

THE manager of the Bank of British North America at Ottawa, Mr. W. D. Chambers, died in that city on Wednesday last.

THERE are, it is said, a number of forged five-dollar notes on the Commercial Bank of N. F. D., in circulation in this country. They are dated 1867.

THE Montreal city council has voted \$30,000 towards the erection of elevators on the wharves in that city, by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

"THE phantom road" is what the St. Catharines Journal calls the proposed St. Catharines Central Railway, a spur from which is intended to run into Hamilton.

THE receipts of the Canada Pacific Railway during the past week were \$198,000, against \$134,000 in corresponding period in 1883, showing an increase of \$64,000.

THE mills of the Hamilton Powder Company at Cumminsville, were, yesterday afternoon, destroyed by an explosion. Four men are reported killed and one or two others severely injured.

THE Customs' receipts at the port of Montreal, for September, show a falling off as compared with the like month of last year. The figures for 1883 are \$705,550; this year they are \$62,669 less.

IN Halifax, T. P. Connolly, quite an extensive stationer, but who really undertook too much, has gradually been losing ground, and has at last been compelled to assign. His liabilities are believed to be pretty large.

AMONG the latest commercial casualties in the province of Quebec, are the following:—F. J. C. Ethier, a small boot and shoe man of Montreal, has assigned.—Westgate Bros., shoe manufacturers of the same place, whose affairs have been prominently before the courts and the public for some time past, have also assigned.—At St. Arsene, Ferdenand Pelletier, a general dealer, is in trouble and makes an offer of 60 cents on the dollar.—Felix Molinaire, grocer Montreal, has assigned.

THE burning of the Windsor Hotel at Kingston, last Monday morning, furnishes another striking proof of the urgent necessity for compelling the owners of all public buildings, of every description, to provide some means of escape in case of fire. The hotel referred to was five stories high, and was entirely consumed by fire. At the time it occurred, all the inmates were asleep. Suddenly an explosion was heard, and the scene that followed beggars description. Men attempting to escape through the dense smoke, women screaming, and children crying. By the coolness and bravery of some gentlemen in the doomed building, no lives were lost. It might have been otherwise. It should be incumbent upon the proprietors of every hotel, factory, or any high building, to supply such places with external fire escapes.

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MR. GEO. STEPHEN, President of the C. P. R., has informed a reporter that the object of his present mission to England is to make arrangements for the establishment of a line of steamers to run between Port Moody, B. C., and China and Japan, to connect with his railway. Other railway matters will occupy his attention in Europe.

THE transactions of the New York Clearing House for the year ending Sept. 30, were as follows: Exchanges, \$34,902,037,337.78; balances, \$1,524,930,993.93; total, \$35,616,968,331.71; average daily transactions and exchanges were: \$111,048,981.55; balances, \$4,967,291.93; total, \$116,016,183.48. The total transactions since the organization, 31 years ago, amount to \$750,818,518,669.01. The largest day's transactions for the past year, amounting to \$204,564,026.67, was on March 3.

THE hardware stock of Evans & Haultain, of Collingwood, has been sold by the assignee at 54 cents on the dollar. This firm shortly before failing, claimed to have a surplus of about \$9,800. Accompanying the assignee's notice to the creditors, was a circular from the insolvents, explaining that they were obliged to take this step. "owing to the depressed state of trade rendering it difficult to realise sufficiently upon our assets, and the uncalled for unfavorable report of our credit lately given by a certain mercantile agency." While a depressed state of trade might have its effect, and also an unfavorable report of a mercantile agency, it is difficult to see how any agency's report could in such a short time convert a firm with a surplus of about \$10,000, into an insolvent concern that will pay its creditors considerably less than one hundred cents on the dollar.

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