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LOSSES by fire, together with inefficiency, want of sufficient trade and disproportionate expenditure are given as the causes of the shortcomings of the Otter Sweeper Co., of Otterville, Ont., the directors and shareholders of which at a recent meeting determined on winding up the concern. The articles manufactured were carpet-sweepers, children's carriages, go-carts, etc.

H. K. Ridley, of Chatham, Ont., dealer in hats, caps and gents' furnishing goods, has assigned. He commenced business about four years ago, and was doing a good profitable business, but, not satisfied with doing well, he followed an example frequently set, and invested some money in Chicago wheat speculations, with the usual result; and this is the principal cause of his failure. His liabilities or assets are not yet known.

MESSRS. KENT & TURCOTTE inform us they have been instructed to serve demand of assignment on L. H. Lafleur, general storekeeper, of Yamaska, Que., for the benefit of his creditors. Lafleur has been supposed for some time to be well off and possessed of considerable property, but lately these have been found to belong to his wife. The property was to have been transferred as security to his creditors, but it is now discovered that they are covered by judgments of La Banque Jacques Cartier and several other claimants. Liabilities estimated at \$20,000.

Leading Wholesale Trade of Montreal.

**GREENE & SONS  
COMPANY**

MONTREAL,

**HATS, CAPS,**

—AND—

**FURS.****ALL LINES ARE NOW COMPLETE,  
AND ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.****BUFFALO**

—AND—

**FANCY ROBES.****GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING.**

Latest Styles, Lowest Prices,

—SELECTED FOR—

**FALL TRADE, 1883.**

A MEETING of the creditors of Normand & Lacerte, dry goods dealers, Three Rivers, Que., was held last Tuesday at the office of Kent & Turcotte, this city, and proposals made for the payment of all claims in full, with an extension of 4, 8 and 12 months—Mr. Normand to wind up the business as soon as possible. Mr. Normand failing to obtain security, the above negotiations have fallen through. Mr. Lacerte retires from the concern. The liabilities are about \$17,000; the assets show a nominal surplus. The firm began business some five years ago, but competition has been too keen, and latterly there has been a considerable check to the limited business which the firm had been doing.

THE stock in trade of Wm. H. German, Digby, N.S., general dealer, who assigned a few weeks ago, and left suddenly for Boston, has been sold by and under a Bill of Sale, that class of security in the Lower Provinces which should be provided for in any insolvency legislation proposed. German belonged to Smith's Cove, and began business last spring in Digby with about \$700 cash capital besides some real estate. A Building Society at Annapolis had a judgment covering his real property for \$950, and there were four attachments for about \$1,000. His liabilities amounted to about \$2,000.

THERE appears to be some reason for inferring that four drug stores are too many for Orangeville, Ont. Five years ago H. M. Heal of that place bought the stock in trade of T. G. Poyntz—now in Winnipeg—for cash, and has been compelled to admit at last that competition is too keen in his line. Towards the end of last month the bailiff was in possession, and Mr. Heal made an assignment to Dr. Henry, the mayor of the town, for the benefit of his creditors. The claim of Campbell & Sons, \$1,000, is said to be secured by bill of sale; creditors

in this city are interested to about an equal amount. The necessary expenses of the business were disproportionate.

THE Ontario Car Co., of London, have taken a seizure of revendication for one hundred and forty-four cars, including two post office or composite cars and two second class cars, on the Quebec Central Railway against Bowen & Woodward, contractors, Sherbrooke, Que. Mr. Edward Evans has been appointed by them to take necessary proceedings to get possession of these cars, and he has seized at different points. Since the seizure several of the cars have been removed, and procedure for contempt of court has been taken against the officials for so doing. It is understood that a *saisie conservatoire* has issued for cars built by the same contractors for the South Eastern Railway, MacMaster, Hutchinson & Weir are acting for the Car Company.

THE following statement as to the condition of a retail shoe dealer in a town of Central Ontario probably describes the circumstances of many an otherwise respectable country-merchant. Has been in business over 12 years; had a capital of about \$500 at starting; failed some years ago, and compounded at about 35 cents in the dollar, which he paid; subsequently compromised at 75 cents, which he also paid. He is being sued *some*. If trade revives he may pull through, but he is carrying a pretty large stock. Business has been very dull of late with merchants in the vicinity; farmers have not yet sold their grain, and meantime there is little doing. Being a man of honesty and sobriety, moderately careful and very attentive to business, his difficulty is due as much to dullness of trade as to want of capital and carrying too much stock. Some claims under execution have been paid. The impression in a quarter likely to know is that it is more than probable he will "go up."