

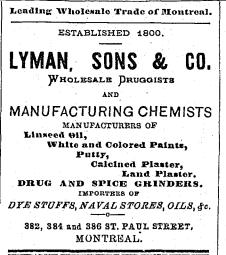
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co., 12 St. Sacrament Street, Montreal,

AGENTS, Steel Co'y of Canada.

Mr. Foster is comparatively new to the business, and is understood to have acted merely as representative head of the firm. An assignee is now in possession of the manufactory. The failure is without significance as to the extent of interests involved, and occasions no surprise to the trade, being regarded as but another instance of the almost insurnountable difficulty of carrying on a manufacturing business without ample capital.

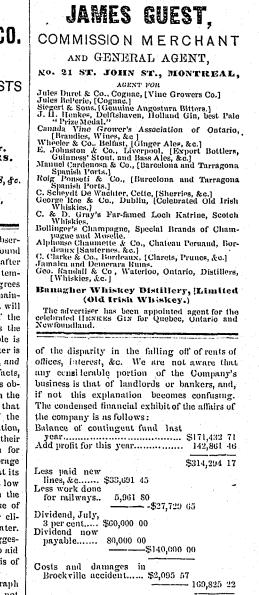
. General Manager Hickson of the Grand Trunk Railway, in a recent letter to the Montreal Board of Trade, in reference to the projected Montreal and Champlain Junction Railway Company, says : " I have no hesitation in saying that 1 expect to see the work of the construction of the road from Brousseaux and St. Isadore completed in the season of 1880. During the summer a survey has been made, and in a few days the engineers, it is expected, will have completed the estimates of the cost of the line. The Montreal' & Champlain Junction Railway Company will at once be legally organized, and I think you will agree with me that the progress made since the close of last session is all that could be expected under the circumstances." He concludes as follows : " The mercantile community of Montreal have, it seems to me, a deep interest in the proposed railway. The district is one of the most important in Quebec, and heretofore much of its trade has been done with the States, owing to the imperfect means of communication with the Metropolitan city of the Dominion, and I venture to think that there are very few prospects which would so well repay liberal encouragement from the Governmont of Quebec and the people of Montreal as that of the Montreal & Champlain Junction Railway Company."

. The effects of a low temperature on milk have been carefully examined by M. Eug. Tis-



serand, who recently communicated his observations to the Academie des Sciences. He found that if cows' milk is, immediately or soon after being drawn, placed in vessels at various temperatures between freezing point and 90 degrees Fahrenbeit, and the initial temperature is maintained for twenty-four or thirty-six hours, it will be found that the nearer the temperature of the milk is to freezing point the more rapid is the collection of cream, the more considerable is the quantity of cream, the amount of butter is greater, and the skimmed milk, the batter, and the cheese are of better quality. These facts, he believes, may be explained by Pasteur's observations on ferments, and their effects on the media in which they live. It is probable that the refrigeration arrests the evolution of the living organisms which set up fermentation, and hinders the changes which are due to their growth. The facts stated indicate room for great improvement in the methods of storage and preservation of milk. To keep milk at its original quality, extreme cleanliness and a low temperature are absolutely necessary. In the north of Europe, Denmark, etc., the value of cold is already recognized, and in warmer climates the need for its assistance is greater. There is nothing impracticable in the suggestion, since running streams can be used to aid refrigeration. Where the quality of milk is of great importance, ice may be employed.

, The report of the Montreal Telegraph Company for 1879 is out, and shows a not unfavorable condition of affairs in view of the more vigorous opposition lately encountered. The following items show an increase in 1879 over 1878 as severally stated : messages transmitted, 41,696; miles of poles, 1772; miles of wire, 2391; offices, 50. The total number of offices is now 1619, and miles of wire 212,364. The revenue for the year was \$478,435.32, a decrease as compared with 1878 of \$6,867.14, The current expenses were \$335,573.86, a decrease from 1878 of \$7,630.95. These figures present a net increase of profit in 1879 over 1878 of \$763.81. That the number of messages should show a large increase, while the gross revenue has actually fallen of, might satisfactorily be accounted for by reduced rates due to competition, but the directors find explanation



Leading Wholesale Trade of Montreal.

The assets are stated at \$2,362,734.99, and the liabilities \$2,087,467.57, indicating a surplus of assets of \$275,267.42.

•. There is no love lost between the American and Western Union telegraph companies. Litigation is going on constantly between them here, there, and everywhere. Wherever the rivals are proximate, there rights are invaded, or said to be, disputes arise and law-suits ensue. Just now the Strait of Canso is the scene of contention, and perhaps a brief statement of the matter in dispute will serve as well to illustrate the character of quarrels going on as would any other instance that might be selected. The Dominion (American Union) Company desires to lay a cable across the Strait of Canso,