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Mercantile Summary.

THE town of Truro, Nova Scotia, purposes spending \$14,000 in improving its waterworks system, and offers four per cent. debentures for that sum, which will have twenty years to run.

WE hear that Rose D. Favreau, who has carried on a grocery business in Ottawa for the last twelve or fifteen years, has assigned. She has been carrying quite a load in real estate for some time past.

THE manufacture of roll top office desks appears to be a new departure for the Anderson Furniture Company, Woodstock. We have not heard of their making this class of office furniture hitherto, but they are undertaking it now.

THE Cunard Steamship Company have, according to a late despatch, ordered the construction of three 5,000-ton steamships. The vessels are to be built at Belfast, and adapted for the carrying of freight and the cheaper passenger traffic.

"GYMNASTICS and games," says Professor Goldwin Smith, in writing historically of athletics, "are pure and healthy pleasures, and pleasure of some kind as a refreshment, those who toil, especially those who work hard with the brain, must have."

MR. ANDREW BURROWS, of Smith's Falls, has completed a transaction, the result of which will be the shipment of 2,000 head of steers to France. There is no embargo on cattle to that country. Mr. Burrows is also purchasing 5,000 sheep for the English market.

A WINDING up order has been issued in the matter of the Washington Building Trust Company, Montreal, a concern which was transplanted here from Providence, U.S., a year or two ago, and the management of which was always more or less distrusted.

THE report that the anthracite coal companies would add another ten cents per ton to the price of coal on August 1st, is not difficult to credit, says the Philadelphia Record, for the companies have the market in their grip, and can levy their monthly assessments with impunity. With one hand they slow down production at the mines, and with the other they make a monthly mark-up in the price of the output.

WE have electric street-sprinklers in Toronto, but in Montreal there has just been a test of an electric street-cleaning car, the invention of Mr. A. J. Reynolds, of that city, who claims that such cars can be used to clean the whole street, except a narrow strip at each side, from which the dirt is swept towards the tracks by the usual horse brooms. A test of it was made on Tuesday last, in the presence of the Montreal city surveyor and officials of the Montreal Street Railway Company.

In March last, F. Meindl, tailor, Mattawa, arranged an extension of time with his creditors. Evidently he has been unable to comply with its terms and now assigns. The estate is a small one. - In the early part of this year, John Gardiner succeeded to the hardware firm of Gardiner & Dobell, at Parry Sound. The latter retiring without any consideration, as the business was then in bad shape, under these circumstances, the assignment of the former now need not be any surprise.bailiff is in possession of the assets of G. W. Baker, livery stable keeper, Paris, for rent.-An offer of compromise is made by Johnson Bros., bakers, Morpeth. They ask creditors to allow them a discount of 75 per cent. A couple of weeks ago they suffered a small loss by fire.

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