Cloth tops for women's shoes seem to be popular now, and as rubbers are laid aside during the pleasant spring days, they show to good advantage; they are warm enough for the season, and, in high cuts, make a very dressy shoe.

Nile green is a fashionable shade for dress material. Black satin slippers go well with the color, but slippers to match the gown is good form. There are emerald buckles on some of these shoes.

A hundred years ago low cut slippers with diamond buckles were the fashion. There is an inclination among society women to return to "jeweled shoes." The emerald, with green, turquoise with blue, ruby with red, and diamond buckles with black or white shoes, impart an attractive appearance to the evening dress.

Orders for tennis goods are numerous, says last week's *Reporter*, and jobbers everywhere have commenced the expected urgent call for delivery. The remarkable demand for winter rubbers of all kinds, which has extended into March, has tended to retard the making of tennis shoes, and all the companies have anticipated difficulty in meeting the requirements of their customers; one-third more tennis shoes have been sold this year than ever before.

TORONTO CLEARING-HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances of this clearing-house (of which the Bank of Toronto is not a member) for the week ended March 29th, 1893, are as under:—

	Clearings.	Balances.
March 24	$ 929,281	$170,188
" 25..........	1,076,108	186,334
" 27..........	674,984	88,847
" 28..........	859,632	65,066
" 29..........	756,153	99,311
Total	$4,296,158	$609,746

HALIFAX CLEARING-HOUSE.

Bank clearings for week ending March 25th, 1893, were as follows, viz.:

Monday	March 20	....	$148,410 90
Tuesday	" 21	....	224,637 30
Wednesday,	" 22	....	123,138 99
Thursday	" 23	....	129,486 16
Friday	" 24	....	114,417 33
Saturday	" 25	....	132,330 73
			$872,421 41

—The St. John Board of Trade has new quarters in the Walker building, on Canterbury street in that city, not far from the Custom House, and they are described as being both comfortable and extremely neat in appearance. There are several rooms, separated by glass partitions, which are movable so as to throw the rooms into one for meetings. By day the premises are naturally bright, and by night they are made so by gas and electric light. The increased library and paper fyles, and the attractiveness of the offices, has already brought in some new names as applicants for membership.

—Having to go to press early on Thursday by reason of the holiday our Halifax corrections of bank share prices could not be made in the Stock and Bond Report. We therefore note below the quotations: Bank of Nova Scotia, 169; Bank of B. N. A., 156; Merchants of Halifax, 140; Union of Halifax, 121; Peoples, 116; Halifax Banking Co., 116; Bank of Yarmouth, 122½; Exchange of Yarmouth, 103; Commercial Bank of Windsor, 108.

—The Dominion Bank declares a dividend of five per cent., and a bonus of one per cent. for the current half year. The annual general meeting of the bank will be held on the last day of May next.

Correspondence.

CONSCIENCE IN COMPROMISES.

Editor MONETARY TIMES:

SIR,—No doubt many have read with pleasure your article on page 1127 of last issue, on a "Hopeful Case," and I am glad to see there is some conscience left in the commercial community. I sympathize heartily with the party who has the "will" but not the "way" to pay up his indebtedness; but how about those others who have not the will? Many instances will occur to the readers of this, of men who could pay up, and start a process of liquidation that would help on the millennium, but alas! they have not the "will," and the world is all the worse of such men. They do not realize that $750 or $1,500 in cash or endorsed notes, is not a fair equivalent for an indebtedness of $3,000, whether accepted at the time willingly, or per force of preference, bills of sale or chattel mortgages.

I have in my mind now a meeting of creditors which took place long long, ago, where the insolvent with tears in his eyes promised, if he was ever able, to pay up every cent. But this party was quite able to pay up years since, and yet, his tears and promises alike have been forgotten. No doubt many will think of such cases in their own experience. On the other hand, I know an insolvent who, with no tears in his eyes, paid up every cent, although he had made no promises, and another still who has been paying up gradually, making cases of necessity a first claim—and in this way establishing a claim to honesty which some think is their birthright, their actions to the contrary notwithstanding.

I like your remarks under the heading "Credits and Compromises." There is no doubt of it that cheap credit is a curse to Canada, giving goods to incompetents, to others who run a reckless game of competition, and to those who take this way of buying goods legally at five or ten cents on the dollar, while the competent, careful and honest storekeeper is left to suffer.

Please keep up a running fire on these two points until we breathe a purer commercial atmosphere, in which the insolvent who is able