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#### Mercantile Summary.

THE St. John Globe says that Judge Vanwart has ordered the estate of Chester Stairs, of Southampton, N.B., an absconding debtor, to be seized and sold for the payment of his debts.

ORIGINALLY a journeyman painter, W. Granger, started a small hardware and paint business in Montreal five years ago, on very limited capital. He has now voluntarily assigned, and owes about \$2,000.—Mrs. V. Bergeron, who has done a little living dry goods business in Montreal, for the past eight years, has found it necessary to assign, and shows liabilities of about \$1,600.—Thomas Jodoin, a small grocer, of the same city, is reported insolvent.

A MORE or less indefinite announcement has been made of the intended forming of a joint stock company to erect a series of summer hotels in Manitoba. One each is spoken of for Muskoka Lake, Rosseau Lake, Lake St. Joseph, Lake of Bays and Thousand Islands in Georgian Bay. Certainly, the lack of such hotels to house the guests who are likely to frequent these beautiful, natural localities, is not indefinite, judging from the numbers of travellers who last July and August tried to get house room and food in the Muskoka and Georgian Bay district and were disappointed. One hotel is to be finished in 1900, and the remainder within four years thereafter. The object of the scheme is an eminently desirable one.

THE directors of J. and P. Coats, Ltd., the large thread manufacturers in Scotland, have resolved to recommend a dividend for the past year of 30 per cent., with bonus of 20s. per share, carrying £39,000 to depreciation, £350,000 to reserve, and £81,000 forward. At the like period last year the dividend was the same, but there was no bonus, £50,000 was carried to depreciation, £200,000 to reserve, and £57,397 forward. The reserve fund now amounts to £1,500,000. These figures indicate the enormous extent of the business. The Coats' dividend was expected to be satisfactory, but the results announced are so good that the market price of the stock (of the £10 fraction), rose 2½ points to 79½. No wonder investors are pleased with the remarkably successful results of the year.

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