

A HANDSOME CARD.—Messrs P. W. Ellis & Co. have just sent out to the trade a very handsome lithographed card, issued by the "Dueber Watch Case Mfg. Co.," which is unique in its way. The lithographic color work is splendidly executed, especially the two female ladies in the foreground. If we might be allowed to criticize, we could say that the young lady in gray has rather a far away look in her eyes and seems to be taking more stock in the handsome young salesman than the case she is attempting to sell to her companion.

THE URWITZ CASE.—Up to the time of going to press there are no new developments in this case worth mentioning. Messrs P. W. Ellis and Max Saunders have been appointed trustees to the estate, and they have determined to leave no stone unturned in bringing Urwitz to justice. The creditors have very properly refused all offers of a compromise and insist on two cents on the dollar or nothing. They have employed first-class Canadian and American detectives on the job and some interesting developments may be expected ere long.

A SINGULAR ACCIDENT.—An engraver named Frank Biddis, employed by the American Watch Case Company, of Toronto, met with a very singular and painful accident on the 22nd of last month. It appears that Biddis is a very skillful base-ball pitcher, and while practicing at noon hour on the day named, and delivering the ball, the bone of the arm was broken in two places above the elbow, by the force of the effort. He was taken to the hospital where the breaks were attended to, but the doctors say that it will be about two months before he can resume work.

ASSAULT.—One of the outcomes of the Chas. Stern failure has been the assault by Mr. Stern and two of his employees upon Mr. W. F. McLean, the proprietor of the Toronto *World*. The *World* in noticing this failure, took occasion to pass some very severe strictures upon a certain class of traders and plainly accused Stern of dishonesty in the matter. This, Stern and his employees resented by publicly assaulting Mr. McLean on King Street. That gentleman has sworn out warrants for their arrest for this assault, and the matter will probably be ventilated in the Police Court.

A BOSS CASE.—The definition of a "Boss" case is somewhat similar to the definition of a Mascot. A Mascot is a—Mascot, and a Boss case is a—Boss case, and that's all there is about it. When a filled case, on account of real merit, gets a reputation such as the "Boss" enjoys at present, it is the best possible evidence that there are enough level-headed jewelers left in the world to know a good thing when they see it and to buy it in preference to cheap, snide goods, which in the long run are bound to bring disgrace upon the seller and annoyance to the wearer. Honesty is not only the best policeman, but it is the best ingredient we know of in building up a business.

IN DIFFICULTIES.—Mr. Charles Stern, of Toronto, wholesale dealer in jewelry and fancy goods is in financial difficulties. It is said by those who ought to know, that his assets and liabilities are about equal. If so he may get a compromise of some kind and go on again. Mr. Stern is a hard worker, but of late his business seems to have been eating its head off. This is one side. On the other hand it is said that the whole thing is a swindle of the most glaring kind and that Stern should be put through as far as the law will allow. At this time of writing it is impossible to state which statement is correct and nothing can be definitely said about it until an official statement is published. Mr. John Donaldson, of this city, has been appointed assignee, and is busy preparing a statement of Mr. Stern's affairs. We shall have more to say about this case when the complete statement of the business is made public.

LOOK OUT.—It is quite evident that there are at least two or three gangs of burglars from the States operating in Canada at the present time. We would, therefore, caution our readers, especially those in outlying places without adequate police protection, to look out for a visit from these gentry, and to take every precaution that they can to prevent them getting hold of their valuables. If there are any who have not joined the Jewelers' Security Alliance they should do so at once by addressing either John Segsworth, the President, or James R. Ric, the Secretary. Although the Alliance does not guarantee to keep out burglars, if you do get burglarized it bears the entire expense of a first-class detective to ferret out the case and recover the goods if at all possible. If you have not a first-class safe, drop a line to J. & J. Taylor & Co., of this city, for particulars of their new cheap burglar-proof safe,

and buy one if you can afford it. In any case you will do well to carry out the suggestions we made regarding protection against burglars in our last issue.

