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121 Devonshire Street, BOSTON, Mass., U.S.A. DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.

McCrae v. News Printing Company OF TORONTO.-An appeal by plaintiff from order directing a new trial of an action brought to recover damages for the breach of a contract for the general delivery of defendants' newspaper by plaintiffs. The defendants set up that the contract called for the separate delivery of their newspaper, and not for its delivery with the Star newspaper, and that such condition in contract had not been waived by them. New trial refused by Court of Appeal.

#### BRITISH CREDITORS COMPLAIN

In commenting on the failure of Messrs. J. M. McKendry & Co., dry goods dealers in this city, the London Drapery World evidently had little knowledge of the facts, or it would not have stated that, "from the English traders' point of view, it would be difficult to find a more forcible argument in favor of the necessity for commonly honest bankruptcy laws in the Dominion of Canada than that afforded by this case." The World, after referring to the scarcity of information in England as to the circumstances of the failure, says: "Yet the disposition of the estate had been settled, everything cut and dried, not only without reference to the wishes of the very considerable body of English creditors, but without the commonplace courtesy of an intimation as to what had happened. One week passed, and now two have gone, and the creditors, we believe are still without a word of information as to what has taken place, except so far as we have been able to enlighten them in these columns. The position is ridiculous, and, though it may coincide with the ideas of what is fair and honest in matters of this kind across the Atlantic, we are far from seing it in the same light. Cases of this kind cannot tend to encourage business or credit between the two countries; on the contrary, it is a little anomalous to ask us to encourage international trade by preferential duties, etc., when the business that is done at the present time is as risky and as little appreciated as it is."

As a matter of fact the estate has not been settled, nor can it be for some time yet. Mr. McKendry offered the creditors at their meeting 55 per cent. of the amount of their claims, and this was declined. Damaged goods that remained after the fire, estimated at \$12,500, are now being sold, together with goods in the warehouse at the time of the failure. A considerable amount of goods were warehoused. Of these seventy-six cases, valued at \$3,800, were sold and realized 58 per cent., about \$2,200. Besides these, advances of \$9,420 had been made on fifty-five cases in store, valued at \$13,467. This advance resulted in a loss of about \$1,400. Apart from the sale of goods no money has come into the assignee's hands. The time in which the insurance companies have to make their payments has not yet expired, and no money has been realized from that source. As soon as there are any funds of importance on hand, no doubt the amount will be equally distributed among the creditors. In this particular case British creditors certainly have no cause of complaint, as all the goods that remained in the custom house at the time of the assignment were left at the disposal of the shipper.

-United States nickel coins are really mis-—United States nickel coins are really mis-named, and should be styled copper coins. The three-cent nickel contains 75 per cent. of copper and only 25 per cent. of nickel. The ordinary five-cent nickel in common use has the same proportions of copper and nickel, three-fourths of the former and one-fourth of the latter. the latter.

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