

THE total amount cleared at the Banks' Clearing House, Melbourne, Australia, during the fortnight ending October 10th was 6,946,055l. The notes included in this sum reached 597,279l.

MRS. ELLEN BULL, of Thorold, wife of Wm. Bull who failed as a dry goods dealer, less than a year ago at which time his estate was sold by creditors, is now in difficulties and has assigned. —The assignee of James Austin, tailor, is now trying to find the amount of stock he has with which to pay liabilities of nearly \$5,000 to creditors of his Toronto business.

AFTER having been some twenty years at dry goods, in the employ of Messrs. Jno. Macdonald & Co. in this city, and receiving a handsome present in money from that house, Mr. James Russell went into the business of spices, buying the establishment of Mr. Peter Black in 1881. Whether through excessive competition in that line or from other causes, he did not succeed and has just compromised at sixty cents in the dollar.

IN Manitoba, Lobsinger & Ulrich, general storekeepers, are in difficulties.—W. O. Andrews, after being an hotel-keeper in Winnipeg about two months, is reported to have left.—The Water Power Company, of Morris, with a subscribed capital of \$50,000, not much paid, is in the hands of the Sheriff.—A. McKay, mill owner in the same place, finds his property in a similar condition.—The hotel of Wait & Flager is also in the sheriff's possession.

LAST week, at Osgoode Hall, a shop-keeper named Laverock, of Port Elgin, sued Hutchinson for \$240, the value of goods purchased by defendant's wife. The defendant denied his liability on the ground that his wife had no authority from him to buy on credit and did so without his knowledge. The plaintiff contended that the defendant had seen the goods in the house and used them, thereby adopting and confirming the contract of his wife. Judge Osler, at Walkerton, gave the plaintiff a verdict for the amount claimed. A motion was made lately to set aside that verdict, but was dismissed with costs.

A PAIR of Philadelphia stock-brokers, William C. Barrett and Edward Cattell, were held last Saturday in \$20,000 bail, accused of embezzlement by Aug. Boyd. Boyd purchased through their firm Reading Railway scrip to the amount of \$234,000 which he left in the custody of the firm, with the understanding that it was to be kept till called in by the railroad company. The scrip was afterwards hypothecated by the firm and the proceeds lost in speculation. Defendants claim that all the transactions were stock gambling and illegal, that they had a right to appropriate the money to their own use, and that the usages and practices of the brokers warranted all they did.

CORRECT ideas of the value of publicity are getting abroad, says the Philadelphia Record; "a contemporary calls the attention of its readers to the fact that an advertisement is in the nature of an investment." "Every merchant, says the Democrat, "should feel certain of a reasonable monetary return for every inch of advertising he does. The buyer of merchandise asks these questions; what quantity? what quality? what price? Our merchants should apply the same rule of measurement to the circulation of the newspapers whose advertising space is offered in the market: What quantity? what quality? what price? After a while, when all other men come to understand the true philosophy of publicity, the lawmakers will incorporate it among the statutes, so that public advertising shall be done for the public advantage. It is now a source of small thievery and of "corrupt solicitation." The matter is, however, not one that law can deal with.

J. H. FILIATRAULT, tinsmith of Valleyfield, Que., has assigned in trust, with liabilities of \$1,000 and assets \$400.

FRECHETTE & BERGERON, small grocers of Quebec, have failed, with liabilities of some \$2,000 and assets a little over half this sum.

P. LABELLE & Co., dealers in teas, Montreal, are offering 40c. on the dollar, on liabilities of about \$2,000. Mr. Labelle has been unsuccessful once or twice before.

A SMALL saddler of Knowlton, Que., F. X. Normandin by name has compromised at 40 cents in the dollar. He owed about \$1,000 and had assets of about \$600.

THE agency of the Bank of Montreal at New-castle, N. B., has been closed. An agency of the Merchants Bank of Halifax has been opened in the same town.

A TAILOR in a modest way of business at Spring Hill, Nova Scotia, J. A. Adams, who only commenced business last spring, has left the place. A few sorrowing creditors remain.

MR. E. WARDROPER, of Pelee Island, recently shipped eighty barrels of his Catawba wine to J. S. Hamilton & Co., of Brantford, being nearly all the wine he made from last year's grapes.

MRS. W. S. FRASER has been keeping a small dry goods and millinery store at Spring Hill Nova Scotia, for some years. She has just assigned in trust. Her liabilities are not supposed to be large.

AN HOTELKEEPER of Quebec L. M. Blouin, has assigned in trust, with liabilities of \$10,626 and assets of \$9400. He asked an extension of 18 months which creditors would not accept. His stand has always been considered an unlucky one.

