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Mercantile Summary

A CUT-OFF line has been surveyed and will shortly be built to relieve the pressure on the G.T.R. Y at Hamilton. The line will be used for through freights between Toronto and the west.

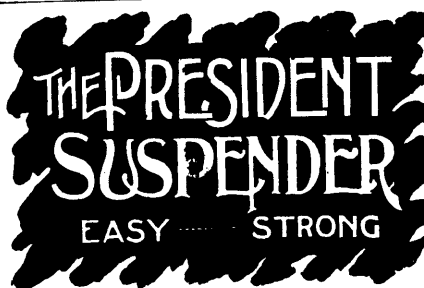
FIVE new, first-class coaches have been recently added to the G.T.R. equipment. They are handsome carriages of the wide vestibule order, 68 feet long, and have seating capacity for 72 passengers.

AMONG the acknowledgments received of the reception in Australia of our special edition of October, devoted to that continent, is one from Messrs. Norman & Co., of Adelaide, dealers in vehicles and machinery. It takes the form of a Christmas card, with a photograph of a scene on the River Murray, which is navigable for 2,000 miles.

RAILWAY freights advance from 25 to 50 per cent. this month, and if the advanced rates are maintained throughout the year, it is estimated that between three and a half and four million dollars will be transferred from the pockets of the merchants to the coffers of the G.T.R. and C.P.R. The railways give as excuse for the advance the high cost of iron and steel and other materials used in the construction of rolling stock.

THE Queen Insurance Co. appropriately issues a calendar with an excellent picture of Queen Victoria. We acknowledge, also, the receipt of the London Assurance Corporation's calendar. That of the Sun Fire office is of very resplendent colors. The Liverpool and London and Globe has a globe for a device on its calendar. Very welcome to the average business man are the portfolios sent out by the Standard Life Assurance Co. We have received the New Year's card of Mr. T. C. Wallace, who represents the Victoria-Montreal Fire Insurance Co. in Toronto.

J. B. WILLIAMSON, for many years engaged in the jewelry business, at Montreal, as a jobber and retailer, has made an abandonment of his estate, as the result of two demands upon him, and Mr. C. H. A. Grant, of the Montreal Watch Case Co., has been appointed provisional guardian. An English diamond firm are creditors for some \$15,000, and the liabilities are expected to be pretty heavy. Mr. Williamson's affairs have been the subject of much discussion in the trade for some time past, and it is reported that the estate has been considerably impaired by the heavy rates paid note shavers in recent financing operations.



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Manufacturers of Refined Sugars of the well-known Brand

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Special Brand, the finest that can be made.

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Very Superior Quality.

CREAM SUGARS
(Not Dried).

YELLOW SUGAR
Of all Grades and Standards.

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Of all Grades in Barrels and Half Barrels

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