

druggist, 1 mill-stone manufacturer, 1 tea pedlar, 1 vessel owner, 1 saddler, 1 tea broker, 1 Government official, 1 florist, 1 wharfinger, 1 ex-hotel keeper, and one gentleman

THE wholesale firm of Nerlich & Co., Toronto, has lately been dissolved by effluence of time. Mr Hugh Blain, retiring. Mr. Blain is well known amongst the wholesale trade of Toronto as an energetic and gentlemanly man of business, and his talents are such as should make him succeed in any new venture he may undertake.

It is not what we earn, but what we save, that makes us rich. It is not what we eat, but what we digest, that makes us strong. It is not what we read, but what we remember that makes us wise. It is not what we intend, but what we do, that makes us useful. It is not a few faint wishes, but a life-long struggle that makes us valiant.

THE folly of endorsing for ones friends is continually being illustrated in a very practical manner, the latest is, that of Mr. H. C. Russel, furniture dealer of Port Hope, who fell into difficulty through endorsing for friends, has obtained a discharge in insolvency. He owed to people in the trade, on his own account, not more than \$100.

A REQUEST to assign has been made upon Mr. William Elliott, M.P., general store dealer, Meadowdale, by Messrs. John Garrett & Co., of Hamilton. Mr. Elliott had been a successful farmer, and became the possessor of a good deal of land, which is, however, heavily mortgaged. His store business does not appear to have been a live one, and he fell behind in his payments. The estate, we imagine, will be a difficult one to realize from.

D. A. HARPER, the "Dollar Store" dealer of Montreal, is in straitened circumstances, and now proposes to put his affairs into the hands of a trustee, and work off his liabilities within a year. He has lately spread his interests too widely, having opened at Ottawa, and is caught with a large stock, whose realizable value is uncertain. He owes but little over \$5,000, while his nominal assets represent about \$12,000.

It is said that the "Terry Clock Co." of the United States, propose starting a Watch and Clock Co., at Hochelaga, near Montreal, and employing about 200 hands. They are to be exempt from taxation for 25 years. If they do commence business in Canada, it is to be hoped that they will turn out an article which will do the country more credit than those manufactured by the "Hamilton Clock Co."

GEORGE H. STUART, the well-known philanthropist of Philadelphia, has lost all his princely fortune by the failing of another, whose endorser he had become. He surrendered his entire estate to the creditors of the party for whom he endorsed, and now, at the age of over 70 years, lives in a rented house, yet meets his friends every day with the sweet smile of conscious integrity and the proud content resulting from a well-ordered and honourable life.

FROM the bulletin of the American Iron and Steel Association, it appears that the American out-put of steel this year is the largest ever known, while the price is extraordinary high. In spite of the large importation of both old and new rails and pig iron, the American orders for these are not nearly filled. The total production of 1879 was 1,650,000 tons, against 1,157,000 tons in 1878. In addition to the railway iron demand, steel wire for fencing and iron pipe for the oil regions were also in great request.

THE chief of the Montreal police is in receipt of letters from all parts of the United States, asking information concerning a bogus jewellery firm, known as Manfred, Belmont & Co., 214 St. Lawrence street, cheap watch manufacturers. Their mode of doing business has been to solicit orders, and get part payment in advance for cheap gold watches, and now they have gone away to keep store in Boston, in which place it is expected they arrived on January 1st. They have swindled the public out of thousands of dollars.

THE London Times having lately asserted that the present rise in iron is wholly due to American

orders—hence is temporary, the Manchester Guardian says the facts are otherwise. Prices are declining in speculative districts, but still rising in Staffordshire and South Wales, the manufactured iron markets. The Bolckow-Vaughan, a leading company, are working chiefly on East Indian orders, and are also executing large New Zealand ones. The Guardian asserts that no large iron-master accepts important contracts at the present prices. Experts generally believe that a further rise is probable.

THE liquidation of Messrs. Morland, Watson & Co., of Montreal, will, it seems, bear hard on a good many hardware dealers who have dealt principally with them. We are sorry to learn that Hatch & Mearns, of Oshawa, who got an extension some time ago, and have been paying up very promptly, have been attached by them. These gentlemen have for years been doing a good business, and were well regarded by the wholesale houses with whom they dealt. We trust they will be able to arrange matters so as to enable them to carry on their business with success.

ADVANCE IN PLATED WARE.—AS we predicted some time ago, the general rise in the price of metals and labour has affected the price of electroplated ware, which has advanced in price nearly ten per cent., and still shows an upward tendency. With the return of prosperous times in their own country, the United States manufacturers find themselves almost unable to fill their home orders, and as a consequence are not so eager to slaughter the goods in foreign markets as they were during the depressed times. The effect of this rise will be to stimulate the production of these manufactures in Canada, for it is evident that with the present duty it will not pay to import these goods when they can be produced almost as cheaply at home.

THE free market question is gaining ground. In Sarina a vote of the people was taken the other day, and they decided by a vote of ten to one to sweep away all restrictions on local trade. The fees have been taken off in Mitchell, and Lindsay is agitating the matter, with every prospect of a favourable result. The Advertiser advocates the abolition of fees in London, speaking of them as "petty restrictions on trade which should find no encouragement among enlightened people." The Beacon says Stratford's turn will come next. The Chatham Banner favours the principle, and reports the circumstances which prevent its immediate application there.

