MESSES. R. G. Dun & Co. say that during the past week there have been fewer failures in Canada than in any week for a year past. The total is but twenty six.

The stock of Ansley & Co. at Aylmer has been sold for 40 cents on the dollar, and the stock of Spittal, Burn & Gentleman, at London, has been sold at 59 cents on the dollar. Both were dry goods stocks.

THE landlord of John Liddell, grocer, at Strathroy, has seized his stock for rent, and now his son-in-law closes his premises.——McKallar & Co., Glencoe, general storekeepers, have had their premises closed by a Hamilton house, and they are now out of business.

The town of Woodstock has just sold its debentures, amounting to \$16 300, to Mr. Geo. A. Stimson, of Toronto. They are part of the consclidated debt issue of that place. We understand the premium paid was about 8 per cent. The city of Stratford has also completed the sale of \$10,000 4½ per cent. consolidated debt debentures, bearing 4½ per cent., to the same purchaser. These debentures had 22 years to run and sold at a considerable premium.

LEAMINGTON'S assessment roll for 1894 shows total assessment, \$399,611; personal property and income, \$35,325. And yet, with this total valuation of, say, \$435,000, the council of the town thinks its population of 1,789 persons "cannot afford" to organize a night patrol and a hook and ladder company. However, the mayor has called a meeting of the business men to discuss the requirements of the Underwriters' Association, as set forth above. Let us hope the merchants will show greater breadth of view.

A DEMAND of assignment is made upon the New York Piano Company, of Montreal, which has abandoned its estate to the court, and A. W. Stevenson is provisional guardian. The direct liabilities are believed about \$25,000; there is over \$3,000 of rent due, and other privileged claims. Indirect liabilities are about \$27,000. The estate will likely prove a poor one.—R. C. Wilson, tailor, Montreal, whose failure we have noted, is offering 45 cents, spread over twelve months. Creditors want cash.

The firm of Notter & Scott, Owen Sound, assigned on Wednesday to W. A. Campbell. They succeeded the grocery business established by D. P. Urquhart & Co., in September, 1888. It was only in February last that

they gave a statement in which they showed \$6,000 worth of stock; \$5,000 book debts, and \$5,000 liabilities. Besides this surplus of \$6,000, Notter owned two farms valued at \$1,400, with encumbrances of \$350, and a house and lot valued at \$6,000. This statement would lead one to believe that there was a surplus of over \$12,000; but a statement at the present time shows liabilities of \$7,500 and nominal assets of \$8,500.

THE Albert Manufacturing Co., makers of calcined plaster of Paris and ground farmers' plaster at Hillsborough, N.B., write us under date March 31st: "The revised tariff makes such a terrible cut in the duty upon plaster, from 45 cents per bbl. to 20 per cent. ad valorem, or 18 cents per bbl., that we will find it quite impossible to meet the competition from Michigan, and will, therefore, have to yield as gracefully as possible the greater part of our Canadian business, as we have no margin of profit for further competition, for import plaster may be entered at 90 cents per bbl., probably 80 cents, indeed.

DURING the last fortnight, the number of failures in the Dominion seems to have lessened. Among instances of embarrassment in Toronto, we hear that Edward Lawson, the oldest dealer in teas in the city, has been obliged to ask his creditors for three years' extension, which has been granted. It is to Mr. Lawson's credit that when, some twelve years ago, he became involved and arranged a compromise at 75 cents, he not only lived up to the terms of his compromise, but voluntarily paid his creditors 12} cents in the dollar additional .-- E. Hood, dry goods dealer, who has had a good record, has assigned to his principal creditor. An assignment is made by J. H. Armstrong, contractor.

A DELEGATION of manufacturers in Toronto went before the council of the Board of Trade in this city the other day to complain of the tariff. They allege that the recent tariff changes have largely reduced the duties upon certain manufactured goods without affording the makers of the same a proportionate reduction in the duty upon the raw materials entering into the same. The council of the Board has expressed its sympathy with the views of the manufacturers so affected, particularly as regards the continued high duties upon pig iron, bar iron, steel and other raw materials; and, while the council is of the opinion that the development of the iron industry is in the

interest of Canada, they believe that assistance to the same should be more largely made by the way of bounty on pig iron and puddled bars.

SENSITIVENESS is not always the outcome of delicacy; it may be due to vanity or ignorance. A correspondent not long ago took umbrage at THE MONETARY TIMES because it said something on a general subject which this man took to himself. And he grew very angry and reproachful about the matter, said he "had no use for a journal that would say such unkind things." We do not happen to know the circumstances of the trader in question, and so could not have had him in view when writing. But it may be well to remind such persons that, to use the words of a Western writer: "You may find in every paper things you cannot endorse: even the Bible hits some hard licks; if you were to get mad and burn your Bible, the hundreds of presses would still go on printing it." It a writer had to stop and consider how a certain article would offend the feelings or prejudices of certain persons, he could not get through his work. Indeed, if he is to do any good he cannot be always prophesying smooth things, but must assert principles and inculcate lessons, no matter who is hurt. Whether this correspondent is ignorant, or vain, or merely over-delicate, we shall not stop to enquire, but simply remind him-to quote again from the Illinois writer: "After you get angry and stop your paper, just poke your finger into water, pull it out, and look for the hole. Then you will know how sadly you are missed."

LITERARY NOTES.

We observe that Messrs. Appleton are publishing a novel, entitled "A Daughter of Today," by Mrs. Everard Cotes, who used to be known as Miss Sarah Jeannette Duncan, of Brantford, Ont.; and another novel, "The Trail of the Sword," by Gilbert Parker, who is also a Canadian. The delightful "Social Departure" of Miss Duncan, will be re-called with pleasure.

The author of "Ships that Pass in the Night," is a B.A. of the London University, Miss Beatrice Harraden, who has taken her degree both in classics and mathematics. Her much talked-of book has been translated into Danish and French. It is also being

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