THE Board of Trade returns for November shows that the total value of imports at Toronto was \$1,187,486, and exports \$570,439, of which \$560,775 as produce of Canada. For the corresponding month of 1882, the imports amounted to \$1,349,109, and exports \$406,185, of which \$303,283 as produce of Canada.

A WEEK ago, Mr. J. A. Craig, of Montreal, who although in difficulty some three years ago, was doing a very large business in furniture, made an assignment in trust. He had been doing something in the Electric light production, and has some patents which he thinks are valuable. He owes \$35,000 or \$40,000, and shows assets of nearly or quite twice that amount.

AN Ottawa boot and shoe dealer J. B. Loughran, has assigned in trust after a career of a couple of years. He has been slow in his payments of late and his failure has been anticipated because the business has been going behind for some time past. Liabilities will probably amount to between \$4,000 and \$5,000. He not long since had a stock of about \$3,000.

THE first meeting of the creditors of Morris Ranger, the Liverpool cotton speculator, was held on the 23rd ult. The statement of affairs showed unsecured liabilities £817,055 and net assets £8,904. It was resolved to liquidate the estate, and Mr. Banner was appointed trustee, with a committee of inspection. It is stated, says the Economist, that some farther difficulties will result in Liverpool from this disastrous liquidation.

THE benefits of foreign travel as applied to cattle, illustrated—A few months ago Mr. Craig, a Brampton cattle buyer, shipped 100 head of cattle from Ailsa Craig on board a steamer for Liverpool. The vessels was wrecked at Gaspe, and some 60 of the cattle were saved by being towed ashore. They ere sold by the insurance companies and bought back by Mr. Craig, who in turn shipped them back again to Ailsa Craig and sold them to the party he got them from originally. They are now, says the Expositor, being fattened for the Christmas markets.

NOBLE & FOLLIS, furniture dealers of Emerson, after six years in business up there, have failed. Extensive building and slow collections are the immediate cause of their trouble.—A meeting of creditors has been called by Jas. Huston, of Manitoba city, who claims a surplus of \$1,000.

THE assignment was announced last week of J. E. Burchell, agent; Burchell Bros., corn, flour &c., & Burchell, Matheson & Co., general dealers of Sydney, Cape Breton, N. S., all of whom are intimately connected. Their failures are attributed to the troubles of S. W. Beard a coal dealer and Thos. Craig, late cashier of the Exchange bank, Montreal. The personal liabilities of J. E. Burchell amount to \$24,000, and those of Burchell Bros. to \$21,000, making a total of about \$45,000 for the two, and they have nominal assets of some \$38,000. Burchell, Matheson & Co.'s liabilities are about \$16,000 and their assets nominally \$19,000.

A WINDING-UP order has been served on the secretary in Montreal of the New York Graphic Publishing Co., at the suit of American creditors to the extent of \$91,000. The petitioners allege that the company is insolvent and unable to pay its debts; that the manager has been conducting the affairs of the company in a ruinous manner; furthermore,—that the effects of the company have already been levied upon by a sheriff of New York. The company alleges that the petition for liquidation is made by discharged employees. It will be contested. The officials of the company state that under the new regime the affairs of the concern have been placed upon a very satisfactory basis, and that its liabilities outside of its stock and bonds do not exceed \$18,000.

THE suspension is announced of J. H. Mooney, of Montreal, dealer in wool, hides and sheepskins. His liabilities amount to about \$135,000 which with the exception of about \$40,000 is due to two banks for advances and he offers 50 cents on the dollar to outside creditors. Mr. Mooney was originally in business in Nova Scotia, whence he moved to Stratford Ont. about 1857, and at which place he failed in 1861, subsequently he came to Montreal and from a small beginning worked up by energy into a prominent position. A few years since he was elected Alderman, and was deemed to be well to do; consequently his suspension is somewhat of a surprise. He attributes it to losses by fire some time ago and shrinkage in stock &c.

How many of our readers can tell us where Lake Temiscamingue is? We gave, not long ago, some account of the mineral richness on its shores, and now that there is a C. P. R. station at Callander, the Lake is not so remote. But far to the north, beyond Muskoka and Mattawa and Nipissing, in the county of unpronounceable waters, among the sources of the river Ottawa, the Oblats Fathers' have a mission. There are several settlements on the Lake, and the only connection between them, 30 to 70 miles apart, is by canoe. But a Montreal engineer is desired to draft a design for a small steam launch to be built at the expense of the Oblate Fathers' mission on the Lake, and to be ready next year. The vessel is intended to run at a high rate of speed, conveying passengers, goods and mails across the Lake. It is hoped the seventy five miles of water will be traversed in about four hours.

THE Postal, Telegraphic and Telephonic Gazette says; Respecting the insurance of parcels by the postal authorities, there is now being held at Tunbridge Wells a conference of the postal superintendents from all parts of the kingdom, who are at work framing a scheme of parcels insurance which is likely to satisfy the