

and has since assigned.—The tailoring firm of Mathieu & Frere, St. Hyacinthe, in which concern Arthur Mathieu is the only partner, are seeking a settlement with creditors, and a firm of Montreal accountants have been investigating their affairs. They owe some \$15,000, and now show a deficit of about \$4,000, though they claimed a surplus early in the year. There will likely be some difficulty in arranging a compromise.

TWELVE years ago Wm. Robertson began as a general storekeeper in Dunchurch, Muskoka, back of Parry Sound, but was not prosperous. Four years afterwards he was obliged to compromise with creditors, paying 40 per cent. After this arrangement he appears to have had better success, for in 1889 he claimed a surplus of \$5,000. In April of last year one Cliff was admitted a partner with him, and the firm then claimed a surplus of \$10,000. In the autumn of the same year they purchased the stock of John Crosswell, at Ahmic Harbor and combined it as a branch store under the management of Cliff. But they made severe losses by bad debts and now we hear of their assignment to Henry Barber, with assets of \$9,000 and liabilities \$6,500. It is expected that a compromise will be arranged.—The sheriff has taken possession of the hotel premises of John Gamble & Co., at Port Arthur, who have been something less than six months in business. Their premises were mortgaged on the start and now they have assigned.—Last autumn R. D. Abell, with the assistance of his father, bought the hat and cap stock of M. Bourdon in this city. Already we are told of his assignment to Campbell & May.—A "fake" concern styled National Electric Bell Co., said to be composed of persons from the other side of the lake, is in trouble. Some of the parties were brought before the police court a short time ago and advised to quit the business at once.—In December, 1889, Jos. Ouilette succeeded Omer Roy as a general storekeeper at Wahnapitae, near Sudbury, and for a year or more he was reported as prospering. But this could hardly have been true; at any rate we now hear of his assignment to Roy.

INSURANCE NOTES.

An extraordinary story is that which comes from Bowmanville, and concerns the Dominion Organ and Piano works there. On Thursday morning of last week the residence of the manager, J. B. Mitchell, was entered by some scoundrels who started a fire in the sitting

room and another in the dining room. Mr. Mitchell discovered the fire in time to prevent any great damage. The same parties, apparently, fired the stables and outbuildings, which with their contents were destroyed.

Says the Philadelphia Record: "It is only a question of time when the Iron Hall and all other assessment orders of its kind must tumble into ruin. They can never pay the dupes that stick by them with the money of the dupes who fall out of the procession. The litigations now commenced, if carried to a legitimate ending without compromise, will probably prove the beginning of the end."

By the fire at Ridgeway, Ont., a week ago, A. Long, dry goods dealer, lost some \$12,000, covered for \$10,000 in F. I. A., Lancashire and Queen; Peter Bowden, druggist, loss slight, covered in Lancashire; Bell Organ Co., loss by smoke, slight, covered in Perth Mutual; Jno. N. Kennedy, loss on building \$1,200, covered in Economical Mutual and Perth Mutual.

On Saturday, 20th inst., the Great Western flour and oatmeal mills at Woodstock, Ont., took fire between midnight and 1 a.m., the cause said to be a journal becoming heated. The building was entirely gutted, nothing left but the walls. It was a 500 barrel mill, erected about 1863, but remodelled and improved since and called worth \$60,000. The insurance is \$30,000, divided among the following companies: Imperial, Norwich, Union, Eastern, Hartford, Northern, N. B. & M., Com. Union, London Assurance, Atlas, Quebec, British America, Royal, Citizen, Northern.

The following curious incident is related by the Montreal Gazette of Monday last: "A group of bewildered American tourists were gathered on Place d'Armes square yesterday afternoon trying to discover what the correct Montreal time really was. The clock on the Post Office pointed to 12 minutes to 4, that on the Liverpool & London & Globe to 10 minutes to 2, the seminary clock said 20 minutes to 5, and that on the New York Life said 20 minutes past 5. Finally they gave up guessing and arguing and asked a citizen who had a watch."

It is proposed to utilize the Boston telephone service in sending fire alarms. The telephones will be connected direct with the nearest engine-house.

The Equitable Life has written, during June and July, more than double the amounts of insurance written in the same months of 1891.

The New York Board of Fire Underwriters has passed a resolution protesting against the introduction of the trolley system into the city

of New York, and instructing the Special Committee on Electricity to present such protest to the proper authorities.—Bulletin.

A new departure is made by the New York Life Insurance Company in establishing a Woman's Department for the United States, in charge of Mrs. Juana Achey Neal. Mrs. Neal was formerly with the Mutual Life of New York in a similar capacity, having control of the Pacific Coast, and is said to have made quite a success. She has opened offices in the Temple, Chicago, and at headquarters of the Company in New York.

So many incendiary fires have taken place in Edmonton, Alberta, of late, that the town council of that place has issued a notice offering a reward of \$500 for information that will lead to the conviction of any person or persons setting fire to property.

In the matter of Tillinghurst v. Craig, tried in the United States, the judge expressed the opinion that rebating vitiated the title of the beneficiary to the principal sum insured in the contract. There has been no argument advanced against rebating comparable to this, says *Black and White*, adding: "If this be true (and no one can hardly doubt it), how absurd for any one to consent to hasten a flaw on his title to thousands of dollars in order to save a dollar or so in the payment of his first premium."

An ingenious mode of advertising during the hot weather is that adopted by Mr. J. H. Ewart, chief agent in Toronto of the Eastern Fire Assurance Company. He sends round to some of his customers a thermometer, fastened in the middle of a blue card and surrounded by the address of his company. So that every time one looks at the glass to see how the temperature is he is reminded of the Eastern.

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