

THE *Star* says that the insolvent estate, stock, ect., of N. Joubert & Co., shoemakers, was purchased by Mr. Rich. Smardon, of Montreal, at 66c. on the dollar. The book accounts were bid in by Mr. J. B. Blanchard at 10 cents.

A writ of seizure before judgment for \$246 was taken lately by Fisher & Sons, of Montreal, against the insolvent concern J. E. Clement & Co., dry goods merchants, of St. Johns, Que. The firm's liabilities amount to \$11,000 and the assets to \$8,000.

THE Ohsawa Cabinet Co., which had a large warehouse in this city, has assigned. It appears that a relative of the proprietors had advanced money and held a lien of \$10,000, on the furniture manufactured and in process of manufacture.

THE Ottawa district is furnishing rather more than its quota of recent failures. In addition to those noted elsewhere this week, we have to record the assignment of S. G. A. Raiche, of Mayo, to a Montreal house.

THE assignment of Peter Patterson & Son, hardware merchants in this city, is announced. The house has been in existence for fully seventy years, being established by the grandfather of the present member. The assignee is busy investigating, and will report fully in the course of three or four days.

IN Winnipeg, J. W. Winnett, a furniture dealer, has assigned in trust.—A crockery firm in the same city, Jno. A. Moore & Co., offers 35 cents on the dollar, which creditors, with one exception, express a willingness to accept. The liabilities are stated at \$37,000.—Parker & Dickson, general store men, at Oak Lake, ask an extension; and H. Marlatt, in the same line, at Oak River, has assigned.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway steamers *Algoma*, *Alberta*, and *Athabaska*, will run between Owen Sound and Port Arthur, until the obstacles to the navigation near Algoma Mills are removed. Each of these steamers can carry 69,000 bushels of grain, and can accommodate hundreds of passengers. The Ontario and Quebec Railway, owned by the C.P.R. Co., will connect with the Toronto, Grey and Bruce. It is said that passengers will be taken from Liverpool to Winnipeg for \$25, and from Quebec to Winnipeg for \$12.

BUSINESS in New York last week, as shown by the clearing houses, was of smaller volume than in the like week of 1883, according to the *Shipping List*. The gross bank clearings showed a decrease of 11.6 per cent. compared with the corresponding period last year. Most of the other cities also show decreased clearings, the exceptions being Pittsburg, with an increase of 13.9 per cent. Milwaukee, 3.6 per cent. Kansas City, 28.5 per cent., Memphis, 6.4 per cent., Columbus, 35.9 per cent., and Peoria, 2.1 per cent. The statement of the New York banks for the past week shows a loss of \$1,018,000 in specie and \$450,500 legal tender notes, with a decrease \$1,628,500 in deposits, and a small increase in loans. The banks lost \$1,061,375 in surplus reserve, but still hold \$18,700,975 in excess of the 25 per cent. legal requirements.

JOHN A. Cameron, a grocer, of Guelph, has assigned. He compromised in July last at 65 cents on the dollar, and his present trouble is doubtless due to his inability to meet this composition. Liabilities at last settlement with creditors were \$6000, and assets \$5000.—A dry goods dealer in Hamilton, J. Naylor, offers creditors 50 per cent. of their claims at six months secured.—Two young men in Ingersoll, Mills & Buchanan, began business in the tin line last September. The sheriff has sold them out.—The grocery store of G. J. Shrapnel, in the same place has been closed by creditors.—A judgment of \$2000 has been recorded against a Napanee grocer, I. Kimmerley, and to satisfy this, the sheriff will dispose of his effects.

THE following minor assignments have taken place during the week.—A. McBride, general store, Brampton.—J. A. Garlick, druggist, Brussels.—C. Tedrow, general store, Leamington.—H. Brown, fish dealer, Shelburne.—C. B. Gamble, woollens, Toronto.

WE learn that the firm of Richmond & Boyden, dry goods dealers in Kingston, was dissolved on the 11th February last, Mr. Boyden retiring. The business is being carried on by James Richmond under the name and style of James Richmond & Co.

SOME thirty or forty of the most prominent men on the continent in the coal trade, were on Monday last, registered at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, anxious to tender for the contract to supply the Grand Trunk Railway with some half a million tons.

THE customs' duty collected at Toronto for February was \$357,861, being a decrease of \$51,155 on February, 1883. At St. John, N.B. the customs' receipts in February amounted to \$52,230, a decrease of \$1,761 compared with the same month last year.

I. ROZAND, one of the many clothiers gracing St. Lawrence Main St., Montreal, is in trouble, and not for the first time. His landlord put in a seizure for rent recently, and a leading creditor has followed suit, but it is said there is hardly enough to pay privileged claims, and creditors representing liabilities to the amount of about \$4,000 will fare but poorly.

A SMALL country trader, of the comparatively new village of Disraeli, Que., has assigned, and owes \$2,700. He shows assets to nominally the same amount.—Alex. Third & Co., doing a small commission business at Huntingdon, Que., have assigned to Jas. Ross, of Montreal. Liabilities are light.—L. Perodeau, of St. Jerome, Que., doing a small business as a tailor, has assigned to Lamarche Prevost & Co., of Montreal.

