

The Retail Grocers' Association of London has re-elected W. H. Ferguson, president, John Moule, vice president, G. J. Wall, treasurer, and E. Sutton, secretary.

A MEAFORD cooper is of opinion that 30,000 barrels will hold every apple fit to pack from the district embracing Meaford, Thornbury, Collingwood and Owen Sound. This is in marked contrast to the estimate of 305,000 barrels made by a leading Toronto paper some time ago.

AMONGST the dividend sheets which deserve to rank with the unique specimens of insolvency literature is that of J. Theo. Robinson, stationer, of Montreal. It bears date 13th Sept., and notifies some 70 creditors, whose total claims amount to upwards of \$14,100, that a first and final dividend of 2½ cents on the dollar is awaiting them. The receipts amounted to \$4,294, which sum is reduced to \$1,065 after the privileged claims are deducted. Then comes the curator's commission, \$200, the inspector's fees, \$100, expenses of stock-taking, \$117, etc., etc., which absorbs all but \$390. This goes to creditors at the above-mentioned rate on the dollar.

THE best estimates of the New York State hop crop for 1892 place it at 140,000 bales, against 124,000 bales last year, and characterize the new crop as the brightest, cleanest, and in every respect the most perfect that has been harvested since 1887. Prices at the yards for the new crop are not so good as at the opening sales last season; not more than 18 and 20 cents for choice lots is offered. Growers are loth to sell and transactions are slow; the larger and shrewder growers think prices are bound to advance later in the season to 30 cents a pound for anything that will pass for a choice merchantable grade.

It takes a politician to discern a Grit lie or Tory soft soap. The one is told with such apparent disinterestedness, and the other is laid on so seductively that it is little wonder that a simple-minded trade newspaper, like the MONETARY TIMES, for instance, is led astray once in a while. We are told that the item in our issue of the 9th September, referring to the alleged issue of \$400,000 preferred stock by the William Parks Co., limited, of St. John, N. B., is not based on facts. "The company is not issuing any stock. The report was originated in a hostile Grit newspaper, and manufactured out of whole cloth," so writes a friend who ought to know.

The truth of the old adage that a rolling stone gathers no moss is exemplified in the

case of G. G. Smith, general storekeeper at Credit Forks. He has done business in various places in that district, spending also one year in Manitoba. Of late he has been too free in extending credit to his customers, and in his, as in other similar cases, an assignment has resulted. — Last week, Thomas Armitage, grocer, Hamilton, sold his stock and premises to Levi Lavell, and is reported to have gone to Chicago. We should suppose that he would have been much happier in the land of his adoption had he settled with creditors before leaving. — For many years John Leye has been engaged in the dry goods business at Sarnia, but of late his trade has not been good, but when an occasional pinch came he had the assistance of the late M. Fleming. Now that further aid cannot be readily obtained creditors are looking into his affairs, and it is thought that the statement in course of preparation will show a slight deficit. In view of this those interested need not be surprised should they be asked to make a reduction on the amount of their claims.

Two years ago Jackson & Thomson evidently thought that working on a salary as clerks at Orillia was too slow a method of securing wealth for young men of their ability. With the large list of friends which they presumed they could count on, they concluded that more money could be made by opening out in their own name. Now an assignment is made, and they doubtless realize that it is better to be servants than masters undergoing the loss of prestige, to say nothing of money, through failure. — Had D. D. McFarlane been contented with farming near Flesherton, he, too, would have been happier to-day, but storekeeping being considered by many simple-minded people to be more respectable, a general store was opened at Toronto Junction. In February, 1891, he removed to Flesherton, and from there he went, about a year afterward, to Saintfield, and he now assigns. — The indifference of C. H. Brewster in looking after the due date of his bills payable and often neglecting to provide for them, has not helped him in his general store business; neither has his removal from Norwood to Havelock improved his financial condition, consequently an assignment is now recorded.

— At a special meeting of the directors of the British Mortgage Loan Company held in Stratford on Monday last, the Hon. Speaker Ballantyne was chosen to fill the office of president, made vacant by the death of the late James Trow.

— *Herepath's Journal* states that the Canadian Pacific railway has served notice of its withdrawal, on January 1, 1893, from the freight and passenger departments of the Transcontinental Association. The reason given for this action was that it could not afford to remain after the withdrawal of the Great Northern Company, and, further, that the association had shown itself utterly unable to cope with the demoralization born of rate cutting in the east bound and west bound freight and passenger traffic. A committee has been appointed to see if something cannot be done to cure the prevailing evil. The members of this committee are not at all hopeful, however, of reaching a satisfactory conclusion, as a spirit of obstinacy and indifference as to results pervades the entire association. They are firmly convinced that matters could not be worse if no association existed.

— Referring to the effect of the cholera upon business, the *New York Bulletin* says that it is more pronounced on speculation than on business, it being generally recognized that conditions are favorable to the development of a fair fall and winter trade, while the situation is much more complicated in its speculative features. It is quite probable that the effect on speculation may continue to be more pronounced than on the actual volume of trade. The extent of possible interference with the import trade by unusual delays and injury by fumigation, can be more closely approximated than the extent to which exports and shipments of gold may be affected. A feeling that the situation has been largely artificial with regard to speculation, and the result of manipulation, also has a depressing influence, as far as Stock Exchange transactions are concerned, while the business situation is unusually free from speculative features, and on a sound and natural basis that inspires confidence and ensures a healthy development.

— An employee of the Consolidated Road at New Haven, Conn., while ascending the stairs of the Ford Block, fell over the bannisters and crashed through a dead light into the jewelry store of the George H. Ford Company, and landed on an exhibit of fine porcelain, damaging about \$1,000 worth of goods.

BUSINESS MEN.

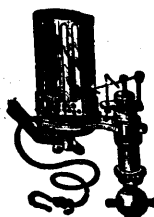
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