

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

R. WILSON SMITH,
Proprietor.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1881
PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

JOHN T. P. KNIGHT,
Editor.

VOL. XIX. No. 37. MONTREAL, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1899.

SINGLE COPY - - .10
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - \$2.00

Any reader of THE CHRONICLE having copies bearing date 20th January and 24th February last, will greatly oblige by notifying

THE PUBLISHER.

Ville Marie Bank. Although no report of the condition of this institution can be expected from the liquidators until they are able to ascertain the value of its assets, particularly the bills discounted at the head office and branches of the bank, enough is known to justify THE CHRONICLE'S statement in a former issue that there is too much reason for grave misgivings and uneasiness among the depositors. The settlements being effected with several customers and the rumoured worthlessness of much of the paper held as current loans renders the outlook gloomy in the extreme.

A Cheerful Chap. An undertaker doing business in one of the West India islands is responsible for the following attractive advertisement of his wares: "Funeral Agency.—Just arrived, by 'Taymouth Castle,' from Toronto, Canada, a large shipment of coffins and caskets, all of which will be sold at prices to meet the times, as times are bad, work scarce, and depression general. Why live and be miserably when you can be comfortably buried? I shall reduce my charges for hearses and carriages to the new cemetery."

If these Toronto coffins and the dangerous philosophy of this merry but mercenary undertaker are to serve as an incitement to suicide, the insurance companies will have to deal with this cheerful chap.

Since our last issue, Dreyfus has been "Rancorous Fanaticism," sacrificed to preserve peace, at least for the present, in France. The clever writer of "Our Note Book," in the London "Illustrated News," when all the world was waiting for the verdict which has shocked the European press into denouncing it as a gross and appalling prostitution of justice, characterized the proceedings at Rennes as "a rancorous fanaticism which makes law a mockery and sweet religion a rhapsody of words."

The New York "Herald" applies the following quotation to some of those who deposed for the prosecution:

*"Forgiveness to the injured does belong.
But they ne'er pardon who have done the wrong."*

But the advocacy of a boycotting of the Paris Exhibition as a rebuke to a few fanatics is puerile and absurd. Why should commercial France, a great and industrious nation, suffer for the sins of those who have sacrificed Dreyfus as an offering to modern diplomacy.

Classifying Consumption. The American papers report a case which points to the opening of a war against consumption as a communicable disease. A physician in Detroit having failed to report his attendance upon a patient suffering from tuberculosis, he was fined \$50 and costs for neglecting to comply with the regulations of the board of health in that city. It is stated that the doctor intends to legally question the right of the health officers to classify consumption with small-pox, scarlet fever and other diseases, the outbreak of any new case of which has to be reported to the health authorities.

As a means of making known to the people that consumptives should be separated so far as possible from healthy people, the action of the Detroit officials is a move in the right direction.