



UNITED STATES.

ADOLPH ENGGASS, one of Detroit's best known jewelers, recently filed a petition in bankruptcy and was adjudged a bankrupt. The liabilities as given are \$10,775; assets only \$260, and claimed to be exempt. Enggass has been in business here for 15 years, and did a prosperous business when located at the lower end of Woodward Ave. About two years ago, however, he moved his stock into the store opposite J. L. Hudson on Gratiot Ave., and the location proved to be too obscure. Business fell off and Mr. Enggass says he recently reached the end of his rope.

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 9.—The announcement to the effect that the Elgin National Watch Co. will put into effect on Jan. 1, 1900, a readjustment of the wages of the employees, so that the general average of pay shall be restored to the figures that ruled in 1892, has called out a report to the effect that the American Waltham Watch Co would also at an early date take similar action. One of the officials of the company, in reply to queries by a reporter, said: "The American Waltham Watch Co. began to raise wages in January, 1897, and the Elgin Co. has merely followed its example. No further changes are contemplated at Waltham. The Waltham pay roll is already substantially on the 1892 level. Our total pay roll, including all salaries, for the month of November, 1892, was \$142,061, being an average of \$50.12 per month, or \$2 per day for 2,954 employees. For the same month in 1899 the total pay roll was \$122,182, being a monthly average of \$49.71, or \$1.99 per day for 2,458 employees. Our force of employees has been somewhat reduced since 1892, as will be seen, chiefly through the introduction of new machinery, but we produced, none the less, last month, an average of over 2,100 watches daily, and expect to raise the average this month to about 2,300."

DEATH OF FRANK M. AVERY.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 16.—Frank M. Avery, vice-president of the Chicago Brass Company, died on Wednesday at the Lancaster hotel. Dr. Noel, representing Coroner Berz, finds gastritis as the cause of the death. Mr. Avery called at the hotel Tuesday, and when assigned to a room gave the name of Charles Williams, but refused to register. He spent the afternoon in writing and about 8 o'clock called the bellboy and gave him two letters to mail, one of which was directed to a woman. The other, the boy thinks, was addressed to Mr. Avery's father. Early next morning the chambermaid reported that Mr. Avery was unconscious. At that time his identity was not known. Shortly after this Dr. Frank Billings and a Dr. Miller, sent, it is said, from the Avery residence, 2123 Prairie Ave., arrived at the hotel. They remained with Mr. Avery until 12 o'clock, when he died. Both physicians immediately

signed a death certificate attributing death to acute gastritis. Frank M. Avery was the son of T. M. Avery, former president of the Elgin National Watch Company, and was a member of the Calumet, Chicago, Washington Park, Illinois, and Chicago Athletic clubs. He was thirty-six years of age and leaves a widow and one child.

NEW YORK STANDARD WATCH COMPANY SOLD.—A despatch to a Newark paper from Jersey City, stated that the stock in the New York Standard Watch Company, held by President Roberts and Howard Slater, has been bought by a person who is said to be the agent of the Drexel-Morgan Company. Who the real purchasers are was not known, but it was generally believed that some sort of a consolidation of interests is going on, and that one management now controls the works in the Lafayette section of Jersey City, where the movements are made, and also the watch case factory near Philadelphia. It is said that the purchasers paid \$752,000 for the plant, or \$147 per share. About a decade ago shares could be bought for \$37. It was said that the watch case plant will be transferred to Jersey City, and that the capacity of the plant will be doubled. President Wm. C. Roberts, of the New York Standard Watch Company, was seen in reference to the above despatch, and practically confirmed it except as to details. "You may say," he said, "that the same financial interests which now control the Keystone Watch Case Company and T. Zurburg Company will hereafter control the New York Standard Watch Company. The latter's factory will remain at Jersey City and there will be no change in the name. In fact," concluded Mr. Roberts, "the only change is that I will no longer be connected with the company."

SEIZED DIAMONDS AT AUCTION.—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 15th.—Twenty thousand dollars' worth of diamonds will shortly be sold at auction by the United States authorities here in the Federal building. The date of the sale will be announced later, and it is expected that diamond dealers from all over the country will be present. These stones, 581 in number, were seized by the authorities from Louis Bush, who was arrested here some time ago by special customs officer Chas. E. Lewis, who followed Bush across the border from Canada and landed him in jail. Bush was afterwards released on \$5,000 bail furnished by William P. Holliday. To make the sale of the gems possible, Judge Swan entered an order forfeiting them to the Government, as no claim or answer had been filed within the time given to Bush. It is thought that he is at present in New York. The stones are in eleven packages, and it is the intention to sell them by the package instead of singly. However, if diamond dealers do not come in as large numbers as expected, Detroiters may have a chance to buy a few.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.—Bristol, Conn., Dec. 14th.—The case manufacturing building of the E. N. Welch Mfg. Co., clock manufacturers, Forestville, known as the J. C. Brown shop, was totally destroyed by fire to-night, causing a loss of \$60,000; insurance, between \$45,000 and \$50,000. The building destroyed was of wood and brick, 225 feet long, 48 feet wide and four stories high. It was in the rear of a group of four other buildings, all of which were damaged, but the