

At the annual meeting of the Guarantee Co. of North America, held in Montreal on Wednesday, the retiring directors were re-elected.

JUDSON CASSELMAN, general dealer of Chesherville, Ont., is seeking a settlement at 50c. in the dollar.—J. C. Chamberlain, grocer, Ottawa, has assigned in trust.

MESSRS CHRISTIE, BROWN, AND Co., of this city, announce that the damage to their extensive manufactory by the late fire is but slight, and will not interfere with the shipment of goods.

An establishment for the manufacture of enamelled ware is to be erected in Port Stanley by the McClary Manufacturing Co., of London. The town council has set apart \$5,000 as a bonus.

An offer of twenty-five cents on the dollar was made by A. Friendly & Co. at a meeting held in Mr. Clarkson's office on Wednesday. Another meeting is called for the 15th inst., when creditors will likely make known their intentions.

ACCORDING to the revised figures of the Montreal assessors, the population of that city is now placed at 186,500. The number of new buildings erected there in 1886 was 699, of the value of \$2,131,000, as compared with 429 buildings valued at \$1,728,000 in 1885.

B. LAWRENCE, wholesale optician, Montreal, who began business a few years ago with a great splurge, advertising extensively throughout the Dominion, has suspended payment. Liabilities not yet definitely ascertained, but estimated in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

THE "Templeton and Blanche River Mining Company" is being organized in Montreal with a capital of \$30,000. It will engage in Phosphate mining in the section indicated. The applicants for the charter are Messrs. W. Cassels, H. Beaupré, L. Sutherland, P. S. Ross, H. Graham, H. L. Reddy, D. Anderson, J. Beattie, A. W. Rudolph and A. M. Perkins.

COAL was shipped at the port of Sydney during the year 1886 to the extent of 256,000 tons, as follows:

	Tons.
Intercolonial mines.....	105,000
Old Bridgeport.....	12,000
Reserve.....	92,000
Victoria.....	46,000

There was shipped by the old Sydney mines at North Sydney 122,000 tons, making a total shipment from Sydney harbor during the year 1886 of 378,000 tons.

ONE of the largest brewing concerns in this city, the Cosgrave Brewing and Malting Company, has assigned. The liabilities are heavy, being estimated at \$100,000. Upwards of half of this sum is due to a Toronto bank, and is, together with some \$28,000 owing to private individuals, secured. The unsecured claims amount to \$12,000, which will, it is thought, be settled at 25c. on the dollar. An approximation to the assets places them at \$85,000.

An order has been issued by the United States Superintendent of the Money-Order System of the Postoffice addressed to postmasters throughout that country. It directs that in the future no specified place shall be indicated as to where a postal note shall be made payable. The words "payable at any office in the United States" are to be used. The order will prove a great public convenience, as a person receiving a postal note from an Eastern city, may now collect it at any office in the country. Under the old system money was only paid at the place designated in the note.

IN this city, we note the removal to a larger and more modern building, of the McClary Mfg Co., whose headquarters are in London. The Toronto branch, in charge of Mr. David McKillop, is now located in that handsome brick block, No. 49, on the south-west corner of Front and Bay sts. Here the various flats are found to be stocked with the hundred and one different articles which are the product of the manufactory in the West.

LYONDS' Plate Glass Insurance Company, of New York, last year paid upwards of 2,759 claims for broken windows. This means, in round numbers, the snug sum of \$111,000. The mortality of plate-glass store-fronts must be heavy, exposed as they are to the vagaries of frost, fire, stones, etc., etc. Still the merchant need not run the risk of loss from these causes when there are companies like Lloyds' that will, for a small annual outlay, indemnify him.

Two King street merchants in this city were, Wednesday morning, the victims of a daring burglary. Goods amounting in value to \$1500 were taken from the gents' furnishing store of Mr. J. M. Treble, while the premises overhead, occupied by Messrs. Harris & George, were relieved of costly furs worth some \$2,000. That such an extensive robbery could be successfully carried out on a principal street where private nightwatchmen, the uniformed men of a recently organized protective association and the regular city police are supposed to patrol, is, to say the least, most remarkable.

IN a King st. window is displayed the handsome silver service which was the other day presented to Mr. J. B. Carlile by the president and directors of the North American Life Assurance Company. The souvenir marked the appreciation by the company of Mr. Carlile's services as Inspector, a position which he has just vacated to take the management of a new organization to be known as the Manufacturers' Life and Indemnity Company. The presentation was accompanied by an address in which Mr. Carlile's energy and ability as an insurance man were highly commended.

