

Among the failures this week in Ontario is that of Osborne Bros., boot and shoe dealers, London. About ten days ago one of the firm sold the business for about \$5,000 cash to Ashplant & Tanton. The recipient of this money has not been seen in Canada many hours after the completion of the transaction. An assignment of the book debts was made to a local creditor the day of the sale. The firm's liabilities are about \$5,000.

WM. GREENE is another Toronto boot and shoe dealer who has assigned to Donaldson, & Milne. It is expected that a favorable settlement will be made.—Charles Mawson a speculative builder in Toronto is in trouble, and has also assigned to Messrs. Donaldson & Milne. His real estate is heavily mortgaged.—A firm of plumbers in Toronto Jessamine & Foley, has met creditors. No particulars of what is sought by the firm are furnished as yet.

Quite a group of watchmakers and jewellers in trouble may be noticed this week. A Toronto jewellery firm, T. W. Hastings & Co., finds the sheriff in possession at the instance of a local creditor.—The jewellery stock of Chas. Dietrich, also of Toronto, is advertised to be sold.—Another small jeweller in St. Thomas, named A. B. Remey, has assigned.—The jewellery stock of Geo. Montgomery, Brantford, amounting to about \$2,100 is advertised for sale under power of chattel mortgage.

R. H. JAMIESON has been in business as a grocer in Toronto and Whitby; in the latter place many years. His venture here has not been satisfactory, and he is now offering creditors twenty cents in the dollar.—After several years experience in the tinware business in Jarvis, Lafayette Moblo has assigned.—Nearly five years ago Geo. A. Rollins began a small hardware business in Madoc. Although steady and careful he never made progress, and has now assigned.—The stock and book debts, amounting to \$6,300, of Sexsmith & Co., Napanee clothiers, who failed some weeks ago, are advertised to be sold next week.

For many years the name of Henry Mulholland was a prominent one in mercantile circles in Montreal. Word has been received since our last of his death at the age of seventy-eight. Deceased came to Canada in 1830 and engaged in the hardware line. Some years ago he retired from business. He was one of the founders of the City and District Savings Bank, of which he acted for over thirty years as director, he was also a director in the City Gas Company, and a director in the Sun Life Insurance Company. Mr. Mulholland had been in delicate health for some months past from heart disease, but his abrupt death was hardly expected.

As in the case of roller skating, so in that of tobogganing, tho' to a less degree, the sudden craze of American people for it, has affected some branches of labor and of trade. We find the last issue of the North-West Lumberman saying: "The toboggan craze has made a demand for a good deal of saw mill product. It does not require as much stuff in the construction of a slide as one might imagine—about 7,000 feet—but the great number of slides which have gone up make the aggregates large. It is expected, too, that more slides will be built next winter than were built this. The stuff used is principally dimension wood and planks." It is true that the demand for tobogganing facilities has made no such draft on the lumbermen as did the skating rink craze, for, to satisfy the latter, dimension, boards, flooring, shingles, sash and doors were required. The building of rinks also gave a good deal of work to carpenters. The cost of building a toboggan slide, 40 feet high and 175 feet long, ought not to exceed \$225 for material and labor.

BUSINESS IN ELECTION WEEK.

THE political excitement has run so very high during the past week, that trade in both city and country has been comparatively neglected, and in a good many cases travellers have returned home, finding it next to impossible to get customers to talk business or look at samples. "I have not taken in two dollars this forenoon," said a large grocer in a western city, at noon on Tuesday last. Now, however, that the battle is over, matters will assume their normal phase. Our Montreal correspondent writes that there is every expectation of a fairly satisfactory spring trade being done in that city. The heavy storm of a week or so ago has not been without its effect upon business in Ontario as well as in Quebec, and remittances generally are not up to the mark. Failures, however, are not numerous, in the country, though our summary columns show a pretty round number of small traders in difficulty in Toronto. This may be because the enterprise of would-be shop-keepers is in excess even of the growth of the place.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

BANKER.—Will write you.

