

## MONTREAL NEWS ITEMS.

THE printing business has been fairly satisfactory during the month, and among the larger establishments there is not so much of that cutting as is the case elsewhere. What there is of it is confined to one or two small picayune establishments whose year's work, in any event, does not amount to much.

The printing of the Jewelers' Guide lately done in the Gazette Co.'s job-room is now being performed by the Journal of Commerce.

The first number of the journal for juveniles, Wee Willie Winkie, has been offered to the trade here this month. It is creditable on the whole.

The Quebec Carnival has, of course, caused a lot of special printing, such as programs, etc., of which the Sabiston Company turned out some very nice one-sheet hangers.

The Canada Bank Note Company are moving portions of their plant by degrees into the Street Railway Co.'s building at the corner of St. Lambert Hill and Craig streets.

A French Canadian physician named Leonard, of St. Henri, is suing the Gazette, Witness and Le Monde for \$10,000 each alleged libel in reports printed in these papers in connection with the death of a child for which he had prescribed.

It will be interesting to printers to know that the die cutters in this city have entered into a bitter war of prices. One establishment started the fun a week or so ago, and now another has reduced prices to the actual cost of cutting out a die.

It is whispered here that the P. P. A. of Montreal are thinking of starting a weekly organ of their own in this city. It is alleged that the Witness, which is generally considered ultra Protestant, has refused to go to the length these gentlemen desire.

The Grand Trunk Railway have been asking for tenders on some special printing work that they intend getting out this year. In doing so they propose getting out a magnificent tourists' guide-book; of course, advertising the route, but also describing the scenery along it.

The Sabiston Lithographic and Publishing Company got in during the month a new Campbell lithographing press. In their playing-card department, which we referred to last month, orders have been coming in well. The goods that they are turning out are really first-class specimens of the lithographer's art.

All the talk which we have noted in previous issues in regard to the publication of a new evening daily here has been mere talk, for the project has fizzled out. As a matter of fact the venture is not an encouraging one, for the reason that all the present daily papers here except one or two have all they can do to hold their own.

There may possibly be some reorganization of the French evening press in this city in the near future. A company has been formed with a capital of \$50,000, and it is a question with it whether to acquire the control of any of the existing French evening papers or to start a new one that will advocate conservative principles as the parties to the new company understand them.

Employing printers generally in this city have been paying some attention to the discussion that has been going on in Toronto in the Employing Printers' Association with regard to "bedroom printers." They say that there is no such class in

this city, as there are only one or two small establishments at all that could be classed as such, and they are self-sustaining with their own plants.

The Quebec Daily Telegraph is getting out a special Carnival number, in commemoration of the season of gaiety which is to rule in that city during February. Mr. Frank Carroll, the editor of the paper, was the originator of the Carnival idea, and is working like a beaver for its success. The Carnival number of his paper is part of his program, which, he trusts, will, in addition to contributing to the success of the Carnival, be a source of some pecuniary profit to himself. We have seen an advance copy, and it is really a creditable number, reflecting credit on the Sabiston Lithographic Company, in whose establishment it was turned out.

The report that a lot of the color work and letterpress matter—in fact, practically the whole of the work—for the recent Christmas number of the Star, of this city, had been brought in free of duty, caused a lot of hard feeling among lithographers and printers generally. The Customs people here admit the truth of the report, stating that the matter was allowed in free on instructions from Ottawa to the effect that it was to be treated on the same ground as the Christmas numbers of the Graphic, Figaro, and other foreign publications. A leading lithographer, speaking of the matter to-day, said that this was a nice way to interpret a protection law. If Mr. Graham was to be accorded this privilege, other newspaper proprietors who wished to get out special numbers could get their lithographic and other work done outside the country, and claim—with as much ground as Mr. Graham—that they had a right to free entry. He considered this most unfair treatment to the lithographers and printers of the country, for he was prepared to prove that every bit of the work could be done in the country.

Mr. Geo. Bishop, the late president of the Geo. Bishop Engraving and Printing Co., made a personal assignment during the month. The cause of the trouble is said to be land speculation and accommodation paper, but what the exact amount involved cannot be learned. The occurrence is made more interesting by the fact that although Mr. Bishop has severed his connection with the Bishop Engraving and Printing Co., that concern is involved in some of Mr. Bishop's ventures. What the exact facts of the case are, are not known, but a leading paper merchant who is one of the principal creditors of the Bishop Co. said that if they came out they would be decidedly interesting in more ways than one. Although the company had not assigned, a meeting of creditors was held on the 24th instant to consider the situation. At this meeting nothing definite was done, because it could be learned without investigation to what extent the company was involved in Mr. Bishop's personal outside ventures, and the meeting was adjourned over until a future date to allow of this investigation to be made. The creditors do not feel at all alarmed over the matter as the shareholders are strong people, and the company is doing a good business. What the shareholders themselves think, however, is another matter. They are not saying anything at present, but if they did it would no doubt be interesting. In the meantime matters with regard to the company are in statu quo pending the investigation that is being made.

The lack of harmony which exists in the Sunday Morning News establishment is a fruitful topic of discussion in newspaper circles at present. The shareholders of this paper are divided into two camps, one of which supports Mr. Grouville, the pres-