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Mercantile Summary.

THE city council of Winnipeg has been considering the erection of a garbage crematory.

ON Monday last, thirty men from the Polson Iron Works left Toronto for the Pacific coast to put together the boat which the Polsons have built and despatched (in sections) for the Stikine River.

SOME time before Christmas last year, J. H. Cavanagh left Victoria, B.C., and opened a general store in Slocan City in the Kootenay country. Owing to want of capital he has had to make an assignment. Some years ago he made a failure in Calgary.

LAST week we noted the failure of Belcher & Co., private bankers at Southampton. Since then they have compromised liabilities of \$7,500 at 50 per cent. Their nominal assets are about \$5,000. —The difficulties of J. Braiser, hat and cap dealer, Belleville, have already been noted. Now they, too, compromise liabilities of \$6,000 at 40 per cent.

THE biggest sale of cash wheat that has yet been made by Leiter, of Chicago, took place Saturday, Counselman & Day purchasing an even 2,000,000 bushels. What the price for this enormous lot was could not be learned, Mr. Leiter merely stating that it was made at "market price." This makes a total of 6,000,000 bushels of the Leiter contract grade wheat disposed of.

THE scene at the Union Station, in Toronto, on Tuesday last, was a busy one. At noon a train of fifteen colonist cars was being filled by the Canadian Pacific Railway with settlers bound principally for Manitoba, and obtained in the Georgian Bay District of Ontario. There were also passengers on the train destined for Revelstoke, Kamloops and Nelson, as well as points in the Territories.

A MEETING of the directors of the Montreal Trust and Deposit Company was held on Monday last in that city; Lord Strathcona was re-elected president, and, on motion of Mr. George Hague, Senator L. J. Forget was elected vice-president of the company. The following were elected the executive committee of the directors: Hon. L. J. Forget, Messrs. Edwin Hanson and R. Wilson-Smith.

SINCE the receipt of our Australian letter, which appears in to-day's issue, we have seen the statement of Mr. Hastings, of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, that his company made a shipment of Manitoba flour from Vancouver to Sydney on March 10th and another is to go on April 7th. The mills are running night and day, he says, and he claims that the Keewatin mill is the largest in Canada, and equal to any American mill, in Minneapolis or elsewhere, in equipment.

TEN new locomotives, the largest the road has ever had, have just been furnished to the Grand Trunk Railway by the Baldwin works. They are capable of handling fifty loaded cars, and are to be put on the Western line service. Other ten engines of the same nature are in course of construction at the Schenectady works. In addition the Grand Trunk are just starting to build no less than three hundred coal cars at the company's Canadian shops.

THE town of Clinton has, by a vote of the ratepayers numbering 457 yeas and 10 nays, out of a total vote in the town of 500, decided to grant a municipal loan of \$25,000 for twenty years to Doherty & Co., the organ builders of that place, who were burned out some weeks ago. Mr. Doherty assured the mayor and those citizens who visited his office after the result was made known that the rebuilding of the works would be gone on with at once.

A REGRETTABLE affair took place at Morrisburg, on Saturday night last. A light being discovered in the hardware store of Bradfield Brothers, Mr. Harry Bradfield, with a couple of constables, surrounded the store. When a human figure was seen in the office, one of the three watchers, stationed at the front door with a Winchester rifle, fired. The man dropped to the floor. It was found that the suspected burglar was none other than the firm's clerk and grandson of the senior partner, and that a terrible mistake had been made; the lad died next morning.

As an illustration of the carrying capacity of modern ocean vessels, the following particulars of the cargo of the "Cymric" may serve: On her first trip out of New York, this month, that White Star line freighter took among principal cargo items 700 head of cattle, 1,002 sheep, 199 horses, 42,856 bushels of corn, 59,883 bushels of wheat, 13,413 bales of cotton, 8,093 pigs of lead, 3,231 sheets of steel, 5,164 barrels of oil, wax, syrup, glucose and grease, not to mention a large quantity of other miscellaneous freight.

A PARAGRAPH appeared in our issue of March 4th, containing a story that the municipal accounts of New Glasgow, N.S., were not all right, and that Mr. A. M. Fraser was under suspicion of irregularity thereanent. We very much regret having, by copying from an exchange, done injustice to a worthy man. The Halifax Herald of March 5th has the following explanation which did not reach us in time for publication in last issue: "In our issue of Feb. 22nd, under the heading 'Halifax Expert Found Discrepancies,' we published a report about Mr. A. M. Fraser, the respected town clerk of New Glasgow. The item was condensed by our reporter from an article appearing in the Moncton Times and St. John Globe. It is hardly possible to conceive a more ludicrously false statement about any man than that contained in the paragraph referred to. Mr. Fraser, it transpires, had not been suspended; there had been no examination of town books by a Halifax expert, or by any other person beyond the usual audit; there have been no discrepancies found in his accounts; and Mr. Fraser is still fulfilling the duties of his office with that exemplary faithfulness and attention that has characterized his work during the 19 odd years he has held the position, and it is safe to say, that never at any time has he stood higher in the regard and esteem of the citizens of New Glasgow than at present. We had no desire to injure Mr. Fraser, and we deeply regret that our columns became one of the mediums through which some irresponsible party, as indicated above, sought to vent his petty spite against him."

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