G. R. C.—Shall consider the point. The banking statement for January only reached us yesterday, too late for this issue.

ENQUIRER, Guelph.—That question has already been answered. Doubtless the superintendent knows the condition of things.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Feb. 23rd, 1887.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average 85.
Montreal	249½	243	1544	247½	247	208½
Ontario	118	116½	.....	118	117½	111
Peoples	100	90	30	99½	98	.....
Molson's	150	141	85	150	142½	125
Toronto	216½	213	325	214	213	194½
Jac. Cartier	92	75	.....	92	.....	70
Merchants	134	130½	796	133	132½	120
Commerce	124½	123	932	123½	123	125
Union	92	.....	.....	92	.....	.....
Montreal Tel'd	96	93	200	93½	93	117½
Rich. & Ont	65½	64	1028	65	64½	60½
City Passenger	300	255	80	300	255½	129½
Gas	226½	222½	1935	225	224½	186½
C. Pacific R. R.	64	61	2910	64	62	64
N. W. Land	60	50	.....	.....	.....	76½

DOMINION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at the head office, Toronto, on February 9th, 1887. Mr. Thos. Swinyard, the president of the company, having been called to the chair, and Mr. F. Roper appointed secretary, the notice summoning the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last annual general meeting were confirmed.

The following report of the directors for the year was then read:—

REPORT.

1. As at the last annual meeting, so again the directors are happy to report that the company's relations with the lessees, the Western Union Telegraph Company, continue in every way satisfactory, and that all arrangements existing for the working and maintenance of the company's lines and plant in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by the lessees, and also the lines and plant of the company west of New Brunswick, sub-let by the lessees to the Great North Western Telegraph Company, are being carried out in good faith.

2. During the past year the company has, as heretofore, duly received quarterly in advance from the lessees the guaranteed interest

of six per cent per annum upon the \$1,000,000 share capital of the company, and also the guaranteed interest upon the £60,000 sterling six per cent bonds of the company. These moneys have been promptly and regularly disbursed by the directors to the share and bondholders respectively.

3. The following statement shows the general financial position of the company at the close of the year, December 31, 1886:—

Liabilities.

Capital stock paid up	\$1,000,000 00
£60,000 sterling mortgage bonds (to be redeemed by the lessees in 1886)	292,000 00
Dividends unclaimed	1,129 18
Dividend No. 42, payable January 15, 1887	15,000 00

\$1,308,129 18

Balance at credit of profit and loss account	3,022 36
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\$1,311,151 54

Assets.

Capital expenditure	\$1,281,819 47
Bonds of the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway Company, and interest thereon	1,596 23
Outstanding account due by Dominion Government	1,000 00
Mortgage receivable, and interest thereon	4,968 00
Cash in bank and on hand	21,767 84

\$1,311,151 54

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. SWINYARD, President.

F. ROPER, Secretary.

Toronto, Feb. 9, 1887.

Mr. Swinyard, in addressing the meeting, said: My duties to-day are both light and pleasant. Light because I have simply to ask you to approve and adopt the report for the year 1886 just submitted to you; and pleasant because every feature in that report is satisfactory. It is true, it is very brief, but it publishes the fact that the guaranteed quarterly dividends at the rate of six per cent per annum have been regularly paid by the lessees and distributed amongst the shareholders. I may add, too, for your further satisfaction, that we have always had on hand when such dividends have been distributed the next quarter's rent in advance, lying at our credit at the bank, as provided in our agreement with the lessees, the Western Union Telegraph Company, our relations with whom, and also with their sub-lessees, the Great North Western Telegraph Company, who rent from them our lines lying west of the Province of New Brunswick, continue most cordial. It may not be out of place to also mention that our lessees, the Western Union, hold stock in our company to the extent of 5,766 shares, being over one-fourth of the capital stock of the company.

Satisfaction having been expressed by Mr. George W. Lewis, Mr. Arthur B. Lee, Professor Goldwin Smith and others, with the report of the directors and the remarks of the chairman, Mr. Swinyard moved, seconded by Mr. A. T. Fulton, that the report be adopted, which resolution was unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks to the president and directors of the company for their services during the past year was proposed and carried unanimously.

Messrs. Henry Pellatt and George D. Perry were then appointed scrutineers to conduct the election of directors for the ensuing year; which resulted in the unanimous re-election of the following gentlemen:

Thos. Swinyard, Esq., Hon. Wm. Cayley, H. R. Northrop, Esq., Gen. Thos. T. Eckert, Hon. Frank Smith, Erastus Wiman, Esq., Alex. T. Fulton, Esq., and Chas. A. Tinker, Esq.; and also the election of Mr. A. G. Ramsay, of Hamilton, President of the Canada Life Assurance Company, in place of Mr. Sheriff Waddell, of Cobourg, retired.

On motion of Mr. A. T. Fulton, seconded by Mr. H. Pellatt, a vote of thanks was tendered to the chairman for his services in presiding over the meeting, which was duly acknowledged.

At a subsequent meeting of the newly elected board Mr. Swinyard was re-appointed president, and Mr. Cayley, vice-president of the company.

F. ROPER, Secretary.

Toronto, Feb. 9, 1887.