MILOT & DE COURVAL, general dealers, of St. Clothilde de Horton, Que., met their creditors on the 3rd inst., when they arrange for a compromise at the rate of 75 cents in the dollar secured. The business was started in 1882 by Milot alone without capital of any consequence, and De Courval, who is a farmer, was shortly afterwards induced to join him in the business, risking his little all in the shape of a small farm worth about \$1,000.

WE learn from the Hamilton papers that a final settlement of the affairs of the Canadian Mutual Fire Insurance Company is being arranged. Policy-holders in the hydrant branch, who paid in full the last assessment of 50 per cent. on or before the 15th of September last, on producing receipt of same will receive 20 per cent. rebate with their premium notes, upon application from Monday the 10th until Saturday, 15th of March.

A FEW facts will give a good idea of the state of the cotton industry in England. The average dividend paid by the Oldham, England, cotton companies last year was $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. against 7 per cent in 1882. There were 68 companies engaged in this manufacture, with an aggregate paid up capital of £2,567,297, the present market value of which is £2,704,289. The average loans and mortgages with which the companies are burdened (£2,486,275) are nearly equal to their whole paid up capital. The amount to the credit of 57 of the companies on the 1st January was £53,920 and that to their debit £29,442. Last year six of the companies failed to earn a dividend but only three omitted to declare one. While cotton advances one eighth of a penny per lb. yarn fell three sixteenths of a penny, and shirtings eleven sixteenths curtailing the small margin of profit which the manufacturer previously enjoyed.

J. L. TAILLEFER, long in general business at Montebello, Que., has just assigned to James Ross, of Montreal. He is said to have failed in 1875, and again became hard up last March, when he obtained an extension spread over fifteen months. He owed at that time \$4,000, and showed quite a surplus. A meeting of his creditors was called for the 5th inst.

E. J. FAULKNER, who had been doing a considerable business at Hull for the last eleven years, and who latterly opened up a branch business at St. Albert, a new place on the Canada and Atlantic R. R., has assigned to Messrs. Gault Bros. & Co. of Montreal. Over expansion may be blamed for his troubles. He probably owes a good deal, for he has been in the habit of carrying pretty heavy stocks.

ON the 1st of this month a material reduction in rates to far distant points in the United States was arranged by the Great North-Western Telegraph Company. The tariff to points in Arizona, California, Texas, South Washington Territory, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, &c., has been reduced from \$1.50 to \$1 for 10 words. The maximum charge from Canada to any office on the Western Union Telegraph Company's lines is now \$1.00 for ten words.

ALF. WRIGHT & Co., shoe dealers Lindsay, offer 25 cents on the dollar.—Another shoe dealer, living in Ailas Craig, D. Stevenson by name is in difficulties. He owes his father, the principal creditor, \$2,400 who has asked the sheriff to interfere.—The estate of R. B. Smith has assigned and compromised at 75 cents.—Mrs. C. D. Morden, Picton; Mrs. M. Campbell, London; N. R. & A. Palmer, Ingersoll, all in the millinery line, have failed.

NEW material is being laid down for the rebuilding of the woollen mill of Mr. Van-Egmond at Seaforth, which was burned a few weeks ago. Provided the town will loan him \$5000, the proprietor will make the new factory a two-set mill, 50x84 feet, which is double the extent of the old one, and employ 30 to 50 hands. He will make knitted goods, besides tweeds and other woollens. A draft of the proposed loan by-law was placed before the council last week, which referred it to a solicitor.

JOHN HOWIE, in business some twenty years at St. Johns Que., as a tinsmith and roofer, is in difficulties for the third time. He made some sort of a settlement about ten years ago, and in 1878 was reported as having compromised. He has now assigned.—M. A. Plamondon jr., of Arthabaskaville, Que., whose troubles we have already alluded to, has assigned to Dufresne & Mongenais of Montreal, and is offering fifty cents in the dollar, forty cents secured and ten cents unsecured. Liabilities are \$3,200.

IT is curious to observe the fascination which storekeeping seems to possess for some men. They may fail once, twice, thrice, each time more hopelessly than before, but it does not occur to them that ploughing, or lumbering, or horse trading, or some other line of life may suit them better. But there is method in the folly of some, who, finding that they can still get goods on credit, after repeated failures, keep on trading and keep on compromising. Here is where the importers' folly is shown, in supplying them. Mr. Andrew Neville, is evidently not calculated to succeed as a storekeeper. He formerly did business at Calumet Isle, where he failed in 1869; he afterwards opened a store at Bryson but was no more successful there, failing in 1878. His offer of compromise was not accepted and he was for a time out of business, having this last time been in business only since 1881. For the last few years he has been doing a general business at River Desert, Que., but has now assigned to A. W. Bell of Carleton Place, owing \$4,000, assets \$2,800.