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Mercantile Summary.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Company is engaging a number of men for the construction of the new docks at Fort William.

LAST Friday's St. John Sun says that L. G. Crosby, who shipped from that port to the British West Indies by the steamer "Duart Castle," some days since, 3,000 barrels of Canadian flour, received from Barbadoes, a cable enquiring if he could send down a full cargo of 8,000 or 10,000 barrels.

STREAM driving on the Miramichi river, of New Brunswick, had not commenced when the St. John Telegraph, of 30th ult. went to press. The rain then falling was expected, however, to swell the streams to driving pitch. "The several operators have stream driving crews in the woods, awaiting a rise of water."

NEWS from Truro, N.S., last Saturday tells of the assignment of J. P. Archibald & Co., dealers in hats, furs and men's furnishings. The firm was interested in a fire cracker business in Boston, which the war forced to go into liquidation. This affected the Truro business, which had been prosperous. The firm makes [preferences amounting to \$38,000, the heaviest being the Merchants Bank of Halifax for \$25,355.

AN unusually large fleet of Newfoundland vessels will engage in the codfishery on the Grand Banks this summer. The belief is general among the owners of the vessels that the war between Spain and the United States will result in driving American fishing vessels off the Banks, from fear of capture by Spaniards, thus throwing a practical monopoly of the fishery into the hands of the Canadians and Newfoundlanders.—Sydney Advocate.

A GENERAL dealer of Church Point, N.B., named A. J. Davidson, is reported an absentee. His real estate is mortgaged, and he apparently sold off as much stock as he could before leaving. He seems to have left quite a fair amount of unsettled debts behind him.—J. H. Parsons, of Fredericton, N.B., fish dealer, etc., has assigned to the sheriff for the general benefit.—W. A. Copp, senr., a trader of Hopewell, in the same Province, has assigned, with small liabilities.

FOR a second time the courts have decided in favor of the company, the much-discussed case of the Water and Power Company and the city. The Court of Appeals has upheld the judgment of the Superior Court, which maintained the sufficiency of the company's tender and rejected the city's claim. The situation is not unlike that which the electric conduit case raised, and in which, in obedience to a presumed popular clamor, the

city went from court to court, only to find that law, as well as common sense, was against it. The time has come for taking a business view of this water case, and for stopping further useless legal proceedings.—Montreal Gazette.

FROM the Rossland Miner of April 21st we learn that Messrs. Julius Price, artist for the Illustrated London News, and Lionel W. Harris, special commissioner for the London Financial News, are in Rossland Camp. Their mission is to take pictures of the interesting features, and to write up our mining and other resources. These gentlemen have visited the celebrated mining districts of South Africa, and are familiar with the mines of West Australia and other parts of the world. We are greatly pleased at this evidence of interest taken by English people in the Kootenay country. It is a compliment to any district to have an artist sent by a paper of the high standing of the Illustrated London News to report upon and sketch it.

ONTARIO letters patent incorporate Ezra H. Thomas and others, broom makers; C. G. Hulet, and others, general merchants, as the E. H. Thomas Co., of Norwich, Limited, to take over the business of H. E. Thomas & Co., to make brooms and woodenware, and deal in fire appliances, etc.; capital \$45,000. The Elliott & Brooke Company, Limited, capital, \$40,000, is incorporated in Ontario to make paper, wood, tin and other boxes, and to take over the business of David Elliott, of Toronto. The parties are David Elliott, John I. Davidson, Harold J. Brooke, of Toronto; John Elliott and Wesley Elliott, of Kendall, in Durham county. The Wentworth Growers Canning and Preserving Co., Limited, capital, \$24,000, is formed to can, preserve and pack fruits, vegetables and meats, composed of four Hamilton, and seven residents of East Flamboro.

SATISFACTORY accounts are given of the first attempt at champagne making in Ontario. An expert at the business was brought out some years ago from the champagne district of France by the proprietors of the Vin Villa vineyards of Pelee Island, in Lake Erie, and we understand that the first lot of what they have named "L'Empereur" champagne has been put upon the market. It is of the vintage of 1894; the wine was made on the island, and ripened at the company's warehouses in Brantford, under the natural fermentation in bottle process. Messrs. J. S. Hamilton & Co. are to be congratulated on this forward step in native wine manufacture. They have been successful in still wine making, as many customers attest, and connoisseurs say that "L'Empereur" champagne is a creditable product, and likely to meet with popular approval.

EDMONTON is giving evidence of growth in activity and business promise. A three-story brick building is being erected for a furniture store by Gariepy & Chessier; the Marks & Dobie Co., limited, have put up a two-story frame structure for a general store; C. Gallagher is erecting a brick shop 26 x 60 feet. An event deserving record is the opening a week or two ago of Macdougall & Secord's handsome three-story brick premises, fifty feet by eighty. The first story is fitted up in modern style for groceries, dry goods, millinery and leather goods; the second flat is for ready-made clothing, and the third floor is altogether wholesale. There are high ceilings, plate glass windows, and cedar panellings internally. The firm does an extensive fur-trading business, having trading posts at all important points between Edmonton and Fort Providence. The town is a busy one, and its growth is remarkable.

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