

W. D. McNAUGHTON & Co., grocers, etc., of Springhill, N. S., have absconded.

Mr. J. B. RYAN, hardware merchant of Yonge Street in this city has sold his business to Messrs Bertram & Co, of Lindsay and Peterboro. The business already established in the latter place will be continued under the name of John Bertram.

A BLACKSMITH at Londesboro', John Hagget, by name, has absconded after being in business for some years and at a former time making some progress. His liabilities amount to \$1,000 and the unsecured creditors will not get a dividend.

Mr. J. J. KENNY, the Manager of the Western Assurance Co., on behalf of the employees presented Mr. Boomer, the Secretary of the Company, with a handsome silver service, on the occasion of his marriage.

We learn that the firm of Messrs. Tackaberry, Joselin & Co., has dissolved by effluxion of time. Mr. E. J. Joselin, joins the firm of White, Joselin & Co., and we believe it is the intention of Mr. R. A. Tackaberry to liquidate the affairs of the late firm. The firm of Tackaberry, Joselin & Joselin was formed four years ago to do a business in American fancy dry goods, but a change in our tariff affected their plans.

At the time of the failure of the Consolidated Bank, Messrs. M. E. Rice & Co., marble manufacturers at Hamilton, were obliged to arrange for a considerable amount of customers' paper falling due. A short time after this, they obtained an extension of time covering a period of two years. The firm is again in difficulties.

THE creditors of an Alliston general store keeper, Mr. John McLeod, held a meeting about a week ago, and granted that gentleman an extension of time for one year. His statement showed liabilities of \$7,000, and assets of \$10,000. Last autumn he got behind with a Hamilton grocery firm, and was sued; since then he has been in constant difficulty.

A BILL for the inspection of smoked herrings has been introduced into the House of Common by which the General Inspection, Act 1874, is amended by substituting in the third section the following tariff (a) for each box of smoke herrings, one cent; (b) for each half box smoked herrings, one-half cent; (c) for each quarter box smoked herrings, one quarter cent.

We learn the wholesale and retail boot and shoe business and branches belonging to Mr. R. P. Bliss, of Halifax has been purchased by Mr. Robert Taylor, shoe manufacturer. The *Chronicle* thinks the largest business of its kind in the Maritime Provinces,

A LONDON oil refiner, Mr. E. H. Cooper, has only been in that business about a year. He was formerly a farmer; the farm was sold and Cooper realised about 2,000, which sum was invested in the oil business. His success as a refiner was all along considered doubtful, and now he claims that his inability to meet his payments is largely owing to the failure of S. A. Adams & Co., in the same city some weeks ago.

MESSRS. Blondin & Delcourt, boot and shoe

manufacturers in this city about Christmas bought for \$2,000 the machinery of Boyd, Bros., who undertook to buy all the goods they made. The reputation of the senior partner was somewhat doubtful, and he has now left the firm and the city by taking hasty flight across the lake, carrying with him the little he could get. Messrs. Boyd, Bros., have seized the machinery under power of a mortgage.

Mr. Dean, late cashier of the Stadacona Bank, has made an offer for the balance of the bank's assets, still unrealized upon. His offer, if accepted will, it is stated, realize sufficient to pay shareholders in full. They already have received 95 per cent.

GEO. F. TUPPER, a Halifax grocer, called a meeting of his creditors a few days ago. His liabilities are about \$7,000 with assets of about the same amount. He asks one year's extension. It is doubtful if he will then be able to pay in full as agreed. Alonzo Nickerson, another grocer in the same city, has assigned. It is understood that he has assets of \$10,000 and liabilities of equal amount.

MESSRS. W. B. JONES & Co, general dealers at Oxford Mills, Ont, find the state of their affairs somewhat embarrassing. They misrepresented the condition of their business, and McCann, who was the "Co.," is no longer a partner but turns up as a creditor for \$5,000 or \$6,000. The firm's liabilities to the trade are \$4,500, and nominal assets \$1,000 more. Several suits are now being urged; that of the father of Mr. Jones is among the number, with a claim of \$1,300.