LOOK OUT FOR HIM.—A well dressed young man who gave out that he was from Illinois and was studying medicine in Toronto visited the store of Mr. William Ashall, jeweler, Yonge Street, on 5th October and asked to see some watches. He selected a \$30 gold watch and offered in payment a cheque for \$100 signed by Sherman A. Thomson, jr., on the Aurora National Bank of Illinois, payable to John W. Taylor, or bearer. The young man represented that he was Taylor, and received the watch and \$10 cash in change. Mr. Ashall banked the cheque, and on Monday last was notified that Sherman A. Thomson was not known to the bank. Taylor was traced to a boarding house on Gerrard street east, where he arrived about the beginning of the month, but left again on the 6th. He gave out there that he came from Hartford, Conn. The case has been put into the hands of the detectives, but so far without result. The trade will do well to look out for strangers who want to pay for goods with checks. Since writing the above, we learn that J. W. Taylor has been captured at Goderich, Ont., with the watch in his possession. He has been brought back to Toronto, and will no doubt be committed to stand his trial at the next Assizes.

A LEVEL-HEADED JEWELLER.—While visiting H. Benham & Co's store the other day we had an opportunity of examining the Stern System of Electric Protection from burglars now being operated there. The walls and ceiling of their capacious vault were being lined with large sheets of millboard covered all over by narrow strips of tin foil with a fine wire running through the centre of each strip. A substantial wooden flooring had been put in as also a handsome chestnut door frame and door, both of which were intersected by wires apparently in the greatest confusion—all these wires being so arranged that in the event of a break occurring, or their being tampered with in any way, an alarm is immediately sounded in the central office, whence armed messengers are immediately sent to investigate the premises. Every point in the store where a self respecting burglar would attempt to gain an entrance was also efficiently guarded by wire—in fact, should it ever happen that we have to take to the burglary line, we shall make it our especial care to steer clear of H. B. & Co's store and pray Heaven to protect us from Stern's Electric Protection. Mr. Stern, the inventor, informs us that his company has adopted Pinkerton's famous motto "We never sleep."

AMONGST THE WATCH COMPANIES.—We clip the following from our newsy contemporary the New York *Jeweler's Weekly* regarding the doings of the large watch companies:

THE AMERICAN WALTHAM WATCH COMPANY have just received official advices by cable that they have received the highest award, a gold medal, at the exhibition at Liverpool for superiority in quality and elegance of finish of pocket timekeepers.

THE ELGIN NATIONAL WATCH COMPANY, on the 11th inst., issued notice to the trade of the discontinuance of the well-known H. H. Taylor grade in key-winder. The price of the movement has been greatly reduced to facilitate the closing out of stock on hand.

THE ILLINOIS WATCH COMPANY have added a new 18-size full plate movement to their list, to be known as the No. 60. It has four pairs jewels, in settings, and patent regulator, and being an exceedingly well-finished movement for a moderate price, is sure to meet with a large sale.

THE HAMPTON WATCH COMPANY has just about finished their new factory and expect to employ about 1200 hands in all, when they get in full running order. The new addition they expect will more than double their capacity. They also intend to manufacture Ladies' Size movements in the "sweet pretty soon."

A BIG FAILURE.—The trade in Toronto were considerably startled to learn of the assignment of Messrs. Rothschild & Co., wholesale jewelers of this city and the disappearance of the members of the firm. The firm consisted of M. Hervey and L. Bush, and from what we can gather it appears that they made an assignment to Sheriff Jarvis on the 23rd October and left the city the same evening. Very little is known of the actual state of their affairs, but report has it that English and German houses will suffer severely by their failure. It is said that they have been buying heavily this season and that the bulk of these new goods are "hypothecated," with brokers in this city whose percentages are enough to bankrupt any honest dealer. Very few in the wholesale trade will be sorry to see this firm broken up, as they were