

TEN acres of the town of Chatham, New Brunswick, was swept by fire yesterday, in a gale of wind. Sixty-five houses, barns and stables were burned. Loss, \$60,000; insurance only \$15,000.

MR. JAMES SCOTT, of the Army and Navy Depot, Halifax, died on Friday night last at the age of 73. He was an estimable man, who for forty years had maintained a good name as a merchant in Halifax.

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HICKMAN & Co., grocers, Toronto, who assigned here last week, are now offering creditors 30 per cent. unsecured. Their statement shows assets of \$1,700 and liabilities of \$5,100. The bailiff has sold the assets of E. J. Dawes, tobacconist, also in this city.

MUCH regret is expressed at the failure of the old wholesale hardware firm of John Stairs & Co., Halifax. The founder of the business died in March, 1888, and ever since then his successors have been somewhat crippled for lack of sufficient capital to carry on the business. We hear that the estate of John Stairs holds between \$50,000 and \$60,000 in preferred claims. The house was established early in the present century, and for many years did a large trade with the Magdalen Islands, supplying their fishermen and receiving their takes.

THE report from St. Hyacinthe, Que., that the prominent shoe manufacturing firm of Seguin, Lalime & Co. had suspended was received early this week by the leather trade with much surprise. The report, however, proved only too true, being immediately followed by a notice calling a meeting of the firm's creditors for the 9th inst., the results of which are not available at the moment of writing. The direct liabilities are figured at about \$170,000; the indirect are not yet known. The principal creditors are La Banque du Peuple, \$67,000; La Banque Nationale, \$11,000; Mosely & Co., \$13,000; Beardmore & Co., \$11,000; Marlatt & Armstrong, \$9,500; H. Lamontagne, \$4,000; Dowker, McIntosh & Co., \$3,300; Duclos & Payan, St. Hyacinthe, \$5,000; King Bros., Toronto, \$5,000; J. Robinson, Oshawa, \$1,500; Farley & Tourigny, Victoriaville, \$5,000. The firm dates back about fifteen years, having begun business in St. John's, Que., whence they removed to St. Hyacinthe in 1884, being voted a \$12,000 bonus by that city. The firm had a very clever foreman and shoe designer, and their goods took exceedingly well, sales growing rapidly for a time, and they were credited with making a good deal of money. About two years ago this foreman left them, being refused an interest in the business, and is now being paid \$3,000 a year by a Montreal house. The firm also at about the same time made a mistake in building an expensive factory, which has cost, not including machinery, some \$48,000, and means a big lock up of capital. The failure of La Banque du Peuple, and of Mosely & Co., tanners, also helped to complicate matters, eventually necessitating the present suspension.

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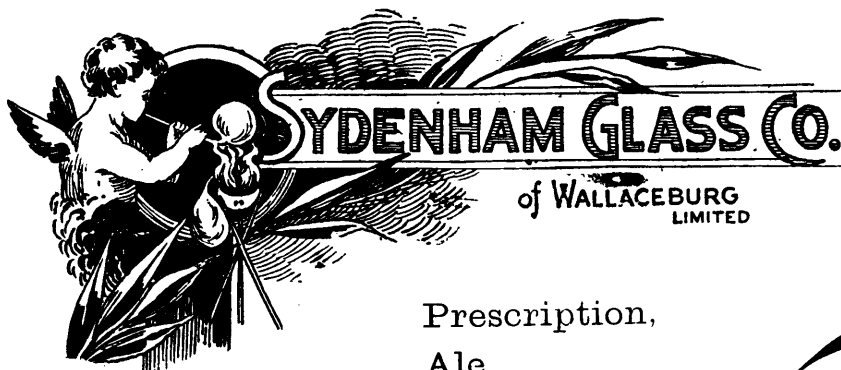
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