

The Canada Life Assurance Company, whose name has become a household word throughout the Dominion, has paid out in the two years last past, over \$560,000 to the representatives of its policy-holders. It issued 2,178 new policies in the year ended with April last.

The Montreal Stock Exchange has unanimately adopted a resolution of condolence with his family upon the death of Mr. William O'Brien, so long and well known in connection with the Grand Trunk Railway in that city, and of late years a member of the Exchange.

A. PILON, who at one time did a rushing dry goods business in the eastern suburbs of Montreal, but who, a short time ago, removed to Quebec, where he started in the same line, has failed and assigned.—R. Morgan, a leading music dealer of the ancient capital, has also failed, an event which does not create much surprise, for he has long been considered financially weak. His liabilities are mainly due in England and the West.

In its article of Friday last, entitled "Smash-ups in Toronto," the *Shareholder* proceeds first to make the misstatement that Barber Bros., the paper makers, have failed, and next, to make gratuitous suppositions as to the cause of the disaster. Would it surprise our contemporary to learn that the firm which has failed is not Wm. Barber & Bros., of Georgetown paper mills, but Barber Bros., general dealers and woollen manufacturers, at Streetsville. As the *Shareholder's* motto is "nothing in malice" we must attribute its error to lack of information. It is always well to have one's facts right before proceeding to make deduction's from them, far less to moralize upon them and their supposed causes or consequences.

Among recent minor business changes and failures in the province of Quebec, are the following: A. V. Dostaler, a general dealer of St. Narcisse, has assigned to Kent & Turcotte, of Montreal.—Edward Bastien, of Montreal, a printer in a small way, has assigned to the same parties, as also has J. C. Gaudry, a Montreal grocer.—F. Molinari, grocer, Montreal, already reported failed, is offering 15 cents on the dollar.—Mrs. J. Paris, carrying on a general business at Parisville, is seeking a composition at the rate of 50 cents in the dollar.—Geo. Tremblay, of St. Alphonse de Chicoutimi, has assigned, owing small liabilities principally to Quebec houses.—L. G. Jalbert, hotel-keeper, of Berthierville, has also failed.—Auguste Gingras, a trader at Metabetchouan, on the North Shore below Quebec, has assigned.—H. B. Prenties, of Chelsea, a merchant of some years' standing, is in trouble and offering his creditors twenty cents on the dollar of liabilities.—In Montreal, J. B. Brun, crockery dealer has made an offer of 80 cents on the dollar, and N. Larivee, a dry goods dealer, has effected a settlement at 87½ cents in the dollar.

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In the lower Provinces, business is reported dull. Messrs Pritchard & Son, iron merchants. St. John N. B., have made an assignment. It is supposed that the liabilities will reach fully \$40,000, and unsecured creditors will not obtain a very large proportion of their claims.—In Halifax, Wm. Ackhurst, commission merchant, is endeavoring to get his creditors to make a reduction of 60 per cent. on his liabilities. It is thought that his estate will not pay more than 30 per cent. if well managed. The liabilities of A. P. Connolly, of Halifax, stationer, who assigned last week, are said to be about equal to the assets, viz., \$3,000.

—According to returns received by the Boston Post from the leading Clearing Houses in the United States, the aggregate clearings last week were \$767,000,097, against \$740,757,352 the week previous, and \$1,208,165,030 for the corresponding week in 1883. Although a slight gain is shown, as compared with the previous week, yet the exhibit is unfavorable when compared with the corresponding week of last year. The losses are quite evenly distributed, nearly every prominent city showing a decided loss.

—The Merchants Bank of Canada has declared a dividend for the current half year, at the rate of seven per cent. per annum.

—The last Canada Gazette contains notice of the appointment of Messrs. Cooper and Matthews, of Montreal, to be liquidators for the Colonial Building and Investment Association in that city.

—The Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Company has applied for an extension for two years to commence work.

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