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It is no wonder that rubbers which are not the same shape as the boot should be uncomfortable. It costs money to employ skilled pattern makers, but the result is a satisfactory fit. Each year new patterns are added, to fit all the latest shoe shapes, and GRANBY RUBBERS are always "up-to-date." They are honestly made of pure rubber—thin, light, elastic, durable, extra thick at ball and heel.

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They Fit the Boot.

## Mercantile Summary.

A DEMAND of assignment has been made upon John Price & Son, one of the leading Montreal firms dealing in hides. The liabilities are not yet known.

THE output of the Saginaw river saw mills, in Michigan, in the year just closed, says a dispatch of last week from Bay City, Michigan, was 316,797,000 feet, the smallest production for thirty years. It is twenty-six per cent. less than that of 1895, whose output was 433,688,000 feet, and 44 per cent. less than the 481 million feet of 1894.

MRS. W. S. WALKER, who for some years past has carried on the once successful jewelry business established long since by her late husband in Montreal, has been obliged to assign, owing to the bad management of those in charge. Much sympathy is expressed for Mrs. Walker, and a settlement of some kind will likely be extended her.

THE report to the Department at Ottawa of Mr. Sontum, commercial agent of Canada at Christiania, Norway, states that a coal made from peat has been invented in that country, and is proving a most valuable fuel. Canadian wood pulp manufacturers will learn with interest, also, that a Norwegian has invented a machine for washing off the bark instead of planing it, thereby effecting a great economy.

THE estate of Porter, Teskey & Co., wholesale fancy goods, Montreal, lately failed, is to be wound up by the inspectors. The ordinary liabilities are listed at \$60,560, privileged \$1,548. The assets consist of stock, estimated at \$41,800, fixtures \$1,900, accounts \$8,628, thus showing a considerable deficiency, likely to be increased on realization of the assets, though it is not long since they claimed a surplus of \$30,000 or more.

THE New Brunswick quota of failures for the week is as follows: T. F. Foley, a small stationer at St. John, offers creditors 25 cents on the dollar.—Mrs. M. Manson, doing one of the oldest millinery businesses in the same city, has stopped payment, and is said to owe \$10,000.—At Fredericton, J. C. Miller, a grocer, who succeeded his father-in-law in 1895, is seeking a compromise; and Eli Perkins, also a grocer, of the same town, has failed, with liabilities of about \$2,000.

DEMAND of assignment has been made upon Alex. Stewart, jeweller, Richmond, Que., by a Montreal silver-plate company.—P. Bourassa, of Yamachiche, Que., dealing in furniture, implements, etc., was burned out last month, without insurance; he is now seeking a compromise.—C. A. Mercier, general dealer, Montmagny, Que., is reported as compromising; he did similarly in 1892.—Mignault & Frere, in the milling business at St. Charles on the Richelieu, have become involved through over extension, and offer 20 cents on liabilities of about \$10,000.

IN its issue of 26th December, the London *Timber Trades Journal* says: "We hear that already several sales have been made in pine since our last report at a very material advance on the autumn prices, and in view of the demand and firm market that now rules, some shippers are rather shy of entering into any more engagements till the turn of the year. Stocks on this side are safe, buyers plentiful, and it is stated that several important lines have been placed on the Continent, which is rather unusual at the close of the year. The disposition of holders of spot goods is not to press sales in the expectation of better prices later on. . . . The stocks of pine and spruce in the London docks indicate a healthy spring business."

WM. PENNY, doing business as a grocer, baker and confectioner at Mattawa, has assigned, with liabilities of \$3,500.—O. Bush, a cheesemaker, of Kemptville, Ont., has also assigned, owing \$20,000 and having slender assets.

IT was generally understood in business circles that the wholesale dry goods firm of McMaster & Co., of this city, had a large surplus, but in noting the firm's difficulties last week we were not prepared to hear that it had been found necessary to write off for bad debts during the past four years the large sum of nearly \$200,000, thus reducing the nominal surplus to \$130,000. Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson has charge of the liquidation proceedings. As soon as the books are balanced and stocktaking now in progress is completed, a meeting of creditors will be called. A preliminary statement issued by the firm shows stock in trade, \$200,000; receivables, \$70,000; equity in warehouse, \$62,500; sundries, \$12,500. Against these items are direct liabilities of \$215,000. This does not include possible loss on paper under discount. It is feared that if an effort were made to realize immediately on some of the assets the nominal surplus would disappear at once.

WHILE the Gendron bicycles are well known in Canada—the company claims to have sold more of them in Toronto last year than any three or four other bicycle concerns—it is possible that the extent of the other departments of their manufacture, children's vehicles, dolls' carriages, reed furniture and bamboo novelties, is not as well known as it might be. The company started on Monday last to make carriages and carts for the spring trade, and a visit to the factory showed men, girls and machinery producing tricycles, carts, carriages, chairs, of reed-work, wood work, leather, plush and what not. Many are the processes employed: sawing, lathe work, steaming, bending, fitting, polishing. Sharp eyes and deft fingers are needed, besides good taste in design, to produce the variety of ingenious work their catalogues represent. Two thousand different forms and patterns are required, we are told, in their business, and the quantity of maple, elm and basswood they get through in a year would need a large figure to express.

AN assignment was made in August, 1895, by F. J. Wesley, manufacturer of wooden ware at Toronto Junction. He owed about \$17,000, and unsecured creditors received a very small dividend. A year afterward he opened a fancy goods store in Peterboro under the style of Wesley & Co., his wife being the sole owner. Now she assigns with nominal assets of \$3,000 and liabilities of an equal amount. A meeting of creditors will be held in Toronto on Friday next.—Mrs. George Sinclair, general storekeeper, Elora, was at one time in good circumstances, but became financially crippled by paying endorsements for a friend. Since then it has been an up-hill struggle with her and now she makes an assignment.—In 1893 Arch. McKellar failed at Glencoe as a general storekeeper. The stock was sold and the book debts were purchased by him. In May, 1895, he opened a store at the same place under the style of K. & E. McKellar, his children under age. Having no better success he again assigns.

J. H. McCLUNG did business many years ago in Bowmanville, and retired with about \$30,000 capital. Since then he has made a number of changes, and we fear with unsatisfactory results. In June, 1894, his last move from Toronto was to St. Catharines, where, with his son John, he purchased the clothing stock of J. A. Griffis at 60 per cent. and Viger's stock at 50 per cent. discount. They carried a stock of