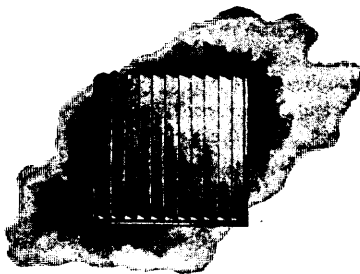


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Mercantile Summary.

JOSEPH FORTIER, manufacturing stationer, Montreal, has been unable to carry through his settlement at 10 cents, and has assigned to the court.

A. P. BEAUDETTE began on small capital in 1894, buying the insolvent stock of Jean Plamondon, hardware dealer. He is now reported failed.

The electors of Listowel are asked to vote on July 27th for a by-law to raise the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of acquiring and constructing a system of waterworks.

J. B. SNIDER, of Waterloo, has made a shipment of three carloads of church furniture to South Africa. The goods were purchased by the Dutch Reform Church, at Woodstock, Cape Colony.

In Magog, Que., two by-laws authorizing the council to borrow \$10,000 for electric lighting, and \$13,000 to consolidate the municipal debt, were ratified last week by the votes of a majority of the ratepayers.

COMPARING the fiscal year 1896-7 with the previous one, there is very little difference in the amount of customs collections at Montreal. In the year ended 30th June last the receipts from duties were \$6,765,771 at that port, and in the preceding twelve months they had been \$6,770,782.

A FREIGHT steamer 470 feet long and 56 feet beam is building in Belfast for the Allans. The same company has purchased three steamers of 6,000 tons each, the "Ludgate Hill," "Tower Hill," and "Richmond Hill," which have been employed in the New York freight trade. They will be continued on their former route.

SOMEBODY has a notion that there is a coal vein near the summer hotel at Penetanguishene, Ont. American visitors have been looking into the matter, with the result that work is going on at a shaft near the town. It is believed the vein runs under the bay, and "they expect to find coal at a depth of 150 feet." Let us hope they may!

For a long time past Clouthier Freres, general merchants at St. Jacques L'Achigan, Que., have been looked upon as a well-established firm in very fair circumstances. Their father had long been in business before them, and when he died in 1883 left a good estate. They have, however, unexpectedly assigned to the court.

PAUL PROZESKY, Montreal, cigar maker, having been sued of late, has fyled consent to assign, and puts his indebtedness at \$3,274. — **Louis Favreau**, a machinist in a small way, has assigned; liabilities, \$1,500. — **J. T. Garipey**, for twenty years past doing a modest carriage-making business at Montreal, has been obliged to assign.

MR. M. J. HANEY, C.E., manager of construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway for the C.P.R., left last week for Montreal and Toronto, thence this week for MacLeod, N.W.T., which place he expects to reach about the 10th inst. Mr. Haney has called for tenders for the construction of the first 100 miles of the road west of Lethbridge.

JOSEPH BERNSTEIN, heretofore a clothier with a good name, and who has done business in London and Kingston, but latterly in Montreal, is reported an absentee, and proceedings in insolvency have been instituted. He has recently been attempting a manufacturing and jobbing business in a small way, and it is thought has thus become involved. Liabilities are put at about \$7,500.

The city of St. Hyacinthe has appropriated \$40,000 for improving their water works, a by-law having been passed for that amount. The Holly system is in use. A new pumping station is to be built above the old one, and just outside the city limits. A high duty pump, with a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons for 24 hours, and a cistern of pressure filters, will be put in. St. Hyacinthe bought the system from the old company about two years ago for \$130,000 cash.

WE note a little group of grocery failures in Montreal: **James O'Shaughnessy** has assigned on demand, and shows liabilities of \$5,040. — **Barsalou & Co.** have been asked to assign. Mr. B. has only been in business here a short time, but failed last fall. — **Cyrille Verdon**, a small suburban dealer, has assigned, owing about \$800. — **E. Bergeron & Frere**, a young firm, are reported to be preparing a statement to lay before their creditors. They owe about \$3,000.

It is understood that Messrs. McKenzie & Mann have secured the contract for building 80 miles of the Rainy River Railway from the end of the Port Arthur, Winnipeg and Duluth line, over which perpetual running powers have been secured. But a Winnipeg paper says that the same contractors have been notified by Premier Greenway not to proceed further with construction work on the Lake Dauphin line extension.

HERE following we note a few recent Nova Scotia failures. **J. A. Hirtle**, who went from Lunenburg to Halifax a few years ago to do business as a building contractor, is reported in trouble, and a meeting of his creditors is called. — **Fred. Johns**, a small trader at Springhill, has assigned. — **R. E. Sweet**, who has had a general store and supply business at the Forrest Hill Mines, Country Harbor, is trying to make an arrangement at 25 cents on the dollar, cash. The liabilities are put at \$9,810, of which about \$1,000 is preferred.

MORAL—Insure your stock for a reasonable amount. **J. M. Sirois**, general merchant at Cacouna, Que., was unfortunate in being burned out last month, loss being estimated at \$6,500, and insurance only \$2,000, on which he had to accept a compromise. He owes \$4,900, and thinks he can pay 40 cents in the dollar out of his insurance and book debts. — **H. Blanchette**, for the past dozen years in general business at Actonvale, Que., but who has recently removed to Val Racine, has assigned, and is said to owe \$5,000. — **Joseph H. Bredon**, who has been in trade at Marbleton, Que., for over twoscore years without previous disaster, has been obliged to assign, and shows assets of about \$2,000 to pay liabilities of \$2,700.

Who shall say that the modern farm economist of Essex County, Ontario, is not fruitful in ideas when he proposes to utilize the highway fences as trellises for grapes? According to the *Detroit Evening News*, an effort is being made by the Detroit, Windsor, Amherstburg and Western Ontario Cycle Path Association to raise funds for a cinder path that will make a circuit of the whole Western corner of the peninsula of Ontario. "In connection with this scheme, a move will be made to interest the farmers in the suggestion made by J. W. Drake a year ago, to raise vines on the wire fences along the road. Mr. Drake figures that every farmer would make a handsome profit, besides improving the appearance of the landscape." The *News* adds, however, that "the farmers seem very conservative, and not inclined to go into a new venture," and the *Amherstburg Echo*, which copies the item, does not hazard an opinion to the contrary.