

Mercantile Summary.

THE creditors of John M. Cronk, dealer in boots and shoes, St. Thomas, met in the office of J. D. King & Co. here, on Tuesday, when an offer of 60 cents on the dollar, 25 cents cash, and 35 cents secured, with interest, at six months, was made. Assets and liabilities are each about \$3,300.

A MONTREAL tailor named N. Circe has filed consent to assign. He has been in business some thirty years, and has not always been successful in the past.—L. Rossiter, of the same city, in the cartage business, has failed, owing \$4,580.—H. Wilson & Co., doing a small dry goods business in Point St. Charles suburbs, have assigned.

REYNOLDS BROS. & CO., general storekeepers, Algoma Mills, dissolved partnership in 1894. S. W. Reynolds continued the business. Now he is in difficulty. It was only in September last that he claimed a surplus of \$7,700. His assignment has been announced.—Some days ago a meeting was held of creditors of Frank Bros., dealers in dry goods, boots and shoes, Guelph, when their statement showed assets of \$7,000 and liabilities \$13,000. They have since assigned.

Two woolen manufacturers who were pretty well rated are in difficulties this week. Brown & Wigle, of Kingsville, in business many years, have assigned to the sheriff. Their statement shows assets of \$15,651 and liabilities of \$10,349. Another old established woolen business is that of S. Beaumont, Glen Williams, who has largely locked up his capital in new building. Now he finds that he cannot meet his bills as his available assets are in the hands of his banker. Besides he owes general creditors about \$5,000. He will likely make them an offer of compromise in a few days.

ON Tuesday last a meeting of the creditors of McMaster & Co., wholesale dry goods dealers, Toronto, was held at Assignee Clarkson's office, and was largely attended. The statement presented shows liabilities direct of \$203,306.76; contingent, \$3,500, and preferred, \$5,018.39, making a total of \$211,825.15. The assets are made up thus: Merchandise, \$149,599.98; book accounts, \$50,975.07; cash on hand, \$1,449.47; sundry securities, \$13,695.70; real estate, \$67,064.34, making a total of \$327,784.56. This shows a nominal surplus of \$115,959.41. Regret was expressed that no offer of settlement was proposed, as the meeting seemed desirous that the business be continued, and was willing to grant every facility for doing so. Speaking for Mr. McMaster, Mr. D. E. Thomson, Q.C., said that his client had made up his mind that he could not continue, and that there was no alternative but to wind up the estate. The following inspectors were thereupon appointed, viz.: Messrs. D. Morrice, jr., Montreal; Alex. Ewan, Montreal; R. Millichamp, A. J. Robertson, C. Brough, and D. Miller, Toronto. These gentlemen were given power to realize on the estate forthwith to the best advantage, and they decided to offer the stock by auction. Before the meeting broke up the following resolution was unanimously adopted, upon the motion of Messrs. Morrice and Simpson: "That this meeting desires to express to Mr. McMaster its entire confidence in his business integrity, and greatly regrets that unfortunate conditions, which were uncontrollable on his part, have brought about the present result." Having been tendered this resolution, Mr. McMaster acknowledged it in a few words, thanking the meeting for its most kind consideration.

A DECIDED DRAWBACK.

The lack of snow has been a matter of common complaint throughout Ontario; farmers felt the want of it for roads, and in the West, around Chatham and Windsor, people were seriously debating what they would do for a supply of ice for next summer, so mild has the weather been. In Quebec Province, while it has been colder, the absence of snow, as far east as Quebec city, has proved seriously detrimental to business generally. Wheels are in use in town and country alike, and good snow roads are sadly needed for purposes of general country trade and traffic. A Montreal letter of Wednesday last says: "Just fancy, here is the 20th January and the thermometer below zero, not a sleigh in the streets, nor in the country for that matter, and the dust flying as in July. The general effect on business you can imagine."

But a change came yesterday, when people in a large part of Ontario awoke to find from four inches to a foot of snow had fallen during the night. At Kingston the snow is a foot deep; in Toronto six inches; up north they have been favored, and the prospect of better winter roads is everywhere welcomed. The lumbermen, among others, have reason to rejoice at a good snow fall. We have heard of cases in the Province of Quebec where the lumbering operations of whole districts had been stopped for want of snow.

—Mr. Duncan Robertson, manager of the Bank of British North America here, has been promoted to the bank's branch in Halifax. Mr. Robertson will be succeeded here by Mr. Philpots.

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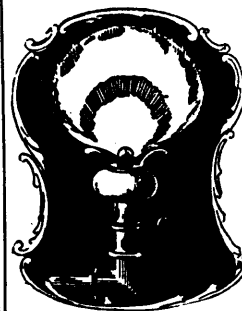
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