

THIRTY one general storekeepers have either compromised, assigned, obtained extension or met their creditors within the past fortnight. These 31 events include 8 attachments, 6 assignments, 6 meetings of creditors, 2 compromises, and so on. To show that the insolvency cloud is not lifting very fast, one has only to look at the figures we have grouped below, showing the number of assignments, &c., for the fortnights ending the dates affixed. We also append those going out of business:

Attachments		Ass'gts.	Out of busi.	
Jan. 2	27 & 8 G. S.	11 & 4 G. S.	18 & 3 G. S.	
Jan. 23	17 & 7 "	12 & 4 "	27 & 2 "	
Feb. 6	29 & 8 "	30 & 11 "	26 & 8 "	
Feb. 27	44 & 9 "	24 & 6 "	22 & 5 "	

The letters G. S. show the proportion of general store men included in the above table. We regret to notice, among the disasters of the week, the burning out of the Worswick Engine Co., of Guelph, and among the deaths of business men, that of Mr. J. W. Marsden of Newmarket. Three firms in Stratford have sold out; Messrs. A. Williamson & Co. and John A. Foster, clothiers, and Messrs. W. S. Foster & Co., hats and caps; Messrs. Heffernan Bros., Guelph, ask an extension, as does Mr. A. McIntosh, tins, Minden; Messrs. W. H. Rogers & Co., clothiers, and Mr. C. E. Lefebvre, G. S., Sherbrooke, have been attached; also Mr. W. J. Northgroves, jeweller, Belleville; S. J. Eagan, milliner, Hamilton, and A. Lacoste, hardware, Montreal. A compromise is offered by Wm. Andrews, hatter, St. Catharines; and by G. C. Rutherford & Co., of Harbor Grace, N. F. L.; W. P. Clark & Bros., general dealers, Winnipeg, have assigned.

In consequence of the continued illness of Mr. Musgrave, the Secretary of the Board of Trade and Corn Exchange Association, a new appointment has been made to the position in the person of Mr. John Stephenson.

A PROPELLER, 100 feet in length and 19 feet beam, is now being built at Buffalo to ply on the Bay of Quinte, between Picton and Belleville.

We are glad to observe that in addition to the Johnston harvesters which took a medal at Sydney, N. S. W., and were afterwards sold there; the Thomson & Williams Manufacturing Company, of Stratford, have lately shipped the machinery for a water power saw-mill to Fraser River, British Columbia, via rail to San Francisco and steamer thence, and purpose sending ploughs also. An engine and boiler for a Manitoba flouring-mill, and the fittings of a steam sawmill near Ottawa are among others of their contracts.

"PLAYING dominoes for the drinks," has been decided by Judge Elliot of London, to be so closely allied to gambling that he sustained on appeal the decision of a magistrate that one Cole, a tavern keeper, had broken the Statute by allowing gambling for money and for liquor on his premises. His Honour declared that the playing of dominoes for intoxicants had a pernicious result, and continued: "If it is to be allowed in taverns from morn till night, as it was in this case, upon the ground that only drinks

and not money were played for, the mischief which the statute was designed to remedy will be very faintly reached."

The branch of the Molsons Bank, situated in Windsor, Ont., is intended to be closed very shortly, and preparations are now being made to that end.

It is stated that the production of the mills at Cornwall, of the Canada Cotton Company is now about 100,000 yards a week, at which rate they would be able to furnish 100 yards of cotton per annum to every trader in Canada. We observe that this Company advertise a trade sale at their works on Wednesday next, of goods made within the past few months, and to be made. This is a new departure in Canada, although in the States the custom has been adopted by some mills of selling their product direct to the trade by means of trade sales, where it appears to have been found mutually advantageous. The proposed sale will prove a novelty, and will probably attract buyers from various quarters of the Dominion.

At the annual meeting of the Montreal Open Stock Exchange the other day, Hon. Henry Starnes was elected President, Mr. R. A. Campbell, Vice-President, Messrs. W. Weir and W. J. Turpin, managing committee, and H. S. Leech, Secretary. An increase in membership is reported for the year.

