



## SAMUEL STERN,

Has just received a large stock of

## BOY'S TOOL CHESTS, FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

I will furnish to the trade the above Tool Chests at prices beyond competition—from 33 cents to \$3.60 per set, all good value. The price and dimensions of each set will be furnished only to the trade, on application.

## SAMUEL STERN,

31 WELLINGTON and  
40 FRONT STS., EAST,

Wholesale Importer,  
TORONTO, ONT.

selves into leagues to check this growing evil, still it is worth their while looking into the subject and acting for themselves. Certain it is that any wholesale house that makes a practice either of wholesale retailing or indiscriminate distribution of trade price lists is no friend of the retail trade they profess to cater for, and ought to be refused their support.

### Business Notes and Comments.

HAMILTON rolling mills are running full blast. The new patent furnaces are not found equal to the old so the latter have been kept on.

MONTREAL is considerably exercised over the working of the present Act regarding the stamping of weights and measures, and are going to try and get it repealed at the next meeting of Parliament.

The Clock works of Messrs Owen & Co., of Winsted, Conn. U.S.A. which employed over sixty hands, was burned out on the 14th November loss \$12,000. The fire was caused by a lamp explosion.

The Mitchell agency of the Merchants' Bank has been withdrawn, and the merchants now have to do their banking either at Stratford or Seaford. They are trying to get a branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in place of the one just left.

MR. CHAS. BELFORD, late editor of the Toronto Mail, has been appointed Secretary to the Board of Appraisers at Ottawa, in the the room and stead of Dr. Young, late of Washington. The change is good one in many respects, and will meet with the approbation of Canadians generally.

ANOTHER instance of the "beauties" of the indiscriminate credit system was to be seen last week, an assignee's sale of the effects of an insolvent merchant in Millbank, Ont., when the book debts, amounting to \$1083, were sold at 5½c on the \$, excepting one separate account of \$736 which was knocked down at 40c!

MR. T. M. BRYSON, one of the appraisers in the Montreal Custom House, died on Saturday last, of heart disease. His loss will be severely felt, not only by his many friends, but by a large number who had business dealings with him, the hardware trade in particular. His knowledge of this branch of business enabled him to act as appraiser of such goods with great exactitude.

It is said that the inspectors of weights and measures have issued orders warning all dealers that on and after January next, no spring scales will be permitted to be used by dealers. This class of scales is very much used by butchers in private stalls, and cannot be correct as springs which register the weight constantly give way with usage and defraud the consumers.

APPLICATION will be made to Parliament to incorporate the Canada Express Company, doing carrying business in the North-west, Manitoba, Keewatin, and North-west Ontario. This is good as far as it goes, but it should be made to extend its benefits all over Ontario and Quebec. The American Company that runs our express business wants competition as much as the Grand Trunk Railway. It is the biggest kind of monopoly.

MR. A. W. MURDOCH, the well-known official Assignee and accountant of this city, has taken up his residence in Winnipeg, and intends carrying on there the business of commission merchant and accountant. Mr. Murdoch has been long and favourably known to the trade here and will no doubt be entrusted with a great deal of business from his many friends in Ontario. We wish him success in his new venture.

THE London and Paris House has undergone another change owing to the collapse of the Consolidated Bank of Montreal. The stock, which amounted to \$48,000, was again brought under the hammer, and was purchased this time by Mr. William Laurie, of Montreal, at 50½ cents on the dollar. It is now being run off in the usual bankrupt stock method. The book debts of the concern brought 41½ cents on the dollar.

IT is a matter of complaint amongst the wholesale trade in Toronto, that importers in small towns are able to pass their goods at a lower valuation through the customs than the trade here. There is no doubt whatever but that this is true in a great many cases, and as it puts the wholesale importer at a very great disadvantage the custom authorities should at once see to it—that the valuations should be equalized at all the ports of entry in the Dominion.

ALL classes of goods have lately shown an upward tendency. Last month we noted the rise of 10 per cent. on all silver cases of the Waltham Watch Co.'s manufacture, this month we have to record another advance in their watch movements. They have notified the trade, that, from the 25th of November, they will advance the price of their

Broadway and Sterling cements to a figure nearly 30 per cent. above late prices. No doubt this move will be followed by other manufacturers of similar goods.

We are sorry to notice that our old acquaintance, Mr. Alfred Rowland, of London, Ont., has been compelled to give up his business owing to the pressure of the times. Mr. Rowland, although he has had a hard struggle to get along for some years past, has always maintained a high reputation and kept the confidence of his creditors. His stock has been bought for sixty-one cents on the dollar by Messrs. McKay & McIntosh, who are now advertising a slaughter sale.

THE Port of Toronto wants a hardware appraiser badly. Until recently the imports of hardware at this port were comparatively small, now, however, that several of the largest Montreal firms are starting branch houses here, to protect their trade, the volume has increased enough to warrant the Government appointing a practical man to appraise the hardware entered at this port. The present appraiser has far too much work to do, and some younger man should be appointed to take hardware off his hands.

OUR article in last month's issue on "accommodation paper," has received rather a forcible illustration since it was written. The *Monetary Times* says—The following parties in Caledonia are understood to have given accommodation paper to the firm of McQuarrie, Thorburn & Munro, recently suspended: Mr. John Howard, shoemaker \$600 and he has transferred his effects to his uncle; Mr. Hannifin, baker, \$1000, has disposed of his property; Donald Kennedy, tailor, \$800; R. Martineau, cooper, \$1600; Jno. McDonald, \$1800. A "forehanded" general dealer, Mr. Shirra, lent the firm \$1048, without security, having no use for the money at the time. One's sympathy with a loss like this last is qualified by surprise that a merchant should be so easy-going with his surplus funds.

THE Grand Trunk Railway is, without doubt, a huge swindle. Although the people of Canada have given them millions of dollars to help them to carry on their road, it is a well known fact that we have to pay more for our local freights than the Americans do for through freights. They charge, from Montreal to Toronto, by express freight (which sometimes does that distance of 333 miles in ten days), the sum of fifty cents per 100 lbs., and they will take goods from Chicago to Portland, nearly four times that distance, equally