A few days after the celebrated coal conspiracy case was thrown out by the jury at the criminal assizes, came the assignment of Mr. P. Burns, the well known coal dealer of this city, who was the principal figure in the trial. His indebtedness is large, being variously put at between \$300,000 and \$400,000. A large proportion of his paper bears the signatures of Mr. Arthur Lepper and Mr. Tucker, and is held by a leading bank to cover its claim upon the estate. Mr. Burns attributes his present embarrassment to the injury done his credit by the above case. It is, however, rather doubtful if his financial position has been a strong one for some time past. It is not clear that his capital was equal to the demands of an extensive business, such as he carried on. Mr. Clarkson is at present engaged upon an examination of his affairs, and hopes to shortly submit a statement, when the future of the business will likely be determined on.

H. T. BLACKSTONE, a confessed defaulter to the extent of \$76,000, writes from Winnipeg to the president of the Portland, Me., Canal Bank, where he was employed as paying teller: My speculations commenced in Maine mining stocks. Before that I was an honest man, and even then I had no more idea of robbing a bank than you have. I used my own money at first. I was elated with success and lost my head, risked all I had in cash besides buying options. When options became due I had to have money from somewhere. This was

when I first "borrowed" from the bank. I reasoned that I would soon be able to pay it all back, but that day never came. I haven't been happy a moment since I have been in this miserable business, and if a man don't believe that 'the wages of sin is death,' just let him try it. I feel like calling on the rocks to fall on me. I have been going around the past few days trying to get work, offering to work for my board, offering to wash dishes in a hotel. I might have been a bank cashier."

A FIRM of jewelers in Toronto named T. Wicks & Son came from Cobourg about a year ago, but the change has evidently not made any improvement in their financial position. They have assigned. Their liabilities are believed to be pretty large.—E. R. Talbot, general storekeeper Wingham, has been doing a small business for about five years and has now failed. Last month he had a fire in his premises and lost several thousand dollars, hence his present trouble. He has assigned and a meeting of creditors will be held next week.—At Teeswater T. H. Logan & Co., general storekeepers, are in difficulties. One of the firm is reported to have gone beyond the limits with about \$1,000 cash and notes.—In this city Thos. Houston & Co., wholesale dealers in woollens, are in difficulties. Their liabilities are principally in Britain and the amount is not yet known; however it is believed that an offer of compromise has been made.—W. C. Pugh, stationer in this city, has been pressed by a Montreal house and has placed his affairs in the hands of his lawyer.

MESSRS. H. C. MONTGOMERY & BRO., dry goods dealers in Brantford called a meeting of creditors for Wednesday, the result of which we have not yet learned. They have been in business about two years, with but small means.—Albert Side, jr., a Chatham shoe dealer, is in trouble, and his stock is advertised for sale.—In Hamilton, Scharlach & Co., manufacturers of cigar boxes, have assigned, and held a meeting of creditors.—At Strathroy, Jas. Noble & Sons, dealers in gent's furnishings, are in trouble and have assigned. Their losses were considerable, which with heavy expenses, dragged them down. A compromise may be arranged.—J. R. Bradley, harness maker, Bowmanville, has assigned to E. R. C. Clarkson. He has been four years in business.—Thoburn Bros., Brampton, bakers, etc., after being six months in trade have failed.—At Burlington, P. Zimmerman, hotelkeeper, has been sued, and also fined for violating the Scott Act. He is now reported away.—Geo. H. Smith, a fancy goods dealer in Chatham, after being a year in business, has assigned.—J. Tuer, shingle manufacturer at Gravenhurst, has also assigned.

FOLLOWING close upon the dissolution of the firm of Wyld, Brook & Co., as published in these columns last week, is the announcement of a partnership formed by Messrs. Wyld, Grasett & Darling. The senior of this new house, Mr. Frederick Wyld, has long been well known to the dry goods trade of Canada. His intimate knowledge of the woollens branch is derived from many years of practical experience. Mr. Arthur Grasett joins him, fresh from a successful career with Jno. Macdonald & Co., in whose employ he had occupied the important posts of European buyer and manager of staple department. His numerous visits to old country markets have begotten a taste in the selection of stock that will prove of much value in a similar capacity for the new firm. In Mr. Andrew Darling, his partners have a trained financier and office man, long connected with the wholesale trade in this