MESSRS. John Taylor & Co., West Indian merchants of Halifax, suspended payment on the 21st ult., and held a meeting of creditors on Saturday afternoon last. The liabilities are almost altogether local, and foot up to \$101,000, of which about \$21,000 are indirect. The assets represent about 90 per cent. of liabilities, and consist largely of fish and West India products on hand and afloat. Of the assets, nearly \$50,000 will probably be available within six months, and the firm felt themselves able to offer a composition of 75 per cent. in 3, 6, 9, 12, and 15 months. The offer was accepted by the meeting, nothing being said about security.

ONE of the best known business men of Montreal, Mr. William Workman, passed away on Saturday last, in his 71st year, after a lingering illness. Coming out to that city from Lisburn Ireland, in 1829, he shortly afterward became a partner in the hardware firm of Frothingham & Workman, from which he retired a few years ago. He was the founder in 1846, and first president of the City and District Savings Bank; for some 25 years president of the City Bank; and mayor of the Montreal several years in succession. In addition to his prominence and success as a merchant, amassing a large fortune, Mr. Workman was widely known and esteemed for his connection with many of the charitable enterprises of Montreal.

THE GEORGE FAIR manufacturing company at Millbrook, have leased their works to Messrs. Sowden & Co., who are going largely into making the "Little Gem" reaper for next harvest, whose inventor, Mr. T. S. Marshall, manages the works.

A REWARD is offered for some method, other than poison, for ridding a Canadian lunatic

asylum of the rats which infest it. Or proposals will be received for wholesale rat-catching on the premises. Any effectual means of attaining the end in view would be welcomed by many other institutions and buildings.

MR. JOSEPH WOODLEY, of Quebec, boot and shoe manufacturer, has been attached on the 27th ult., by an over-indulgent Montreal creditor, Mr. Woodley, was formerly of the firm J. & J. Woodley dissolved last summer, and built for himself probably the most extensive factory in the Dominion. He was always a rash and venturesome dealer; has been endeavouring of late to cultivate an English and Australian trade, and it is said he has upwards of \$40,000 standing out in Canada. He has claimed to be a rich man up to quite a recent date. It is impossible as yet to state the position of his affairs, but it is pretty certain that they are not in good shape.

THE rains and the recent thaw have done serious damage in some parts of Canada. At Belleville the ice jam broke in the night, doing damage to bridges, etc., to the amount of \$3,000. In Port Hope a three storey brick block was undermined, and went down with a crash, the occupants fortunately escaping; loss \$6,000. At St. Catharines, damage has been done, principally to bridges.

THE Halifax dry goods firm of Chas. Robson & Co., who held meeting of creditors a short time ago, have been put into the Bankrupt Court. Upon a liability of about \$75,000 they show a deficit of over \$45,000, which considerably astonished some creditors for large amounts who had latterly been supplying them. This firm has long enjoyed a very good reputation for uprightness, but their present position shows a sad lack of business capacity and management. They will probably get a settlement at 20 cents in the dollar secured, with a further 5 per cent. if the estate can pay it, the guarantor being a gentleman who will make good the 25 cents if practicable.

Messrs. Quintal & Croteau, who commenced business in Montreal about three years ago as wholesale provision merchants, have made a disastrous, and from present appearances a most discreditable failure, which their creditors intend to investigate closely. But the prospects are they will have their trouble for their pains, as the assets are so little visible as to furnish but poor hope of getting much of a dividend. The liabilities amount to about \$20,000. Several transactions of a rather dubious character took place about the time of their failure, such for instance as paying a brother of Mr. Quintal some \$2,000 the day before it took place, all of which needs ventilation.

THE Woodstock Board of Trade met on the 19th ult., and elected Mr. Wm. Grey their President for 1878; Mr. Jas. Sutherland, Vice President; Mr. Jas. White, Secretary. The report was adopted. The retiring President, Mr. T. H. Parker, spoke of the good the board had done in the direction of successfully founding cheese and cattle fairs, &c. He did not perceive many signs of the abatement (which some say has taken place) of the depression in trade. Mr.