

Some fifteen years ago, a leading bookseller in a Western city of Ontario, through attempting to handle a large lot of goods out of the regular line, got into financial difficulties, and was forced to make a composition with his creditors, at 50 cents on the dollar.

But honest man that he was and is, carrying on "the honourable occupation of bookselling," when time came around he paid every man, though of course not legally bound to do so, the full amount of his indebtedness.

The same man to-day suffers heavily through the Campbell failure.

We trust he will be able to make such settlement as will enable him to still retain his proud position in the trade.

A New News Co.—Granted that the field is sufficiently large, there is no doubt but that active efficient opposition is beneficial in business.

The United States and Canada certainly present that field, and have abundance of room for at least two distinct news companies.

In another column we publish an announcement of the formation of "The Mutual News Co. (Limited)," with many wealthy men among its first directors. But the President, G. F. Williams, is manager of the New York *Herald*. He has been the active man in fighting the newsmen of New York, endeavouring to compel them to sell the *Herald* at a margin that they claim is not sufficient.

The attempt to run opposition news stands, has cost the *Herald* a large amount of money, and to say the least, the scheme has not been eminently successful. Does this new move (Bennett of the *Herald*, with others are on the Board), aim to force the fight all through North America.

If, in the limited area of New York city, success has not been achieved, will the greatly enlarged district be any better.

The only reason why we call attention to this matter is, that the Company has sent to many dealers, we presume to all, circulars, inviting them to subscribe for stock.

We would advise caution in this matter, not only on account of the very problematic question of anything like success, but also because The American News Company has, through long dealing and prompt payment, a tight grip on the leading publishers, Bonner, Leslie, &c., that it is hardly possible that the Mutual could supply the smallest dealer with all he wants. Besides as the origin of the Company has been in a fight against the independence of New York city newsmen, what treatment may Canadian newsmen expect.

RECIPROCAL COPYRIGHT.—Mr. A. S. Irving, Manager Toronto News Co., says, "What we really want is power from the Imperial Government to make our own laws as to copyright, both at home and with other countries. Then it would be time enough to arrange details. Even were we to get what Mr. Adam wants I don't think that there would be enough scope in Canada for the republication of English works, as the rivalry of the three present publishers of reprints, with a probability that others would, by putting additional editions on the market, make publishing an unprofitable business. Mr. Irving says that a prominent member of the Dominion Cabinet has promised that at an early date he will bring the matter before Parliament.

The report in *Guyer's Stationer* that "it is probable that another large publishing house and a large book store at Toronto will collapse" inferentially from causes connected with the Campbell failure, is very improbable. We know of no such likelihood. By-the-way Toronto is not simply a post stuck in the ground to be fired at, we have a good number of streets and business houses *within our borders*.

"It is generally admitted that no foreign humorous publication is equal to Grip in humor and point."—*Circular to Grip Subscribers*. The most humorous paragraph that has ever appeared in *Grip*.

Barber Bros., Georgetown, are the Paper Manufacturers, Barber Bros., Streetville, Woollen Manufacturers. Hence the error of the *American Bookseller* in stating that "Barber Bros., Paper Manufacturers, Streetville, are to have a meeting of creditors." The paper house is on too solid a basis to need any such conference.

PERSONALS.

THE personalty of the late John Riordon has been sworn under \$160,000, while the value of real and personal property is not less than a million. Mrs. Riordon receives \$12,000 per annum for life and the family residence in St. Catharines, and Charles Riordon, brother of the testator, half the mill property at Merritton. After several bequests have been provided, John Riordon, only child of deceased, receives \$4,000 per annum till he attains the age of twenty-five when all the remainder of the estate will pass into his hands.

MR. JAMES BAIN, of James Bain & Son, met with an accident at his residence, Sherbourne St., Toronto, a month ago, by falling from an apple tree. Mr. Bain was confined to his room for some days, but is now able to be at his accustomed post.

It is with pleasure we notice in the *Commercial Traveller* for September an account of the presentation of portrait and address to Mr Hugh Blain, lat-