

—We regret to announce this morning the death of Mr. D. J. Greenshields, of Montreal, which occurred yesterday in London, Eng. The deceased gentleman had long occupied a foremost position in commercial circles in this city as head of the drygoods firm of S. Greenshields, Son & Company, and earned for himself by his integrity, zeal and kindly qualities the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. His health had been but poorly of late, and his trip to England was undertaken in the expectation that a change of air would prove beneficial.—*Montreal Gazette*, Dec. 5th.

D. J. Greenshields dead! Those only who knew the man can know what keen regret the announcement has caused. There was but one David Greenshields. No one of to-day can quite fill his place. Enterprising, successful and worthy as business men though his successors may prove, none will seem, to those of this generation, comparable to the upright merchant, the generous citizen, the frank acquaintance, the kindly, genial, charming companion whose death is chronicled above. The fragrance of his pure and lovable character will long linger while he sleeps in dust.

Among the business changes of the week in Ontario is the retirement of Mr. John Ferguson from the Toronto wholesale millinery firm of McClung, Briggs and Ferguson. The business will be continued by the remaining partners, under the style of McClung, Briggs & Co.—E. H. Talmage & Co., essential oils, dissolved partnership—Chas. S. Landam, retires. E. H. Talmage continues alone under old style.—L. J. Beemer, whol. Shoes, has admitted D. L. Beemer and Wm. Garside, under style of L. J. Beemer & Co.—The firm of W. J. Reid & Co., whol. & retail crockery dealers in London is Dissolved—N. & W. J. Reid continue under old style.—Kilbourn, Bishop and Co., general storekeepers, Owen Sound, have dissolved partnership. H. J. Kilbourn retires, and his place is taken by T. L. Kilbourn.—Franklin, Fair & Co., grocers at Leamington have dissolved partnership. Robert Fair retires and Geo. F. Cronk takes his place under style Franklin & Cronk.—Messrs. Scott, Sutherland & Co., auctioneers in this city, have sold out to Peter Ryan.—J. B. Gauthier, grocer, has been sold out by the sheriff.—C. S. Morningstar, grocer, Arkona, and John Barnes, general store, Buttonville, have sold out.—E. Kilmer, has bought the general store of G. H. Howson, Bobcaygeon.

THE TELEPHONE—The *Compagnie Internationale des Telephones* have collected and published statistics, showing, as far as possible, the extent to which telephonic communication has been utilised throughout the world. Of necessity, the statistics are imperfect, as complete information on a subject of this kind is almost impossible to obtain. Still, the figures give a fair idea of the extent to which the new system have been developed. As might have been expected, it is in the United States that the telephone is most widely used, for their private enterprise has been left free to work as it liked the companies have no need to ask for State concessions. We find, therefore that there even villages of little more than 1,000 inhabitants have the telephone system in operation; and altogether it is calculated that the various American companies have, amongst them about 100,000 subscribers. In New York the number of subscribers is set down at 4,060, while Chicago is credited with 2,726. Next to the United States stands Great Britain, which is returned as having the telephone in operation in 47 towns, supplying 4,946 subscribers, of 1,561 are in London, 692 in Manchester, 681 in Liverpool and 600 Glasgow. Only 8 French towns are reported to be supplied with system of telephonic communication, and out of the 3,640 subscribers with which these towns are credited, 2,422 are in Paris, which relative to population therefore, makes much more general use of the new instrument than London. Berlin with about half the population of Paris, has only 581 subscribers, or little more than a fifth of the number

in the French capital, and throughout Germany there are, according to these statistics, only 2,322 subscribers to have been established. Belgium is credited with 2,156 subscribers or very nearly as many as Germany. In Austro-Hungary, only Vienna, Pesth, and Trieste are returned as possessing means of telephonic communication, the number of subscribers in Vienna being 600, in Pesth, 300, and in Trieste, 30. Very much better supplied is Italy, which has the system in operation in 12 towns, the aggregate number of subscribers being 2,902. As yet, only three Russian towns—St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Odessa—are reported to be furnished with the telephonic; but concessions, it is stated, have been obtained for several others. Switzerland has the system in operation at Bale, Berne, and Zurich. In Holland, Amsterdam and Rotterdam only are given as enjoying a service. In Denmark, the system is stated not to have extended beyond Copenhagen; and as regards to Sweden, we have details respecting Stockholm alone, although it is stated that in most of the important towns the system is being established. Outside of Europe and the United States, the only countries returns as possessing this means of communication are India, which has it in operation at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras; Egypt, which has the system in Alexandria, and Cairo; and Mexico, in the capital at which a telephonic company is established.

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