

A FEW more Ottawa failures: Motard & Riendeau began in the dry goods line in the summer of 1889 on a small capital; they have now assigned, and owe \$7,500.—J. N. Portelance, another small dry goods man, formerly of Montreal, has also assigned. This is, we believe, his second failure in Ottawa.

N. H. DUBOIS, who has been extensively in business at Acton Vale, Que., for over 30 years, but not always successfully, is in trouble, owing partially to a recent fire, and wants his creditors to accept 30 cents in the dollar. His liabilities will aggregate, it is said, some \$40,000, with assets normally in excess, but largely composed of depreciable real estate, book-debts, etc.

JAMES STOREY, of Parsons, Kan., has received letters patent from Washington for his invention of an artificial egg, which is said to resemble the natural product in all particulars. The inventor says that he can make one carload per day at a cost of three cents per dozen, with machinery that will cost only \$500. An exchange remarks that it is one thing to make them, but quite another to establish a demand.

THE most serious calamity that ever befel in a Canadian mine was that which happened on Saturday last in the Springhill coal mines, Cumberland County, N. S. It is supposed to have been caused by the bursting of gas coming into contact with the workmen's naked lights. The explosion was terrific, and those who were not killed by the force of it succumbed to the deadly after-damp. The loss of life is placed at 120.

As a specimen of the chappies who are now a-days anxious to take the road as commercial travellers, a Montreal house sends us the following letter, written from an Ontario village last week:—

Lutherville, Feb. 21st, 1891.

DEAR SIR.—In answer to your advertisement as pussion as a traveling agent for a holsale Grocery firm I beg to say that I have had quite an experience in travling at different business and I would like to work for you if terms satisfactory. you can write me and your terms and any particulars you wish to find out about my past and if satisfactory I will go down to see you as I think I could suit you all right. Believe me, yours gratefully. S.— Ont.

We understand that P. B. Coyne, a prominent storekeeper at Portage du Fort, Que., has fallen behind, owing largely to rather promiscuous crediting, and an accountant has been up investigating his affairs. He is now offering his creditors 50 cents on the dollar, 40 cents being in cash. He owes about \$10,000.—Another Ottawa Valley merchant, the

oldest in the place, Jas. Lalonde, of Embrun, is also offering 50 cents secured, on liabilities of about \$5,000.—P. Lariviere, who had previously worked on his father's farm at Ste. Brigide, Que., and bought out a store business in December, 1888, being without experience, and having the name of selling low, his success has always been questioned, and his assignment creates no surprise. Liabilities \$3,182. Boys, stick to the farm!

HERE is a group of comparatively small failures in Montreal:—J. B. Chenevert, long in the retail shoe trade, sold out last year to go into manufacturing coaks, etc., in a small way. He is now offering 30 cents in the dollar, and owes \$6,900 direct, and \$4,500 indirect.—Patterson & Leduc, who opened in the clothing business only last fall, have assigned and will be wound up.—F. X. Guerin & Co., tailors, assign owing \$1000; J. Rivet & Co., grocers, owe about the same amount; Beaudry & Lachance, grocers, owe only \$700; L. Rollin, tailor, late of Patterson & Rollin, have gone under, owing \$3,271; J. T. Smith, dry goods, owes \$2,000, which he cannot meet and has abandoned his estate; O. E. Bock, dealer in paints, &c., owes \$1,500; F. X. Mautha, grocer, owes \$1,860; E. Brown & Co. have obligations of only \$925; John Delisle, a young man who opened a dry goods shop in May last, assigns on demand, owing \$3000, with assets about equal.

ABOUT three years ago Mrs. A. C. McCrae, Elora, bought White's bankrupt stock, amounting to \$4,000, at 65 per cent. A considerable part of the purchase money appears to have been advanced by W. Henderson, who now sells her out under the power of a chattel mortgage.—Geo. Petrie seems to have made a bad start in life while a young man on the farm. It is stated that he gave his note for the purchase of implements, and when it fell due claimed to be a minor and therefore not liable for the debt. We need not wonder that a young man of this stamp should fail as a grocer at Ingersoll within a year from the time he began business. His mother is on his list of creditors for \$300 borrowed money.—In the same town, A. B. Harris, formerly Morrison Harris, tailor, with a small stock, assigns.—A. T. Haynes, a popular clerk in Lynden, opened a store in Sept., 1888, with but little if any capital. He has assigned since our last with liabilities of \$3,500. His nominal assets are \$500 less.

TWENTY-THREE trustful creditors claim a share in the \$4,000 of liabilities shown in the statement of William Rankin, a general dealer

at Herman, in the rear of Hastings County, Ont. This debt, with assets of about \$2,900, is the result of Mr. Rankin's six or seven years of storekeeping, to begin which he borrowed \$300 to pay for the store and gave notes for a stock of \$1,000. He was an honest and industrious man, but through ignorance of business affairs never took stock and consequently never knew how he stood. Under these circumstances one can forgive him for saying, about a year ago, that he considered himself worth \$5,000, whereas to-day he is \$1,200 worse off than nothing. But can those who granted him credit be so easily forgiven? Can they close their ears to the indignant and just protests of capable men who are paying their 100 cents on the dollar in the face of competition fostered by the present system of selling goods, a system which these very creditors are perpetuating day after day? We cannot hope that the prospect of a 30 per cent. dividend will deter them from repeating the experiment and meanwhile injured traders must "grin and bear it."

A STOREKEEPER named T. W. Jeffrey removed from Bracebridge to Midland, and in 1886 he compromised liabilities of \$7,000 at 50 per cent., while his nominal assets were about \$10,000. This arrangement was secured by his brother-in-law. About two years ago A. McDonald joined him, but in January last they lost something by fire, and now have arranged a compromise at 50 per cent. It is thought that the business will be wound up.—A meeting of the creditors of the Hercules Manufacturing Co.—a strong name for a not very strong concern—was called for Wednesday last at Petrolia. We have not yet learned what arrangement has been made by the proprietor. He has assigned to J. D. Noble.—Hanks Bros., who have been about a year in the grocery business in Toronto, have also assigned.—H. C. Callahan, formerly a clerk in Brantford, was five years in business with his brother when he sold out in 1887. Afterward he kept men's furnishings alone, and was supposed to be worth nearly \$3,000, but this diminished, while his habits did not improve. A small fire in his premises last month appears to be the immediate cause of his assignment now.

At the meeting of creditors of Messrs. Boyd Bros. & Co., wholesale dry goods dealers, held in Toronto on Wednesday last, a statement was submitted showing direct liabilities as follows: Canadian, \$112,944.77; British and foreign, \$42,577.24; American, \$6,557.44; making a total of \$162,079.45. The preferred

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J. F. EBY.

HUGH BLAIN.

WE CONTROL

- Honey Drop Corn.
- Clover Leaf Salmon. (flat tins.)
- Ratger & Co.'s (London, Eng.)
Jams and Jellies.
- Higgins' Eureka Salt.
- Cunningham & DeFourier's
Potted Meats.
- Heinrich's German Family Gelatine

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MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

Stock is Kept Attractive and Fresh all the Year Round.

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OUR TRAVELLERS ARE NOW OUT WITH

SPRING SAMPLES.

GENERAL DRY GOODS, DRESS GOODS, & GENTS' GOODS, HABERDASHERY, Small Wares and General Fancy Goods

Our stock for Spring and Summer will surpass any previous efforts. Samples on application. Letter and travellers orders will have prompt attention.

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TORONTO.