

Mr. R. H. Moody, the well-known bankrupt stock dealer, has entered an action against one of the Winnipeg papers for alleged libel in reference to the Marcotte affair. The libel appears to consist in the fact that the paper in question published Marcotte's confession without comment.

The widow of the late Mr. Henry Mulholland, formerly a member of the insolvent hardware and iron firm of Mulholland & Baker, has presented a petition to the Insolvent Court claiming \$95,000 out of the real estate of her husband under some old law, which it appears is still in force.

We had a call a few days ago from Mr. A. W. Thompson of Prince Arthur's Landing and Winnipeg. He reports prospects for business good in both places and thinks that when the C. P. R. is fairly running between Prince Arthur's Landing and Winnipeg it will make things hum in the former place. We think he is right.

We had the pleasure of a visit a few days ago from Mr. Daniel Stern, manager of the New York office of the Chicago Watchmaker and Metal-worker. Mr. Stern's visit to Toronto was a mixture of business and pleasure, and he expressed himself as being highly pleased with the appearance of the "Queen City of the West."

Mr. M. R. Countess, jeweler, of Seaforth, Ont., is going to sell his business and purposes removing to Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. Mr. Countess has a fine trade and one of the handsomest and best fitted up jewelry stores in Canada, and any person with capital in want of a good opening in his line would do well to purchase his business. We wish him success in his new home.

John Eogen, a small jeweler in Montreal, has failed owing to an accumulation of troubles. A partner he had who left him in January was a source of loss to him, since then he has been burnt out, and as he had only paid half his insurance premium the insurance company refuses to settle his claim. The landlord has seized the little balance of stock for rent, and he talks of calling his creditors together to see if some steps cannot be taken to recover his insurance.

Mr. James Robertson, of Montreal, is about to establish a branch of his lead and saw business at Winnipeg, where he has purchased a suitable lot and will proceed to build business premises. Mr. Robertson already has branches in Toronto and St. John, N. B., in Canada, as well as one in the United States at Baltimore. Mr. James Teas will have the management of the Winnipeg branch.

It is reported that the Minister of Customs is about to appoint a staff of special agents over the frontier and keep watch for smuggling operators who bring in contraband jewelry and other goods easily imported. These men will be much like the present American Customs agents, and are expected to be very efficient. It is not stated how they are to be paid, but they are expected to work on commission.

The Imperial Bank of Canada has opened branch offices at Winnipeg and Brandon. An agency has also been established at Portage la Prairie. It is also the intention of the Bank of Nova Scotia to share in the business of the North West. Mr. E. H. Taylor has secured office in the Dundee block, Winnipeg, and will have charge

of this bank there, we are told. The Merchants Bank of Canada opened an office in Brandon a short time ago. It had been previously represented in Winnipeg and Emerson.

The winding up of the insolvent estate of Della Torre & Co., carrying on business in this city and Montreal, furnishes another example of the way in which assets may be legally eaten up. The liabilities of this concern were \$20,445, and the total proceeds realized from the sale of stock, etc., amounted to \$3,218. Of this sum Lawyers' fees were \$553, Assignee's and Inspector's claims reached the sum of \$594, or together about forty per cent. of the total receipts. After all other expenses are paid the creditors will have the pleasure of receiving just two cents on every dollar of liabilities, or in all \$408.

The failure of L. Atkinson, jeweler, of Newmarket, is another example of the reckless way in which credit is given in this country. Mr. Atkinson commenced business a few years ago without capital, and by hard work got a foot-hold and began to accumulate stock. With increased stock came increased credit, increased business and increased expenses, and, as if to crown the whole, he launched out into building a brick dwelling altogether too high-priced for his means. The result of this way of doing business could only have one termination, and that to call a meeting of his creditors and ask for their forbearance. This he did last Thursday.