AT a church prayer meeting not far from Boston, a man whose credit was not the best, and who was somewhat noted for his failure to meet his obligations, arose to speak. The subject for the evening was, "What shall I do to be saved?" Commencing in measured tones he quoted the passage, "What shall I do to be saved?" He paused, and again more emphatically asked the question, "What shall I do to be saved?" Again, with increased solemnity and impressiveness of manner, he repeated the momentous enquiry, when a voice from the assembly, in clear and distinct tones, answered, "Go and pay John Williams for that yoke of oxen you bought of him!" The remainder of the gentleman's address was not reported. All present appreciated the fitness of the unexpected word in season, and were saved from hearing a lengthy exhortation from a swindler's lips.

WHAT A DEALER THINKS.—Mr. Alvin Patton, a diamond merchant of Cincinnati, thinks it highly probable that Mr. McLearn, of Glasgow, has produced carbon in diamond formation as, many scientific men have done before him, "but always in such infinitesimal particles as to be utterly useless for ornament. Sands of gold are found in quartz rock, but could they not be fused and melted together they would be of as little value as the Scotchman's carbonic particles of diamond. If you break a diamond into little pieces,

All the king's horses and all the king's men
Cannot put it together again.

I am not at all frightened, hoping and expecting to remain a diamond merchant all my life.

JUDGES should refuse to commit indigent debtors to jail for contempt of court in not being able to obey a Division Court order to pay their indebtedness. As a rule they do refuse. But now and the

some unfortunate debtor is packed off to jail because it is his fate to be hard up—and a good many people have been hard up during the commercial depression. To imprison a debtor, nominally for contempt of court, but really for inability to pay a debt, is a barbarous proceeding and altogether opposed to the spirit of the age. There is something wrong to the law that allows a man who owes thousands to go free while the man who owes a few dollars is clapped into jail.

WHAT AN INVENTOR THINKS.—Mr. McLearn writes to the Times stating that he had held an interview with Maskelyne, and after fresh investigations, lasting four days, of the crystalline substance obtained by him, he feels it his duty to say that the crystalline substance which he believed to be carbon in that condition is not so, but that while it very strongly resembles Brazilian "bour," or diamond dust, it consists almost entirely of silica and alumina and a residue insoluble in hydrofluoric acid. Even after forty-eight hours action the residue still contained a few minute crystalline forms. Maskelyne thinks that by some modification of the experiments the desired result may yet be obtained. Mr. McLearn thinks it improbable that diamonds of any size can be produced artificially, but he firmly believes that the time is not far distant when crystalline carbon in the form of dust, such as he still hopes to produce, will be obtained in quantity, and will have before it a great future in the arts.

IN order to prevent smuggling in Montreal, the Government has issued most stringent instructions to their officers to be on the alert. To give the order effect instructions were given by the Surveyor of Customs to allow no parcels to leave the surveillance of the Customs officers in transit from Bonaventure Depot to the Express office, the presumption being that packages invoiced to parties were changed while en route from the depot. The absurdity of such an order is apparent when it is considered that the express officers have control of these packages from the moment they leave the Province line, when parties interested could easily change the packages if they were so disposed, and substitute others marked to correspond with the invoice, a thing which is not possible on the American side, where express cars are sealed from the public, and where express companies are under heavy bonds for goods carried.

MOST of our readers will remember the case of R. Knox, watchmaker, Wingham, who after being refused a compromise of thirty cents on the dollar by his creditors and skedaddling to the States, was afterwards allowed to come back by paying eighty cents on the dollar of his liabilities, unsecured. The first composition notes became due last month, and Knox now declares his inability to pay them. It appears that when the former settlement was made, the stock valued at \$2,000 was handed back to the insolvent, who has since been selling what he could from it. It seems that this stock has been afflicted with the galloping consumption, for it has shrunk into a value of \$900, although the creditors have never received any returns from it. In fact the whole transaction looks so like a premeditated swindle that the creditors contemplate arresting Knox, and making an example of him. The wonder is that merchants who had any experience of his former deliberate attempt to swindle his creditors would again trust him with his stock without being fully secured.

TORONTO ABROAD.—We notice that at the farewell dinner tendered to Dr. Williams, United States Commissioner to the Sydney International Exhibition, the toast of "The Sydney International Exhibition," was proposed by Mr. D. D. Manson, of Toronto, the foreign representative of the Waltham Watch Company, who in a very appropriate speech, pointed out the great good that would emanate from this Exhibition, which would tend greatly to a closer and stronger feeling of reciprocity, both socially and commercially, and to bring to the notice of the world at large the great and lasting resources, both as regards agricultural and mineral wealth, of this great colony. He concluded a very interesting speech, which was frequently applauded, by coupling with the toast the name of the Hon. Augustus Morris. In referring to the above, the "American Exporter" says that Mr. Manson's was undoubtedly the speech of the evening.