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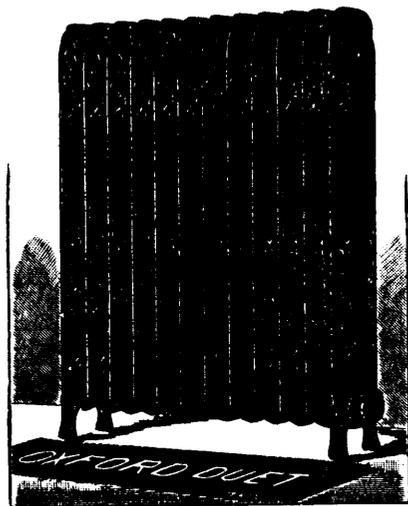
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Mercantile Summary.

A CARLOAD of turkeys has been shipped over the Lake Erie & Detroit River railway to Boston, from Essex county, Ont.

THERE is a story that Folger Brothers of Kingston have bought the steamer "Shrewsbury," to ply in opposition to the Richelien & Ontario Navigation Co., between Clayton and Montreal.

THE Hamilton Acetylene Gas Co. has been formed and incorporated; capital, \$45,000. Dr. Geo. S. Bingham, Mrs. Adele Sequin, F. A. Carpenter, W. R. Moore, and S. D. Biggar are the parties.

ALL the classes in Montreal controlled by the Quebec Council of Arts and Manufactures closed on Christmas Eve, to reopen 10th January. The attendance has been larger this year than last.

A CHANGE has taken place in the old-established dry goods house of Wm. McLimont & Co., Quebec. Mr. Henry J. McLimont retires, and the business is continued under the old style by Messrs. John C. and Wm. McLimont.

THE Perth Woolen Company, Limited, has been incorporated: capital, \$25,000; parties, George Douglas Ross, of Montreal; T. A. Code, Hon. John Haggart, Mrs. Millar, and Mrs. Code, of Lanark, to make yarn, cloth and knitted goods, and to deal in the same.

THE building of the six light draught steamers ordered by the C. P. R. to ply in Alaskan waters will be commenced by the Bertram & Polson works early in January. The steamers will be of wood, plated with steel and will have a length over all of 156 feet, with a beam of 30 feet.

MR. E. R. C. CLARKSON, liquidator of the Ontario Express and Transportation Company, has been instructed to pay the preferred claims in full. It was expected that these claims would be paid at the rate of 50 cents on the dollar. The preferred claims are in the neighborhood of \$13,000.

JOHN F. CARMODY and Kate Carmody, of Dunnville, Ont.; Daniel W. Murphy, of Toledo, Ohio; James Hardy and Norman Shaffer, of North Baltimore, O., have received letters patent of incorporation in Ontario as the Producers' Oil, Gas, and Mining Co., of Welland, Limited; \$10,000 capital.

It is reported from Ottawa that E. B. Brown, a prominent retail grocer of that city, has arranged a compromise at 33½ cts. on the dollar. Mr. Brown was unfortunate in being seriously entangled in the failure, four years ago, of Wm. Donahue & Co., wholesale grocers, Montreal, when he had to ask indulgence from creditors, and has apparently not fully recovered his position since then.

COLSON HUBBARD, of Caraquet, N.B., engaged in the general store and fishing trade, has made an assignment to James Young, barrister, of Bathurst. The fisheries have resulted rather poorly during most seasons of late, and Mr. Hubbard was obliged to seek indulgence from creditors both in 1894 and 1896. Of late he has been sued several times.

THE weekly contingent of Montreal failures is as follows: A demand of assignment having been made upon J. C. Murray, ship-liner and lumber dealer, he has assigned to the court, owing \$11,700.—J. E. Fleury, a small trader in the East end suburbs, has assigned, owing \$1,400.—A demand of assignment has been made upon Dame Marie Aime Brehaut, doing business in the dry goods line under the style of O. Chayer & Co. The concern as above

constituted only dates from last summer, but Mr. Chayer had been in business before unsuccessfully.—Paul Desjardins, dry goods, lately insolvent, has arranged a cash compromise of 37½ cents on liabilities of some \$15,000.—Clovis St. Louis, the former representative of some Toronto dry goods houses, who started in business on his own account two years ago, in a pretentious way for his small capital, has got into deep water. A receiver was put in charge in the interests of creditors several weeks ago, and he has now assigned upon the demand of Messrs. Thibaudeau Bros. & Co. His liabilities are placed at about \$22,000.

FROM Truro, N.S., we hear of quite a heavy failure, that of Bligh & Prince, extensive dealers in carriages, agricultural implements, etc. The liabilities in all will reach to some \$75,000 or \$80,000, we are told, of which some \$36,000 is preferred, and the general creditors will fare poorly it is feared. Some Ontario manufacturers are said to be interested deeply.—C. R. McLeod, of Glace Bay, N.S., who removed thither from Prince Edward Island in 1894 to engage in the produce trade, has made an assignment.

THE announcement was made on Monday that Horace C. Burt, third vice-president of the Chicago and Northwestern Company, is chosen president of the Union Pacific Railway Company. The board of directors is to include the following: Winslow S. Pierce, chairman; James Stillman, Marvin Hughitt, Roswell Miller, E. P. Harriman, Louis Fitzgerald, Henry B. Hyde, John W. Doane, Otto H. Kahn, T. J. Coolidge, jr., George J. Gould, Oliver Ames, George Q. Cannon, Jacob H. Schoff. Oliver W. Mink is to be vice-president, in charge of the New York office.

THE American railways are able to show vastly improved traffic in 1897. The gross traffic receipts of 131 roads for November show an average increase of 20 per cent. over those of 1896. For the first eleven months of the year, 124 roads show an increase of \$30,800,000, and most of the gain has been made within the last six months. It is noticeable, too, that the increase on net earnings has been in a higher ratio than on gross. For the first ten months of the year, the net business of 118 roads shows an increase of 11.12 per cent., whilst the gain in the gross earnings was only 5.2 per cent. Better management clearly comes into play here.

WE were able to make, last week, only the brief announcement of the death of Mr. Alexander Ewan, of Montreal, who had been a resident of that city since 1864. Mr. Ewan was an Aberdeenshire man, and possessed the qualities of earnestness and persistency that characterize so many of the natives of that locality. Having been grounded in business in the Granite City, he came to Canada at the age of about 32, and was engaged by the wholesale dry goods firm of William Stephen & Co., of which Mr. George Stephen, now Lord Mountstephen, was then the head. He was for a number of years of the firm of Cantlie, Ewan & Co., manufacturers' agents, and finally established a business on his own account. For the last seven years he has been sole agent of the Merchants' Cotton Company, handling the whole of the products of this mill. The deceased gentleman was an all-round business man, but he found time for something besides business, and out of a warm heart gave both energy and money to philanthropic work. His uprightness and straightforwardness during a long residence made him respected and admired among an unusually large connection.