

Mercantile Summary.

MR. HANEY, the superintendent, says there are 4,000 men at work on the Crow's Nest Pass Railway.

A MONTREAL deputation urges the Government to have Canada well represented at the coming Paris Exhibition.

The firm of Craig & Taylor, doing business at Preetown, Prince Edward Island, has been dissolved, Mr. Frank Taylor withdrawing. The remaining partner, Bert Craig, continues.

The Ontario Basket Factory is to add to its output brooms and brushes. Mr. W. P. McMicking, who has managed the basket factory these seven years, has left it, and is succeeded by W. McEldonney.

In the awarding of militia clothing contracts at Ottawa last week, it came out that L. H. Boisseau & Co., of Montreal, received the biggest share of the work. They will have about \$60,000 in all. Marsolais & Mundy, of Montreal, got about \$10,000. The contract for caps and gauntlets goes to Z. Paquet, of Quebec, who is well able to give a satisfactory account of himself.

MONTREAL advices of Tuesday say that the representatives of the wholesale grocers' trade, in session there, drew up a set of resolutions to be submitted to the members of the trade from all parts of Canada for signature. The clauses of this agreement provide for the division of the country into districts with a uniform basis of prices for each. Under it, a Montreal house would not invade the territory of a Toronto one. Toronto, Hamilton and London representatives were in attendance.

A MAN named Chas. Law passed through Winnipeg last Friday with a gold nugget weighing three pounds, taken from the Cassiar range, east of Teslin Lake. This country, lately prospected by Mr. Law, is described as rich in placers and quartz. Mr. Law believes he has discovered mountain quartz, from which all the gold on the Yukon and other streams originally came. The place is north of Cariboo, which was Klondike of fifteen years ago, and in the same range of mountains.

THE old-established dry goods merchants of St. Thomas, Messrs. Robertson, Lindsay & Wilcox, bought out some time ago the old Cochrane foundry building, opposite the post office and in the centre of the city. They have erected a good building on the old site, 100 feet square, four stories and basement. The interior is being fitted up for a departmental store. The front has full plate glass windows, and is decorated both inside and outside. The firm will take possession in a few weeks.

THE award of the arbitrators in connection with the acquisition of the Sherbrooke waterworks by the city, was received last week. It places the value of the property, together with the portion of the unexpired contract, at \$115,967, whereas the amount offered by the city council was \$75,000. It is believed that an amicable arrangement between the city and the company will follow. A by-law authorizing the purchase of the waterworks will soon be submitted to the ratepayers for approval.

A RASCALLY swindle has done a Montreal storekeeper out of ten dollars. Two well-dressed men went into his shop in a hurry, and said that his daughter, who was subject to fits, had been taken up by the police as "a drunk." So he hurried off with them in a cab waiting at the door. When half way to the station, one of the men alighted from the cab, made his way back to the shop and saw the merchant's wife,

bringing a supposed message from himself. Moreover, his wife handed over a ten dollar bill, which she understood was required for her daughter's "bail." The man decamped.

THE largest building on Prince Edward Island, is what the *Guardian* calls the new packing house of B. & M. Rattenbury, at Charlottetown. The main building, which is of brick, is 250 feet long and 80 feet wide. It is fitted with modern apparatus for preparing meats to suit both the English market and the Canadian market, for there is a decided difference. There are smoke houses and chilling rooms, besides the departments where the killing and cutting up is done. The capacity of the works is put at 800 hogs per day, but that number will not be turned out at first. It is expected that the premises will be completed by the 15th November; over 100 men are at work upon it now. Mr. Lees, an experienced English and American meat packer, is to be the manager of the works.

LEAMINGTON, in the Ontario county of Essex, on Lake Erie, is greatly favored by nature. It is in the rich and smiling southern county of Essex, on whose warm soil anything can grow, from sorghum, grapes, and peaches, to wheat, Indian corn and tobacco. The village is, besides, situated over a field of natural gas, and the municipality has made good use of wells, to secure this valuable element for heating as well as lighting. Leamington is a very pretty town, and is noted for its large exportation of fruit of which carloads are shipped to various points during the fruit season. The town is growing, too, forty new buildings having been erected this summer, principally private houses, costing in the aggregate some \$50,000. It is worthy of note that about eleven miles of silica barytic stone walks, costing between \$40,000 and \$50,000, have been also laid. The waterworks have been greatly extended, and improvements made in grading and gravelling, and levelling the streets. The Gardner Bros. have a new factory here, manufacturing axe handles, and baskets of various kinds. In fact on every side improvements and evidences of industry are visible.

THE week's list of country failures in Quebec Province is as follows: P. Gagnon, an old-time general dealer of St. Alexis de Chicoutimi, having been in business some 25 years or more, and slow pay for the last five of them, has made voluntary assignment of his estate, after unsuccessfully trying to compromise at 60 cents on the dollar. He owes about \$2,500.—Duchesneau & Frere, a tailoring firm at Knowlton, are reported to have arranged a composition of 60 cents, secured, on liabilities of about \$3,500, showing assets about \$1,000 in excess.—A. L. Stockhouse, store-keeping at Masson five years, is reported to be preparing a statement of his affairs for creditors. Liabilities are estimated at \$6,000, and assets consist mainly of weak book accounts, amounting to, say, \$3,500, and a like amount of stock.—J. A. Boulanger & Co., making furniture in a small way at St. Anne de la Perode, has assigned.—Mathieu & Dupuis, of Sorel, doing business in shoes and as auctioneers, have failed.—A brief business career has been that of C. E. McConville, of St. Jean de Matha, who a year ago bought out business premises and stock for \$5,000, paying \$2,800 down, and who has already assigned on demand. A lack of proper attention to business will probably account for his rapid decline.—H. J. Bisailon, confectioner at Farnham, has been asked to assign. He did very fairly for a time, but a bottling business he engaged in, a year or so ago, seems to have involved him.

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