business was a continuation of C. Fitts & Co., at one time a very prosperous concern.—
Thos. Bell & Co., a clothing concern of recent birth in the St. Henri suburb, has assigned, owing \$4,895.

Mary Burgess, the wife of Mr. McIntosh, of the Aylmer firm of McIntosh & Burgess, who failed a short time ago, began business in Dutton since that time and has already assigned.—At Cold Springs, David Eagleson, who had been a successful farmer for many years, began keeping store about fifteen months ago. He has already assigned, no doubt a sadder and wiser man.—A. R. Mead, jeweller, moved from Thamesville to Windsor in July last. He has evidently not benefited by the change, for an assignment is found necessary.

REFERRING to the high rate of interest paid by the Quebec provincial authorities to banks for temporary loans, the Montreal Star says: Brokers who are holding "call" loans from the Caisse d'Economie of Quebec and the Banque du Peuple have within the last day or two been called, and the reason thereof is the fact that the former institution has closed a loan to the Quebec Government for \$386,000 for one year, at six per cent.; the latter institution is a loaner for \$50,000 under similar

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conditions, and the Bank of Montreal has a loan running for over half a million dollars, at the same rate of interest. The city of Montreal is a borrower for \$70,000 at 6 per cent., which has been remitted to Baring Bros. to meet some of the city's liabilities in London.

ISRAEL ROSENSTEIN, a young Polish Israelite, appeared one morning on the streets of St. Johns, Que., between two and three years ago, with a bundle of men's suspenders floating gracefully around his shoulders, and a small tray of cheap fancy goods suspended before him, with which, and an oily tongue, he proceeded to wheedle the shekels out of the pockets of the Philistines. As a salesman he was a success, his stock gradually grew, and he finally bloomed out as a supplier of a legion of his fellow-countrymen, who perambulated the country roads of this fair Dominion with a pack on their backs as large as a small house, their operations extending even to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. He shipped them small sorting parcels as required, and as a rule exacted cash on delivery, so that he was considered to be doing pretty well. Israel, however, apparently thought this a slow way of making money, and brought all his wits to work upon a "grand coup," which he planned and carried out so successfully that nobody knew he had flown till he was across the Line 45°. It now transpires that he had been despatching trunks full of goods southward for several weeks, and the last few days were spent in laying everyone who would stand it under contribution. The local furriers, cigar men, doctors, in fact the "tinker. the tailor and candle-stick maker," et hoc genus omne, were all bled, local claims in large number running up from \$10 to \$2,000. On New Year's day Rosenstein announced he was going to Montreal for a day or two, but he left Montreal the same day by the New York

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train. His liabilities are not confined to St. Johns, a number of Montreal houses being in for various amounts. The circumstances of his flight warrant the belief that he is extraditable, and a detective has been put on his track. What he owes will probably not fall much short of \$10,000.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

ANNUAL OF THE ONTARIO BRANCH, ROYAL CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB, FOR 1890-91. Toronto Mail Printing Co.—This is the sixteenth annual compilation of the transactions of the Ontario affiliated curlers. It is prefaced by a portrait of the president, Dr. Boucher, of Peterboro, handsome and genial, as a curler ought to be; and contains a novelty in the shape of lists of officers of the branches in other provinces, as well as of the parent body in Scotland, the president of which is the Marquis of Bute. Some seventy pages of the bookare occupied with the lists of membership, which must aggregate several thousands, for there are ninety-eight clubs in this Province, numbering from 12 to 180 members each, affiliated with the branch, and doubtless some which are not in affiliation. We observe the Detroit, Michigan, Curling Club in this list, and understand that the Buffalo Club has since come into the Canadian brotherhood. Indeed there is no stronger illustration of the increased strength and importance of these curling organizations than the fact that the railways have granted curlers special rates of fare in going to and from matches. In addition to the rules and regulations of the game and proceedings of the branch, this little volume contains records of matches, grouping of clubs for the Tankard, and other information of interest to the curler. What is not unimportant, too, it is well put together and pervaded by a proper spirit. Witness the admirable tribute on page 99 to the memory of John O. Heward and William Bayly. Truly, as the writer says of these lamented gentlemen, "The world's happiness is largely due to such kindly lives."

—No less than 5,260 million gallons of water was consumed in Montreal last year, which is at the rate of 438,360,000 a month. This makes quite a contrast with the 2,151 million gallons of 1870, or even with the 3,547,000 gallons of 1880. The quantity pumped by water power last year was 3,914,000,000 gallons, and by steam power, 1,346,000,000 gallons. This quantity, says the water works secretary, would equal a lake 11 miles long, a mile wide, and 300 feet deep.

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