

ANOTHER FAILURE IN TORONTO.

ONE MORE GLIMPSE AT "DARKEST TORONTO" -ANOTHER BLOT HAS BEEN ERASED.

ANOTHER failure has occurred in Toronto, and this journal's prognostication, a few months ago, that there would be no more was wrong. The weak firm then referred to has gone to the wall, owing to an extravagance and carelessness totally inexcusable.

The printer who lives in Toronto in these hard times and thinks he can draw seventy dollars a week out of his business for living expenses, with cigars and clothes charged up as contra, is one of the sublime individuals who should have been born in a family of European aristocrats. He doesn't belong to this nineteenth century of people who desire to spend only what they earn. A man owes it as a duty to the community to consume no more wealth than he produces.

Some years ago the Bingham & Webber firm was founded. A few years led to failure, or in short, they "bust."

Mr. Webber then went into the firm of R. C. Webber & Co. This firm also "bust."

Then came the Webber Printing Co., with Mr. Hill as a partner. This ran along but a short time, until Mr. Hill, foreseeing trouble, got out. Thus in another way this firm was "bust."

Then Mr. Webber amalgamated with Maxwell Johnston & Co., and with a flourish of fancy cards and printed novelties, this firm started out to do the printing of all the business men in Toronto. And now they have "bust."

The creditors got together and considered matters. Mr. J. T. Johnston was assignee, and, it might be mentioned, an ex-

perienced one. Messrs. Campbell, Buntin and Baker were inspectors and no one can deny that these gentleman, especially the first two, know something about inspecting. Mr. Johnston, who seemed to possess everybody's confidence, made an offer of \$10,000 for a \$9,000 plant, and said offer has been accepted. He pays nothing down, but gives a chattel mortgage on stock, plant, book debts, etc., and starts out again in life with a big burden on his back.

When Mr. Webber went into the amalgamation, his liabilities were some \$7,000, while Mr. Johnston's were some \$1,600. The latter's plant was worth about \$7,000, the former's less than \$3,000. So Mr. Webber has lost nothing, but Mr. Johnston a great deal.

The \$10,000 received, or, to be exact, to be received, will pay the legitimate claims of the Webber-Johnston Co., and leave a surplus of \$2,500. All the other claims of all the other firms are thus balanced against a surplus of \$2,500. These claims would aggregate perhaps \$10,000, perhaps \$15,000. They are a great collection.

However, Mr. Buntin gets most of it. He was in some nice way protected by a clause in the partnership articles of the Webber-Johnston Co. which made this company assume his claim against the old Webber firm of some \$6,764.

Thus another piece of history is woven together, a few more old debts wiped off, and nothing remains but sad hearts, bitter experiences and Mr. Johnston and his \$10,000 chattel mortgage.

The curtain drops on "Darkest Toronto" until the next act in the drama.



MARITIME PROVINCE ITEMS.

It is said that the St. John Progress intends putting in machines at an early day.

The Hantsport Advance has changed hands.

C. Spooner is about starting a new paper at Hampton, N.B.

One of the liveliest weekly papers in the Maritime Provinces is the Woodstock (N.B.) Despatch.

The Maritime Grocer issued an exhibition number which was a credit to Editor Stewart and to Halifax.

It is reported that H. I. Stevens is about to start a daily paper in Moncton in opposition to the Times.

Boston jobbers are offering a No. 3 white paper at less than 10¢ at the mill in New England for export to Canada.

The St. John Sun claims to be saving, so it is reported, \$5,000 a year by the introduction of type-setting machines.

The Springdale (N.B.) paper mills are doing a rushing business, and their news print is said to be as good as any in the world.

The St. John Gazette has just put in the fastest press in the Maritime Provinces. The capacity of the machine is 24,000 four page papers an hour, which is equal to that of all the other papers in St. John. Score one for the Gazette.

Middleton has a new weekly the Outlook. One-half is printed by S. Frank Wilson. Fred. E. Cox is the publisher. Although four other newspaper ventures in that village of less

than 1,000 inhabitants have gone to the wall, still there is hope for the Outlook; and, being a bright, newsy sheet, it deserves to succeed.

The new face for the typograph is out, and is a decided improvement. The machines in Nova Scotia ought to be supplied with it.

Following the St. John Sun, which uses the linotype, the managers of the Halifax Herald and Chronicle are contemplating putting in machines.

The Truro Daily News is poorly printed. It is a newsy paper and would look a thousand times better if the typographical appearance was improved.

Arichat, C.B., now boasts of a new paper, the Record, issued by D. H. Campbell and A. E. Morrison. The outside is printed at Hamilton, and, strange to say, is dated Vol. 4, No. 30. The Record is the only paper in the county and has a good field.

The Canso Breeze has changed its patent outside from Hamilton to the Toronto Type Foundry. While the editor was away one day, recently, his whole staff left him—for reasons best known to themselves. The editor reports business dull and money scarce.

Many improvements are being made in St. John, N.B., papers. The Telegraph has put in a photo engraving plant, the Sun, the type casting machines, and the Gazette, a new