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THE British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Co. has invested \$50,000 in Winnipeg city bonds. A synopsis of the recent annual report of this staunch old institution will be found on another page. Mr. Stancliffe has already secured for the new-comer a large proportion of business, and with such a company his future success is no uncertain quantity.

THE stock of J. E. Whalley, merchant tailor, of Welland, Ont., referred to in our issue of the 8th inst., is valued at \$2,665, while John Calder & Co.'s, of Hamilton, claim is \$2,700. It is said that he is looking for goods alleged to have been removed from the premises a few nights previous to the seizure, but in any case there cannot be much, if anything, left for outside creditors.

AT a recent meeting of the leading wholesale grain and provision dealers of Winnipeg preliminary steps were taken for the formation of a grain and provision exchange, to be composed exclusively of members of those trades. It was formally organized and provisional officers elected, with Capt. McMillan, as president. An order was given to draft a constitution and by-laws.

THE business situation throughout the United States is said to be steadily improving; there were 148 failures reported to the Mercantile Agency last week,—12 less than the preceding

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FANCY ROBES.

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FALL TRADE, 1883.

week,—and in Canada there were 32 failures reported for the week, an increase of 17, compared with the preceding week. The failures generally were not important, and were principally among grocers and general merchants.

The sale of general store goods belonging to Walter Armstrong, of Grand Falls, N.B., which closed last Tuesday, realized only about \$300. The stock was sold under a bill of sale given to his father, who, it is said, will be considerable of a loser.—The crops in New Brunswick are looking well, and there are prospects of a large yield of hay.—All the drives in the river St. John are well forward towards their destination.—Mr. Fowler recently lost about \$1,200 by a raft of birch being carried over the Grand Falls, N.B.

MR. S. CARSLY, the well-known dry goods merchant, this city, has purchased the two warehouses east of his present retail establishment on Notre Dame street, till lately occupied by the Canada Manufacturing Company, Chas. Alexander, and Carson & Co., and is about to rebuild them as a further addition to what is already the largest retail dry goods house in Canada.—The Montreal Cotton Co. have declared the usual quarterly dividend of 3 per cent, payable in July.

JOSEPHAT LABROSSE, of Moose Creek, Ont., general merchant, has assigned in trust. Owing to a falling off in business and keen competition, it is said, he has been getting behind for some time past, and three seizures having been made by Western creditors, who had obtained judgments before the Montreal creditors were aware of it, he was obliged to succumb. The liabilities are estimated at about \$15,000, and the stock is being taken by Messrs. Kent & Turcotte, with a view to ascertaining the assets.

H. G. LEVERUS, importer of jewellery and manufacturer of optical instruments, this city, has assigned at the request of his bankers. Mr.

Levetus has been in business for several years, but has latterly been spreading out too much, having opened branch stores in Toronto and Winnipeg; he attributes his failures chiefly to losses in Manitoba. Several seizures before judgment have been made by Montreal creditors, and a meeting was held last Monday, but, owing mainly to the confused state of the books, no statement was ready, and the stock had not all been taken. The meeting therefore adjourned till Monday next. The statement of liabilities which appeared in the daily press is said to be incorrect; the figures given will probably be trebled when the total is ascertained. The largest creditors are in Europe.

A. BOURBONNIERE, the missing Montreal auctioneer, has been heard from; he writes to a friend from Boston, stating his intention to remain in the States only until such time as he has made sufficient money to enable him to return to his native city and pay off his debts. It appears that, owing either to the keen competition in his line or other causes, Bourbonniere had not been doing a profitable business of late years and had become slow pay, not only regarding his ordinary debts but that, in one or two instances, he had failed to make returns from sales effected for his clients. He narrowly escaped being arrested a couple of months ago for this offence, and in a second case, of alleged appropriation of some \$800, he had obtained good security, and endeavored to postpone the payments until he could earn the money, but all efforts to arrange a settlement, other than by the ready cash, failed, and he was forced to abscond to save his liberty and escape imprisonment. His bookkeeper expresses every confidence in his honesty to pay when able, and says Bourbonniere might easily have taken considerable money with him belonging to clients had he desired. The office furniture, etc., has been seized by creditors.