Mr. Charles Ellis, representing the firm of P. W. Ellis & Co., met with what might have been a fatal accident about three weeks ago at London station by jumping from an express while going at full speed. Charley says he hardly knows how it happened, but he thinks that he turned at least fifty summersaults before he finally came to a full stop. He was stunned for a time but he soon pulled himself together and finished up the business which excited him to make his flying leap; he has, however, been confined to his house ever since on account of the bruises he then received. This practice of jumping off trains in motion is a most dangerous one, and if any person who wants to know all about it will apply to Charley they will get some good advice on the subject. He says he is done with that kind of performance for the future, and thinks he'll die soon enough without any effort at suicide in that direction.

The many friends of Mr. J. W. Jackson, jeweler of St. Catharines, Ont., will be pleased to learn that the U. S. authorities have honorably acquitted him of the charge of bigamy preferred against him. No one who knew him would for a moment believe that there was any truth in the charge, still it is gratifying for Mr. Jackson to know that his honor has been so amply vindicated. The only pity is that he should have been compelled to lose time and money in refuting a charge evidently preferred for blackmailing purposes. The following is a copy of the official decision in the case:—

"STATE OF NEW YORK, }
COUNTY OF LINCOLN }

The People vs. James W. Jackson.—There being no sufficient cause to believe the within named James W. Jackson guilty of the offence within mentioned, I order him to be discharged. Signed

H. H. Sheldon,
Justice of the Peace."

We have received a long communication from Mr. A. Brownley of Ailsa Craig, in reference to a paragraph which appeared in our business notes of last issue, regarding a charge of seduction preferred against him by certain parties residing in his vicinity. Mr. Brownley's letter, while evidently not intended for publication, is an explicit denial of the charges preferred against him, and, as we said in our former note regarding this case we must decline to believe him guilty until he has been clearly proven to be so. Mr. Brownley says that the whole story has been trumped up with the desire to ruin his reputation and business, but that it has failed to effect its object. As we said before we can scarcely believe that a man, who for forty years has borne an unblemished reputation, should suddenly have become the unprincipled villain his traducers seek to make him out, and we think that the public will be justified in holding him entirely innocent of the foul charge until his accusers have established its truth beyond a peradventure.

DEATH OF MR. MARCUS ROSSIN.—Last mail brought intelligence of the death of Mr. Marcus Rossin, formerly a well-known and esteemed resident of this city, while on his way to Mayence to visit his daughter. Mr. Kleeman, on entering the train at Frankfort, found Mr. Rossin apparently asleep, with his book dropped on the floor. Mr. Rossin came to Canada in 1840, and after opening business in Kingston, removed with his two brothers to Toronto. Here under skillful and energetic management they built up a fine business, and ultimately opened a branch house in Montreal. In 1851 Mr. Rossin assisted in the organization of the Western Fire Insurance Company, and was one of the earliest directors. In 1854 he and his brother Samuel evidenced their public spirit by building what was then so greatly needed in this city, a really first-class hotel, which is known to this day by their name. After a while the Messrs. Rossin transferred their business to the late Mr. Robert Wilkes, who had learned his business in their warehouse. In 1865 Mr. Rossin decided to remove to Hamburg with his family, where he has since lived in retirement. He leaves a widow and two children, Canadians, both of whom have married and are well settled in Germany. The announcement of his death will be read with regret by his old friends in Toronto.

Our esteemed friend, Mr. Donald D. Manson, formerly of Toronto, but at present representing the Waltham Watch Co. in Australia and New Zealand, has lately been distinguishing himself by exploring a *la Stanley*, his feat consisting in making the ascent of the active volcano of Tongariro in New Zealand. This is the first instance in which the native Maoris have ever allowed any white man to ascend this mountain which they have hitherto regarded as sacred. On making the ascent, when at an altitude of 2,500 ft., it rained heavily, and was blowing a heavy gale from the south-west. On reaching a further altitude of 5,000 ft. a violent hail storm was experienced, and at 7,000 ft. it snowed heavily, and at the same time the wind was so violent that the party were compelled to throw themselves on the snow so as to prevent their being blown off their feet. Mr. Manson describes the crater as being about three-quarters of a mile in circumference, with a cave in the centre which was continually throwing boiling mud to the height of about 500