

The first large "general store" in the Midland, or Bay of Quinte district west of the city of Kingston, was kept by Benjamin Seymour. It was situated on the front of "Third-town," or Fredericksburg, on the Bay of Quinte shore, about six miles west of the picturesque village of Bath. Mr. Seymour opened this store about 1792, and carried on an extensive business for many years. His customers came from about ten miles east and the same distance west, including all the then settled parts of Lennox and Prince Edward counties.

He was married April 3, 1801, to Miss Elizabeth Clark, a native of the township, who survived him. Mr. Seymour died at his residence in 1810, and a notice of his burial is in the Langhorn Burial Register, February 18, 1810. He left a son and several daughters. The son, Benjamin, was baptized May 5th, 1805. He moved to Bath when a young man, and married there a daughter of Colin McKenzie, a leading resident. He became a merchant and an extensive land-owner, and one of the wealthiest men in the county. For years he represented Lennox and Addington in the old Parliament of Canada. The store was located on the Bay shore on the lot next adjoining the old St. Paul's church, and was closed at the time of Mr. Seymour's death. Another store followed, not long after, kept by Mr. John Clute, a few lots west, who also had a distillery and a brew house on the same lot. Several of Mr. Clute's descendants are still living in the township.

The accounts of Mr. Seymour's store for one year (1797) have been carefully examined, and the prices classified in the lists which follow. It should be remembered that the pound represents \$4 and the shilling 20 cents, so that 3s. 9d. per quart for rum means 75 cents. The book also contains extensive sales made to Reuben Bedell, who carried on a store in Adolphus-town. The payments being made principally in farm produce, the values at which this produce was credited have been given. Mr. Seymour received in payment large quantities of flour, which were delivered to his credit at the King's Stores," Kingston.

The following are the totals of the various classes of articles charged in the book for the year 1797. It is followed by a statement of goods sold to Reuben Bedell for sale at Adolphus-town. It will be seen that the total sales, wholesale and retail, amounted to nearly two thousand pounds as charged on the books. The third table contains a partial list of retail prices of those days:

SALES RETAIL.

	£	s.	d.
Dry goods	346	14	2½
Groceries	47	1	1½
Spirits	109	16	6
Tobacco	59	13	8½
Crockery	14	12	2
Hardware	16	13	5¼
Clothing	108	0	4
Hats and caps	45	18	10
Boots and shoes	27	8	8
Nails, etc	26	3	11
Books and stationery	5	0	8½
Gunpowder	4	8	8
Pots and pans	10	15	6½
Medicine, etc	1	0	3
Miscellaneous	203	7	6½
Total	1,026	15	7½

GROCERIES.

	s.	d.
Sugar, maple, per lb.	0	10
Sugar, muscovado per lb.	1	6
Sugar, loaf, per lb.	2s 3d.	to 2
Tea, Bohea per lb.	4	0
Tea, Souchong, per lb.	6	0
Tea, green, per lb.	7	6
Salt, per bush.	15	0
Salt, rock, per bush.	13	6
Salt, Onondaga, per bush.	12	10
Flour, fine, per lb.	0	3.
Soap, per lb.	1	0
Starch, per lb.	1	0
Lard, hogs, per lb.	0	10
Hams, prime, per lb.	1	0

	s.	d.
Molasses, per gal.	7	6
Mustard, per gal.	5	0
Pepper, black, per gal.	4	0
Alspice, per gal.	4	0
Nutmegs, per oz.	3	9
Ginger, per lb.	5	0
Cinnamon, per oz.	0	6

LIQUORS.

	s.	d.
Rum, per quart	3	9
Whiskey, per gal.	7	6
Spirits, W.I., per gal.	12	6
Wine, port, per quart.	3	6
Wine, white, per gal.	9	0
Wine Teneriffe, per gal.	10	0

TOBACCO.

	s.	d.
Snuff, per lb.	Is. 8d to 2	0
Tobacco, per lb.	1	4
Tobacco, carrot, per lb.	1	6
Pipes, tobacco, long, each.	0	2
Tobacco, box, small.	2	6

A FOUNDRY FAILURE.

On Tuesday last was held in Montreal a meeting of the creditors of Toussaint Crevier, of that city, for many years a foundryman. We are able to give to-day a statement of his liabilities and assets, which shows that he owes more than was estimated in our item of last week. The statement is a chilling one for ordinary creditors, who are scarcely likely to receive a cent of dividend out of the nominal showing of sixteen cents in the dollar assets. It is even too much to expect that privileged creditors will get all that is due them. Much depends upon the valuation of the "immovables," meaning real estate.

LIABILITIES.

City of Montreal, water and business taxes.	\$	83	86
City of Montreal, real estate.		400	00
Salaries, as per list.		162	66
J. C. McArthur, mortgage		12,000	00
J. C. McArthur, interest about.		1,500	00
Misses Marcotte, mortgage		6,400	00
Misses Marcotte, interests about.		750	00
Ordinary creditors, as per list.		13,133	00
		\$34,429	52

ASSETS.

Stock	\$	261	81
Fixtures		07	00
House furniture		81	95
Moulds and accessories		1,371	00
Machines and tools		303	50
		\$	2,085 26
Book debts		22	64
Immovables		20,000	00
		\$22,107	90
Deficiency		\$12,321	62

Evidently Mr. Crevier was handicapped by too heavy a load of landed property. Probably, too, his business was not on a large enough scale or sufficiently well equipped to compete with larger and more modern establishments. We are told that the machines and tools, stock and fixtures, are likely to sell for about 35 to 45 cents in the dollar, which would leave the deficiency even greater than the list has it. It is remarkable that the estate shows so small a stock on hand. Still more remarkable is it that the book debts are so trifling in amount.

—The Bank of Montreal has opened a branch at Point St. Charles, in the premises formerly occupied by the Banque Ville Marie. Mr. A. S. Henshaw is at present cashier of the new branch, and Mr. A. L. Branchaud has been appointed teller and accountant. Later on, we understand, Mr. R. McCulloch will be placed in charge of the Point St. Charles branch.