

WHEN our reporter went about the main exhibition building a day or two ago, he could not anywhere find the display of W. H. Storey & Son, the Acton glove makers, who are usually on hand with their very tasteful and creditable wares. Upon asking the firm by letter why they were not on hand this year they replied: "Pleased to say we are so busy we have no time to exhibit this season." The specialty of this firm is their patent Napa buck glove. As the name has puzzled many we have ascertained that Napa is the name of a place in California whence the Messrs. Storey, and they only, get these valuable skins, spurious imitations of which are numerous.

THE rate of taxation in London, Ont., has been fixed at 22 1-5 mills in the dollar. It appears that the increased rate was caused by an unusual expenditure through the re-building of Oxford street bridge, and by the amount spent in connection with the volunteers. The regular outlay, alderman Kingston explained, has been kept within the receipts. Several aldermen objected to the levying of the rate because it "would frighten people away from London." One proposed to carry some portion of the expenses forward rather than pay them this year, and the extraordinary proposal was even made, by one who was willing to do evil that good might come, "that the finance committee would do something, even if it was illegal." How it was done last year was explained by Ald. Scarrow, who said "it had been done last year by mortgaging city property, which was then out of the city limits. Since the amalgamation of London East this very questionable means of getting out of difficulties had been taken away from them." Meantime it has been resolved by the council that the chairman of committee and the city engineer prepare plans for the erection of buildings on Queen's Park suitable for exhibition purposes.

THE following business changes have recently been made in this city: Messrs. T. Dunnett & Co. have bought the wholesale hat and cap stock of Messrs. T. Christie & Co.—Messrs. J. W. Gale & Co., dealers in wholesale dry goods have leased for a term of years that very handsome warehouse on Wellington street just west of Bay.—The house-furnishing stock belonging to the estate of the late C. T. Whatmough has been sold to his brother, I. A. Whatmough, at the rate of 60 per cent. He will continue the business.—Geo. Henderson & Co. have sold their grocery stock to T. H. Noble.—Godson & Co., dry goods dealers have disposed of their stock.—The shoe firm of Kennedy & Fortier has been dissolved. The former continues the business, Mr. Fortier going into real estate and commission of the firm of Best & Fortier.—Reid & Bayne have succeeded Barber & Warner in the wholesale millinery business.—The woolen mills belonging to the estate of Geo. Smith & Co. are to be sold by auction.—The general store firm of Mellville, Fair & Co. is dissolved. The business at Nottawa will be continued by A. Mellville, while E. Fair will assume control of the Collingwood store.

THERE is a good deal of complaint at Port Arthur about the difficulty of getting sufficient fire insurance protection in that town. The wholesale trade here too find it hard to get customers' goods there properly protected. If the town council would adopt some of the suggestions made to it by Mr. S. F. Magurn, of the City of London Ins. Co., while on a recent visit there, less ground would exist for complaint. From *The Sentinel* of the 2nd inst. we learn that among the practical suggestions he offered were, that "In the event of the engine breaking down, an accident of that kind being always possible, the council should have a brick engine house built say at the foot of Park st. in which a stationary engine and boiler should be placed, of sufficient power to drive a pump that would send water through hose with the same force as the fire engine. There should also be more tanks about the town, and a large puncheon should be sunk in McVicar's creek to supply a place

for the suction hose in case of a fire in that neighborhood. All these things were actually necessary to make our appliances what they are claimed to be. It was worth while, Mr. Magurn further urged, to look after them promptly. The people were enterprising, and had a town with a future before it, whose present vital needs should not be neglected." If anything more was necessary to give force to these words it were the fire which destroyed a couple of stores there the other day.

IN London, Ont., N. Wilson & Co., tailors, etc., have assigned with liabilities of \$14,000, and assets nominally equal to them, but it is considered that not more than \$10,000 could be realized out of the latter. Creditors have been offered 45 per cent. secured.—Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson has been appointed receiver in the estate of John F. Jackson, of Mount Albert, and the stock will be sold on the 15th inst.—A small grocer in the western part of the city, Charles Kimpton by name, was pressed by creditors and succeeded in removing the most of his stock. Those whom he owes will hardly get anything. Thus far neither he nor the goods removed have been discovered.—H. J. Taylor, another grocer in this city, has called a meeting of creditors, at which he showed a statement of \$3,000 liabilities. Towards paying this sum he has only \$2,000 nominal assets.—After five years experience in business on his own account, J. F. McAllister, tailor at Napanee, has assigned in trust. He has decided to accept a situation and in future work on salary.—A St. Mary's tinsmith W. H. Warren by name, has assigned. He had been four years in business.—A Callahan, a general storekeeper at Sunderland has failed. The result was not generally expected as he stood pretty well in his own district.—D. M. Billings general storekeeper at Sutton, has assigned. His affairs are not in a bad shape. About a year ago he got an extension of time and continued to make his payments until overtaken by ill-health. Under these circumstances it was thought best that he should adopt the present course.

THE gentlemen from France who arrived some days ago at Halifax per steamship "Damarra" on a prospecting tour in search of opportunities to increase trade between our country and theirs, came as far west as Toronto and visited Niagara Falls. They received attentions from Boards of Trade, committees, or city councils in various eastern cities, notably Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa. Owing probably to the absence from the city of the mayor and both president and secretary of the Board of Trade here, no formal reception was accorded them in Toronto, but some of the party who were furnished with letters to private citizens expressed themselves much pleased with the Queen City. The following we believe to be a correct list of the visitors. We take it from the *Montreal Gazette*:—M. de Molinari, financier; Mlle de Molinari, M. Londe, Madame Londe, Mlle Londe, M. L'abbe Maugin, M. de la Vernet, M. le vicomte de

Bouthillier, M. le vicomte Chaptal, M. de la Bonnadiere, M. Ch. de Bourgoing, M. le viscomte de Bertier, M. le baron d'Astred de Landsberg, M. Ch. Blanc, Madame Michaud, Mlle Michaud, M. Joliot, M. Hercule Morel, member of the Geographical society; M. Morel, M. Bay, M. Paul Chevallier, M. Perrotin, M. J. Coquille, member of the Geographical society; M. Leon de la Briere, correspondent of the *Gaulois*; M. Louis Magny, correspondent of *l'Evenement* and *National* and the *Gil-Blas*; M. Pernaud, correspondent of *Le Paris*; M. C. Letort, correspondent of *La Patrie* and *l'Economiste Francais*; M. Tiret-Bognet, correspondent of *l'Illustration*; M. Agostini, Madame Agostini, M. le Dr. Prevost, M. le Cure Labelle, M. Foursin Escande, M. Henri Rommel, M. Courtin, M. Garnaude, M. Acquerin, M. Marc, M. Paul Laboure, M. Walbaum, M. Eugene Raynaud, M. Claude Blanc, M. Haakman, M. A. Doret, M. Hospied, M. le Dr. Carpentier-Miricaurt, M. Honore Brenot, M. Duguet, M. Demanche, delegate of the Geographical society; M. Aguy, treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce of Persignan.

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