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## Mercantile Summary.

A SEIZURE of tobacco and cigarettes, smuggled, valued at \$2,000, has been made at Cornwall by Montreal customs officers.

ANOTHER grain elevator, capacity 800,000, is to be built at St. John by the C.P.R. The capacity of the present one is about 300,000 bushels.

JOHN WILDER, of Milltown, N.B., who has carried on a small grocery business there for the past ten years, never making beyond a living, has been obliged to assign.

DR. ALBRECHT LENTZE, the German Consul in Canada, resident in Montreal, has been suddenly recalled by his government, to receive, it is said, a good position in the foreign office. Mr. F. Bopp, vice-consul, will meanwhile act in his stead.

ANOTHER paper mill is promised in Ottawa. Messrs. Bonney and Kennatt, former employees of Eddy, have leased the large iron covered building south of the Ottawa electric street railway power house, which they will turn into a paper mill, employing 30 hands.

ORIGINALLY a country merchant at Wellingtown, and unsuccessful there five years ago, Thomas McKercher, removed to Ottawa and became connected with the Mercantile Syndicate Co., from which he withdrew last fall to open in dry goods on his own account. He is now embarrassed, and reported offering creditors 50 per cent.

A MAN in Essex Centre, Ont., is arranging for the local manufacture of a fertilizer, using ashes, bones, etc. He says he can make a pure bone fertilizer and sell it for \$5 per ton less than is now paid for the New York article used there. He argues, not unwisely, that the activity in tobacco cultivation in Essex county must occasion a great demand for fertilizing material, and he thinks he can save money to the tobacco growers and farmers who are now paying \$28 to \$35 per ton for fertilizers brought in from the States.

IN 1896 the makers of sanitary earthenware, in Canada, dissolved their combination. A good deal of cutting of prices has been going on ever since. Now, we are told, they have again combined and advised contractors, etc., that the three companies concerned, the Canada Stone Chinaware Company, Campbell & Purvis, and the Dominion Sanitary Pottery Company, all of St. Johns, Que., have consolidated under the style of the Pottery Manufacturers' Association, with a selling agent in Montreal. Quotations are withdrawn, and prices will, it is believed, go up.

A DEPUTATION from Manchester, England, which has been interviewing the Montreal commercial authorities with the view of increasing

trade between the two cities, has since visited Ottawa, where their errand is to secure a subsidy from Canada for a line of steamers from Manchester to Montreal. If a certain subsidy be granted, the Furness Line is said to be willing to establish such a line. The gentlemen of the delegation are Sir Bosdin Leech, an ex-mayor, and Alderman J. D. Southeran, deputy chairman of the Manchester Ship Canal Company. These gentlemen also interviewed Toronto Board of Trade authorities.

THERE has been a strike at the cigar factory of Messrs. Davis & Sons, Montreal, and some violence on the part of certain of the strikers resulted in the arrest last week and arraignment before the magistrate of two young men named Elzear Martineau and Phileas Guindon, on the charge of seriously assaulting Mr. Steinberger, foreman of the factory. It appears that while on his way home one February night the foreman was attacked by the accused, who kicked and beat him in an unmerciful manner, dislocating his shoulder and causing serious internal injuries.

THE floods of last week had injurious effects in the Province of Quebec; Sorel, Three Rivers, Sherbrooke and other points suffered. On Saturday last so high was the water in the St. Lawrence below Montreal that the fires were put out in the Hochelaga cotton mill. As a consequence 1,050 mill hands have been some days idle, but not much injury is done the mill. On Monday at four o'clock the depth of water in front of Montreal stood at the unusual height of 39 feet 8 inches. The embankment made some years ago on top of the revetment wall saved the low-lying portions of the city from severe loss in the high water of the past few days.

A LEADING dry goods dealer in Sherbrooke, Que., L. E. Chamberland, has shown signs of distress of late, several suits having been entered against him since the first of the year, and he is now reported to be asking a general extension, spread over a year. He is overstocked, and has goods on hand to the extent of some \$22,000, while he owes about \$17,000. —A young merchant of Amqui, Que., J. L. Langlais, is reported to have arranged a compromise of 25 cents on liabilities of about \$2,000. —C. A. Coderre, a prominent hotel-keeper, of St. Hyacinthe, is reported insolvent, owing some \$16,000. —Maxime Leguerrier, general store, Ste. Therese, Que., has assigned to a Montreal firm of accountants. His business has been a small one of late, and his position regarded as weak. He owes nearly \$2,000.

It is reported that T. & W. Murray, of Pembroke, Ont., for many years one of the leading mercantile firms of the upper Ottawa, are going into liquidation. They have carried on extensive general stores at Pembroke, Mattawa, Des Joachims, Chapleau, North Bay and other points, and have also done considerable lumbering, as well as dealing largely in feed and general shanty supplies. Owing to somewhat speculative tendencies, and the widespread character of their business, they have never been financially easy, and four years ago they had to call their creditors together, and then arranged a compromise of 50 cents, payable in two years, and secured by a leading creditor. They owed at that time about \$230,000 of general liabilities, \$58,000 on mortgage, and \$4,000 privileged. The value put upon the assets was \$240,000, considerably below their face, and the settlement was considered a favorable one for the Murrys, but business since has shown a steady decline, and liquidation has been deemed advisable.

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