At the annual meeting of the Merchants Marine Insurance Co., held at Montreal, on the 8th inst., it was decided by unanimous vote to discontinue business and liquidate. It was shown that the losses of the company during the month of November alone, were \$65,000; the unpaid losses on the 31st of Dec. were some \$90,000, and the amount at risk \$427,424, but the St. John and Halifax agent, acting under instructions, have re-insured all outstanding time risks.

TELLING a story of the agent of an implement foundry, somewhere, who had been appointing every third or fourth farmer in Nottawasaga "agent" for the concern, on condition that they gave him their notes *in advance* for certain quantities of agricultural machinery, the *Collingwood Messenger* becomes thus sarcastic: "It is our opinion that a good, live agent could sell *Hell* in quarter acre lots to farmers, if he would only take their notes at one year."

WE LEARN from the *St. Johns News*, that two well-known merchants of the Eastern Townships have lately passed away. Erastus Lawrence, of Lawrenceville, died a few days ago. He began business as a general dealer in 1840, and the business has been continued without a break ever since. In 1854, he added a grist mill and afterwards a sawmill, and was foremost in the industrial improvement of the locality. About the same time, died Mr. G. W. Farrar, who left Vermont for St. Johns about 1850, and founded a pottery at St. Johns, Que., which he conducted

till burned out in 1876. He was the founder of the St. Johns China-Ware Factory, which made such a good display at the Toronto Exhibition, and at the time of his death was interested in a pottery at Iberville.

THE *Windsor Mail* compares the shipping registered at Hants and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, as follows:—

HANTS CO.		YARMOUTH.	
	Tons.		Tons.
40 ships.....	51,161	3 steamers..	902
102 barques.....	83,400	61 ships....	73,881
7 barque'ts.....	3,434	71 barques...	8,5432
40 brigs.....	11,961	11 brigs....	2,256
68 schooners....	5,156	116 schooners	5,860
2 steamers....	54		
259 vessels.....	155,203	262 vessels..	141,331

A SMALL war rages in the mercantile circles of Brampton. The campaign has reached, on one side at any rate, the stage of printed despatches. A new merchant, Mr. J. C. Hurst, appeared on the scene not many weeks ago and began to "slash in," as the Yankees say, for a share of the trade. Finding that, as they state, he was practicing some not quite legitimate methods of getting custom, some of the established store-keepers of the town put into operation against Mr. Hurst, the transient traders' by-law of that place in order to make him pay a license. Now he is wroth, and issues a fly-sheet headed, "MONOPOLY IN BRAMPTON DEAD; *The Mourners in search of a By-law*," in which document he uses some unpleasant language about "unlawful games," "dirty work," "fleecing the public," etc. We may say to Mr. Hurst, in passing, that calling of names and making insinuations is not the policy which is likely to ensure success to a new comer, as against other and older merchants, some of whom, at least we know to be above anything which is either dishonest or un-business-like.

THE announcement of the suspension of the old and respected dry goods importing house of Messrs. John Robertson, Son & Co., of this city, was like a bolt out of a clear sky. The business has been established something like forty years, and at the death of Mr. John Robertson five years ago, the firm were believed to be worth \$150,000. Two sons, partners, inherited the whole of the property, but if this estimate were correct, it would be hardly possible that so large a sum could have melted away in so few years. In 1879, Mr. Hector Robertson retired, taking out little or no money, leaving his brother Alexander alone in the business, with a supposed capital of \$75,000. The confidence of British houses was somewhat shaken by the conduct of Mr. Hector Robertson, who long did the buying for the firm, and did it not wisely or well. It appears that the paper due on the 4th inst. was not met here, and the firm asked their creditors to retire the amount due them but this they declined, and the result is that the firm suspended as above stated. Mr. Alex. Robertson is in Montreal to-day consulting with his creditors, the business is meantime in charge of Mr. J. W. Gale, in the interest of the firm's bankers and Canadian creditors; about \$40,000 is due the latter. The total liabilities are presumed to