

field of prose fiction. The check was highly prized by the young poet, who shortly afterwards asked of an intimate friend, with much diffidence but great earnestness: "Jim, when you have a check for some money, how do you get the cash for it?" The intricacies of this financial operation being explained, the amount of the check was deposited to his credit in the bank. Shortly afterward he again went, in his embarrassment, to his more practical friend and asked, in a quandary: "Jim, when you have got some money in the bank, how do you get it out again?" Since that time Mr. Howells has had little difficulty either in getting money into or out of the bank.

The firm of S. F. Fraine & Sons, tailors in St. Thomas, have made an assignment to C. B. Armstrong for benefit of creditors, owing \$4,000.—The brass-founding firm of R. McDougall & Co., called their creditors together at the Queen's Hotel, in Galt, on Thursday of last week.—It is not many months since George Macdonald succeeded another firm in Alliston as general dealer; he and Eliza Macdonald have assigned to F. W. Redford.

AFTER less than a year's experience as a general dealer at Comber, Ont., Mr. Robt Anderson assigned to C. B. Armstrong last week, and his stock was offered for sale. He had been a farmer and knew nothing about business, but mortgaged a \$1,400 farm for half its value to begin. There is not much wonder that he did not succeed.—D. Ferguson moved in 1883 from Strathroy, where he had been a milliner, to Sarnia, where he opened a grocery. His business was seemingly too small to yield a living, and he has assigned to James King for benefit of creditors. Liabilities \$1,800, and assets \$1,700. He will probably wind up.—F. W. Jeffrey had been doing a hardware business at Bracebridge and Midland, Ont. Last year he concentrated at Midland. He called his creditors together last week, having made a loss by some speculation in Kansas which he could not stand. He wants to effect some arrangement.—The stock of J. B. Loughran, shoe dealer, Ottawa, is to be sold, under power of mortgage to I. D. Thurston.

MR. S. C. STEVENSON, of Montreal, one of the Commissioners for the Colonial Exhibition in London in May next, has visited St. Hyacinthe, Que., and reports much enthusiasm existing there on the subject. During a few hours' stay he obtained the following entries: L. P. Morin, sashes, doors and general woodwork; Duclos & Payan, buff and split leather; J. Choquet, buggy and express harness; A. C. Akin, cast iron soil pipes and fittings; Paquet & Godbout, doors, blinds and windows; Messrs. Cote &

Frere, boots and shoes, a machine for measuring skins and leather; F. X. Bertrand, shingle machine and cross-furrow plough; Seguin, Laline & Co., boots and shoes. The Montreal list of intending exhibitors is increased by the following: Jas. Shearer, doors, sashes, mouldings, blinds, &c.; J. A. Converse, manilla, sisal and Russian cordage, binder-twine, lime and calcined plaster; G. Armstrong & Co. shaker chairs and folding cots; Garth & Co., engineers, steam-fitters and plumbers brass work, hot water, furnaces and apparatus for heating buildings; Chas. Campbell, Richmond, Que., butter and other tubs. "The bona fide entries now number about 220, says the *Witness*, and the show promises to surpass anything ever before leaving this Province."

EVERYBODY who reads the papers has heard of the Burlington *Hawkeye*, and its clever editor, R. J. Burdette. On the occasion of that gentleman's visit to Toronto this week brought about through the enterprise of the Toronto Press Club, the proprietor of the British American Commercial College in this city, Mr. Edward Trout, induced him to give a half-hour's talk to the students. Among the invited guests present on the occasion were Messrs. John Young, of Perkins, Ince & Co., L. Bolster, of the Bank of Commerce, George Lillie, of Lyman Brothers & Co., C. Holland, general manager of the Ontario Bank, John Sloan, of Sloan & Mason, Robert Beaty, R. B. Ellis, J. C. Hamilton, L.L.D., James Hedley, of the *MONETARY TIMES*, James Mason, of the Home Savings Bank, T. C. Jones, of the C. P. R. Land Department, Winnipeg, F. F. Wotherspoon, John Downey and others. Mr. John Ross Robertson of the *Evening Telegram* occupied the chair and introduced the lecturer, who gave the male and female students before him what might be called a humorous sermon, from the text: "Seest thou a man diligent in his business he shall stand before kings." We hope to give next week a *resume* of the address. The lecturer has the faculty of inculcating good sense and sound morals by means of quaint contrasts, humorous allusions, stories, quips and cranks. Somehow or other, his odd and often pathetic recitals linger in the memory, and his funny paragraphs occasion serious thought.

"Ain't it time you paid me that five dollars?" asked a farmer of his neighbour. "Tain't due," was the reply. "But you promised to pay me when you got back from New York." "Well, I hain't been there," he replied.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

W. Y.; Levis.—"Can you tell me who in Toronto or Hamilton makes nickel-plated stove and hinge knobs?" [We understand that Mr. A. Foster of Hamilton, manufactures them.]

R. R.; Ottawa.—Wait till next week.

—The Edgar Thomson Steel Works, which is one of the largest concerns in the country, has shut down on account of labor troubles. The furnace men have demanded a reduction of hours, which the proprietors are unwilling to grant, and a lock out of the whole establishment, which employs over 6,000 men, is the consequence.

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