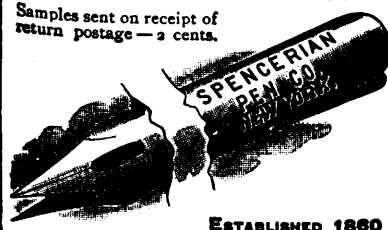


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AGENTS,  
Montreal and Toronto.**Mercantile Summary.**

THE town of Greenwood, B.C., has appointed an engineer, who is instructed to submit a report on the cost of water works and street improvements. Sensible people.

In the fall of 1895 G. E. Lawrence began a general store business at Upper Haynesville, N.B., on small capital. He has not shown good management, and during the course of last year was sued quite frequently. His assignment to the sheriff is now reported.

In the matter of Tasse, Wood & Co., cigar manufacturers, the ordinary liabilities figure at \$40,800, privileged \$2,800, and indirect \$30,000, or thereabout. The Merchants' Bank of Halifax is a creditor for some \$15,000 of an overdraft, believed to be secured, and the balance of the direct liabilities is mainly due to New York leaf tobacco houses. The assets will, it is feared, pan out rather poorly.

WE note the following failures in Montreal city: Solomon Fox, a clothier of some years' standing, has made a voluntary assignment, and is reported to owe about \$4,000. About ten years ago he was in a similar box and then compromised liabilities of \$5,000 at 50 cents. — A compromise, at the rate of 50 cents on the dollar, is being sought by David Ruel, grocer, who owes \$1,500. — M. Henrichon, of St. Henri suburbs, a dealer in coal and wood, has become insolvent, and is said to owe some \$6,000. — A job printing firm, by the name of D. Taylor & Sons, have found it necessary to assign, owing \$4,000. They appear to have been complicated in some way in the failure of W. T. Costigan & Co., commission merchants, last summer.

It is stated by the Fort Steele Prospector that important changes have been made on the line of the Crow's Nest Pass railway. At a point where the line crosses the main range of the Rocky Mountains, two tunnels, one 700 and the other 200 feet in length, have been under construction for some months, and are now in for a distance of nearly 100 feet. It was thought when the tunnels were first started that hard, solid formation would be found, but after running in 100 feet there is no change, the formation being a loose, soft, fragile, argillaceous rock of an uneven, slaty structure called shale, which is constantly falling, rendering the tunnels unsafe for workmen. It has been decided to abandon work on the tunnels and run a loop around that portion of the mountain, which will lengthen the line nearly five miles.

THERE have been several recent failures reported among St. John's Newfoundland, traders. W. H. Davidson, grocer, is reported insolvent. He suffered by the financial crisis of 1895, from the effects of which he never apparently recovered. Liabilities are stated at \$13,000, with apparent assets of \$9,000. — G. R. Brown, dry goods dealer, who compromised liabilities of \$10,900 in the fall of 1896 at 60 cents, has been unable to complete the arrangement, and insolvency proceedings are in order. — James Galway, grocer, who suspended two or three years ago, is trying to arrange liabilities of \$12,120, for 30 per cent. cash. — A. G. Gibbs, who started in the dry goods line several years ago, has had unfavorable times to contend against, and has had to assign.

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