived at the store and as soon as he had opened the door saw that a robbery had been committed, and a very extensive one too. Watch and jewelry cases were thrown about in the most reckless manner, cheap goods were carelessly scattered about the floor, and the walls were depleted of the stock. Shortly afterwards both members of the firm arrived, and at once engaged in making up an exact list of their losses which are estimated as follows:—

50 silver watches.....	\$750
14 gold watches.....	560

14 jewelry rings.....	275
60 gold rings.....	180
40 gold lockets.....	200
6 Albert gold chains.....	40
Cash.....	300
Customers' watches, chains, rings, etc.,	1,000

Total \$3,805

As said before a paid private watchman and a policeman were continually passing and re-passing the store, the gas was always left lighted at night, a family lived on the flat over the store and the doors and safe were always kept locked. When the clerk arrived he found the front door locked, both doors of the safe ajar and a back door open. As another back door was locked and bolted it is evident the robbers got in from the front which is kept fastened by a slight spring catch. Each of the proprietors has keys for the safe, one to fit each lock, and these they say have never been out of their possession. The instrument they used to assist the keys, and without which the doors could not be opened, was found lying on the floor. The detectives can at present form no idea as to who the thieves are or how the robbery could possibly be accomplished without having keys, as the locks could not be picked and they were not injured in the slightest. Perhaps the robbers may have visited the residence of the firm, and securing their keys got wax impressions of them, after which keys could easily be made.

WE received a few days ago from a jeweler out west a trade circular emanating from the now celebrated (?) house of H. W. Patterson & Co. of Boston, U. S. A., better known to many of our readers as the hero of the late Custom's jewelry seizures in Montreal. In this circular Mr. Patterson characterizes his arrest and the seizure of his goods, as "my late difficulty with the Custom's authorities," a modest way to say the least of putting a crime punishable by imprisonment. He also says "that he has had his attention called to many exaggerated and untruthful statements which have been published regarding his late difficulty" and that "several of his competitors are making capital out of those erroneous statements by trying to convince his friends (?) and customers that he will not again appear in Canada for the purpose of selling goods.

Before going further, we would say that we very much doubt that any of Mr. Patterson's competitors ever took the trouble to make capital out of the reports in circulation about Mr. P's "late difficulty with the Custom's authorities," as most of them consider that Mr. Patterson has pretty well "cooked his own goose" without any outside interference.

Mr. Patterson further goes on to say "I feel confident that your own good judgment will show you the falsity of the former statements and the thinness of the latter," quite a judicious mixture we must say of soft soap and Yankee cheek. This is altogether too plain Mr. Patterson, the idea of your posing before your friends and customers and the jewelry trade of Canada in general as the victim of jealous competitors is too thin altogether. No, no Mr. Patterson you are hardly the kind of material they make martyrs of, on the contrary the custom in Canada is to make quite a different kind of example of persons caught breaking the laws of the country.