

ions of the business men to having their postal matter delivered by the carriers are sound nevertheless, while it is evident to everybody that it is a foolish piece of business to rush the English mails on from Rimouski to Montreal the moment the steamer arrives, only to leave them lying there all day Sunday, instead of being sent forward at once. It is unfair to the commercial men of the west that Montreal have exceptional advantages in this respect. In regard to the letter boxes, the Postmaster-General says the object is to foster, as far as possible, the system of free delivery. He says it has worked well Great Britain, "where there is no box system, or any equivalent to it." The Postmaster-General has fallen into error in assuming that there is no equivalent in Great Britain to the box system, for it is well known that all the banks and commercial people send their clerks or porters to the post-office with locked mail bags, from which the post-office officials take the letters that are to be posted, put in the mail matter that has arrived, lock the bags, and return them to the porters. This is a very substantial equivalent to the letter boxes. If the Postmaster-General is desirous of consulting the convenience of commercial men he will leave the boxes as they are.

SHARP PRACTICE.—On Monday before New Year's a man visited the store of Mr. J. Wanless, No. 172 Yonge Street, and represented himself as "Mr. John Snell," a well-known farmer residing four miles from Brampton. He related that he was en route for Duffin's Creek to visit his daughter, and he intended to make her a New Year's present of a gold watch and chain, a brooch and ear-rings, for the purchase of which he immediately commenced to negotiate. After a tedious inspection, he selected articles valued at \$140, and explained to Mr. Wanless that he had expected to meet a man who owed him a sum of money, but for some reason or other the party had not kept his appointment. However, he would leave a team of horses he had at the door at any place Mr. Wanless would name as a guarantee for the payment of the jewellery, and he would call around next day and settle the bill. This was agreed to, and Mr. Wanless took the team to Best's Hotel, Yonge street. The next morning a man representing himself as J. P. Allan called on Mr. Wanless and claimed the team. He said he kept a livery-stable in Brampton, and that the man who had given the team over to Mr. Wanless had engaged them on Saturday night to drive to Orangeville, and he had not seen him since. He then traced him to Toronto. Strange to say, both the men bear a striking resemblance to each other. Mr. Wanless has not yet delivered the horses over to the claimant, as he is unable to produce any one in this city who can identify him. The purchaser of the jewellery had every appearance of a well-to-do agriculturalist, and he went about his business in such a blunt way that Mr. Wanless was quite deceived in him. The police have the matter in hand.

DISSOLVED.—Boyle & Feron Hardware Montreal, Que.; Gillen & Keith, Hardware, Belleville, Ont.; Zimmerman & Ross, jewellers, Hamilton, Ont.; Shand & Clay, hardware, Halifax N.S.; McDonald & Booth, dominion tin works, Toronto, Ont.; Dufresne Bros., tinware, Montreal, Que.

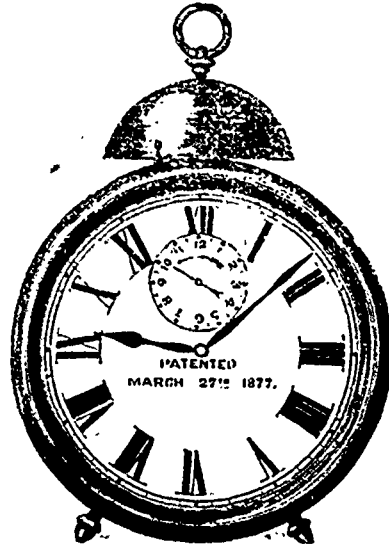
ASSIGNMENTS.—John Horsman, hardware, Guelph, Ont.; Levi Cossitt & Son, impliments, Guelph Ont.; T. Driscoll, hardware, Frederickton, N.B.

ATTACHED.—Hamilton Tool Co, Hamilton Ont.; Thomas Babb, hardware, Mitchell, Ont.; Smith Bros., general store, Vankleek Hill, Ont.; O'Byrne & Co., hardware, Exeter, Ont.; W. K. Atkinson & Co., general store, Ailsa Craig, Ont.; O Jette, hardware and tin, St. Jean Baptiste, Quebec; Chas. W. Rudd, jeweller, London, Ont.; E. O. Lesperance, hardware, Sherbroke, Que.

SOLD OUT.—Wm. Gillies tins and grocery, Preston, Ont. has sold out grocery; R. W. Soper, guns, London, Ont.; J. E. Darby, general store, Parkhill, Ont.

OTHER CHANGES.—Morland, Watson & Co., wholesale hardware, Montreal, Que., dissolved by liquidating; C. Davidson & Co, wholesale saddlery, hardware, Toronto, Ont., style now Foster, Davidson & Co; Thomas M. Banting, general store, Clover Hill, Ont., moved to Cookstown, Ont.; Wm. Hillman, silver plater, St. Johns, N.B., has given a bill of sale; John W. Baine, hardware, Hamilton, Ont., dead.

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