

ELECTRIC radial railway talk is in the air at Chatham.

CHATHAM will take possession of its waterworks on August 1.

THE Canadian canal at the Sault is to be opened on August 15.

THURSDAY, 15th August, will be the civic holiday of the town of Perth.

PORT PERRY's population is 1,558, a decrease of eight from that of last year.

THE investigation into the charges against the Newfoundland Union Bank directors began last Wednesday.

JOHN KAY, a Detroit merchant, who has returned from a European trip, says he found a pamphlet in the Swedish language, at Stockholm, upon the Pingree system of Agriculture in small holdings, and says the Swedes think of adopting the plan to relieve the poor.

A MEETING of the creditors of Oscar Drolet, flour and feed merchant, Stanfold, Que., has been called for the 5th instant. He has been in business some eight or ten years, and was supposed to be in fair shape.—A demand in insolvency has been served upon N. Geroux & Fils, general store, St. Guillaume de Yamaska.

AN effort is being made to form a joint stock company, to be known as the Champlain Tannery Company, with a capital of \$100,000, to operate the large sole leather tannery, at Warwick, Que., the property of the late James Richardson, for many years of the old well-known leather firm of O. L. Richardson & Co. of Montreal and Quebec.

APPROPOS of the removal of the Empire Tobacco Company's works from Montreal to Granby, Que., the manager of the company will likely remove to Granby next November, in view of the voting by the village ratepayers that took place the other day. Contracts are being given out for the erection of the new factory, and Mr. Archibald expects to employ about 250 hands.

At the Montreal Fruit Auction Company rooms on Wednesday there were offered two cars of California fruit, two cars of watermelons, three cars of bananas, and one car of apples. The attendance of buyers was large and the bidding brisk, but prices realized were not as good as usual. Pears sold at \$1.60 to \$2; peaches at 75c. to 82½c.; plums at \$1.30 to \$1.70; water melons at 18½c. to 20c. each; apples at \$1.50 to \$2.35 per barrel, and bananas at 45c. to 72½c. per bunch.

A DISSOLUTION of partnership of the firm of Burt & Thompson, general storekeepers, Bracebridge, took place in January last. The business was continued by Mr. Burt, under the style of Burt & Co. Lately he has been slow in meeting his payments, and some of the creditors being dissatisfied, pressed him, and he now assigns.

IN 1884 A. C. Barnett left Desseronto and opened a store in Athens. Not prospering, he returned to his old place in February, 1890. He was evidently very sanguine, making large purchases of goods. But trade gradually dwindled away, and in February, 1892, he was obliged to compromise with creditors at 50 per cent. This apparently give him a surplus of \$1 200. Since then he has been unable to meet maturing paper, and having been sued now assigns.

THE employees of John Bertram & Co., of Dundas, will hold their annual pic-nic this year in Mohawk Park, Brantford. The mayor and machine men of Brantford are to be specially invited for the occasion, and a base-ball match is on the programme. A string band will be taken along, and the 26th annual outing of the Canada Tool Works will be a gala day indeed. It could not easily find a prettier spot than Mohawk Park.

A SIGN of the decentralizing tendency in France, is the establishment at Lille of a scientific institute, comprising laboratories for physics, chemistry and natural science, at a cost of \$325,000. The money was contributed by the municipal council and the Lille Academie, aided by gifts from private citizens. The town of Lille has guaranteed to it a grant of \$4,000 a year for twenty years, to be used to advance higher education.

FORTIER & Co., a Montreal firm dealing in furniture, carpets, etc., on the instalment plan, are reported embarrassed, owing to poor business and the difficulty in making collections; they have made an assignment. They recently claimed quite a considerable surplus, but largely in accounts.—J. H. Dore & Co., dry goods men in the same city, have assigned. Mr. D. has been in business some thirty years, and was fairly successful up to 1893, when he suspended and compromised at 70c., liabilities being \$15,000.—T. A. Corley, grocer, has arranged a compromise at the rate of 30c. on the dollar, on liabilities of \$1,800.—A. B. Lafremere & Co., jewellers, are reported embarrassed, and stock is being taken.

IN February, 1893, Mitchell & Maclean failed as dry goods dealers, Toronto, and their stock was sold to Mrs. Maclean at 50 per cent. cash, the money being advanced by a wholesale firm here. Windsor being considered a more favorable location, the stock was taken there. Since then she has traded under the style of Maclean & Co. Keen competition, with high expenses, has been the cause of an assignment.—White & Co., liquor dealers, of Windsor, who assigned over a month ago, we now hear have settled with creditors at 75 per cent. and will resume business.—An assignment has also been made by the Durham Pharmacy, Durham.

THE failure of the shoe manufacturing firm of Whitney & Brown, Montreal, in which concern Mr. Arthur S. Whitney has been the only recent partner, is likely to prove a very unfortunate one for the general creditors, and considering the recent establishment of the business, and other circumstances, does not reflect much credit on Mr. Whitney. His mother put some \$10,000, which it was understood would be at the risk of the business, but the schedule of liabilities shows that Mrs. Whitney, senr., is a creditor for \$16,750, while his wife ranks for \$1,703, and his father-in-law \$5,000. The total liabilities are \$41,000 direct, and \$12,000 indirect.

THE town of Perth is moving in the matter of providing waterworks, and negotiations are in progress aiming to have them supplied by a company which shall have the franchise of building the works and laying its pipes in the streets, and which in turn will agree to supply water to citizens at a fixed schedule of prices, and to give the town as many fire hydrants as it may require at \$40 per hydrant. There is a condition that at the end of ten years the town shall have the option of buying out the company at the net cost. The *Expositor* thus debates the proposition, which a public meeting was called last week to consider: "As our Col. legiate Institute debentures will be paid this year, the taxes would be increased but little over the present rate; we would have cheaper insurance, better fire protection, and there would be a large amount expended in a dull time for labor in laying the pipes." While that journal prefers that Perth should own her waterworks, it considers that this scheme is the next best thing, and should be supported. The smallest pipe proposed is six inch and the system offered is a good one.

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