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E. BASKIN conducted a clothing and boot and shoe business at Sault Ste. Marie. After operating there for some time he opened branch stores at North Bay and Sudbury. In each of the three places business has been unsatisfactory, and as he saw no means of meeting his engagements he has made an assignment. It may be supposed that, having branch stores, his obligations would be large. We are told they are some \$26,000, while his assets do not exceed \$16,000 in value.

THE following item is from the St. John Sun: Frank S. Murdoch, representing the Canada Paint Company, returned to St. John from the graphite mine at Thorne's Brook, King's County, N.B., where one hundred tons of graphite will be got out soon for this Canadian company. The same company secured not long ago 2,000 tons of iron oxide at St. Malo, Quebec. Some of this was shipped to the United States and United Kingdom. The remainder will be used in the company's paint works at Montreal, where it is ground for painting girders, bridges and roofs.

GEORGE G. POWER, general store-keeper, of Kingston, N.S., to whose assignment reference is made in another column, was for a time in partnership with one A. E. Roach, but this was dissolved in 1897, his partner receiving \$1,200 for his share, Power giving his confession of judgment for that amount, with the proviso that Power was to be allowed a reasonable time to collect accounts to settle same. In the spring of 1902 he opened a branch at Middleton, where he bought out E. C. Gates. Under date of November 26, 1902, he stated that total liability did not exceed \$7,000. Again, under date of March 20, 1903, he submitted an approximate statement, which showed the liabilities as \$5,000. This statement, made about nine months ago, when put alongside that of the official assignee, J. W. Blanchard, to the effect that the liabilities to-day will in all probability reach \$73,339, would show that something is very much out of gear. During the past few months he has been buying in all directions. Among the creditors are seven Toronto firms, whose claims aggregate about \$6,100. He assigned on the 25th ult. His stock is said to be mostly new, is his principal asset, and said to be in fair condition. It seems to be the local opinion that the estate may pan out about 50 per cent. to creditors if properly handled.

STOCK TRANSACTIONS.

A firmer feeling with regard to prices and a better undertone to the market have been noted on the local as well as the New York Exchange, though the volume of trade continues small. The following brief summary of prices quoted for some of the more important stocks yesterday will serve to indicate the range of values: Bank of Commerce, 152; Nova Scotia, 269 $\frac{1}{2}$; Imperial, 215; Hamilton, 210; Twin City, 92 $\frac{3}{8}$; Toronto Rail, 100; Soo (preferred), 115; Sao Paulo, 89 $\frac{3}{8}$; Toronto Electric, 134 $\frac{1}{2}$; Northern Nav., 77; Dom. Steel (common), 8; Dom. Coal (common), 74 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 75; Nova Scotia Steel, 77 $\frac{1}{2}$.

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