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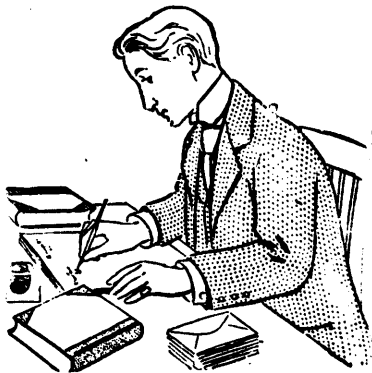
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THE Manchester cotton spinners have decided not to purchase American spot cotton during the month of September, and the majority of the mills will, therefore, be closed for some weeks.

AN American syndicate is said to be endeavoring to gain control of the British salt market. About \$1,250,000 has already been invested in shares in the "salt union," which enjoys a monopoly in the industry.

THE new long-distance Bell telephone line in Manitoba, connecting Winnipeg with Portage La Prairie, Carberry, McGregor, Sidney, Brandon, Franklin, Neepawa and Minnedosa is about complete. Arrangements are also being made to rebuild the company's line to Selkirk, to furnish transmission between Selkirk and points west when connected through.

It is authoritatively stated that within a short time the Knob Hill, Old Ironsides, the Grey Eagle, and the Granby consolidated mines will all be amalgamated into one company, with a capital of over \$15,000,000. Steps also will be taken to build a refinery near Grand Forks, at a cost of \$1,000,000, by which means at least 4 cents per pound would be saved in copper smelting.

THE annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Quebec Bridge Company was held on the 6th inst., and the board of directors were re-elected, as follows: R. Audette, H. J. Beemer, Vesey Boswell, John Breakey, Hon. R. R. Dobell, J. R. Laliberte, Gaspard Lemoine, Hon. J. Art. Paquet, Hon. S. N. Parent, H. M. Price, N. Rioux. At a subsequent meeting of the directors, Hon. S. N. Parent was re-elected president, and R. Audette and Hon. R. R. Dobell, vice-presidents.

ANTHIME LEBRUN, of Sayabec, Que., was a farmer, and in the fall of 1898 started storekeeping in a small way at this place on the Intercolonial Railway, in Rimouski County. The result usual in such cases is reported; his estate is in the hands of an assignee.—W. J. Inglee has done a small grocery business in Aylmer, Que., for nearly twenty years, not making any material progress and being sometimes slow pay. Latterly he added a small hardware stock to his merchandise, but results have been no better, and he has now assigned.

FROM St. John, N.B., we hear of the failure of two small jobbing houses. J. T. Hurley, a manufacturer of shoes, is seeking a compromise arrangement with creditors, offering to pay 25 cents in the dollar, cash. He shows liabilities of about \$25,000, with a deficit of about \$8,000. He failed before in 1893, and then effected a similar arrangement to that proposed above. Creditors who have continued to sell him must have made big profits or they could not afford to repeatedly accept such compromises.—W. F. T. Harrison, grocery jobber, has suspended payment. He is a comparatively young beginner, having succeeded W. F. Harrison & Co. in 1897, and had previously been an employee of that firm.

Debentures.

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