Mercantile Summary.

The Royal Electric Company has formally accepted the proposition of Montreal city council to light the streets of that city at the price of $6) per lamp per year.

Stratford ratepayers last week voted in favor of a by-law to authorize the issue of debentures for $20,000 for the purpose of completing the sewerage disposal works.

The Good Roads Machinery Co's premises, and the Copp Bros.' stove foundry in Hamilton, were, on the 7th inst., badly damaged by fire; loss, $8,000; insured.

The Manchester N. H. "Union" says: "The post office department has just awarded a contract for 3,000,000,000 postal cards at 21¾ cents a thousand. There is a large measure of profit in that for your Uncle Sam."

It is stated that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has guaranteed to give the Kingston Locomotive Works a large order for engines each year, provided those at present being built for the Company are turned out satisfactorily.

Toronto council has instructed the city engineer to report on the cost of extending a line of the street railway from Bathurst street to the breakwater, crossing to the Island by a swing bridge (or otherwise) along the Island to the eastern channel, crossing this by a swing bridge (or otherwise); thence along the bar at Ashbridge's Bay, joining the mainland at Woodbine avenue.

The Sydney correspondent of the Halifax Chronicle learns from a gentleman prominent in commercial and industrial circles, that he has reason to feel certain that a steel shipbuilding plant, headed by Swan & Hunter, of Wallsend-on-the-Tyne, would be established in Canada within two years. The plant would probably be operated under the direction of that firm, though Canadians would supply the greater part of the capital.

Last week a new feature of considerable importance was added to Winnipeg's commercial interests. The new option market was opened, the first quotations being Manitoba wheat, October, 67, September, 67¼. At first business was rather slow, but afterwards, when operators had become more accustomed to the novelty of the methods employed considerable briskness developed.

The following companies have been chartered in this province: The Preston Glove Company, limited; capital $20,000, with head office at Preston. The provisional directors are Cyrus Dolph, Clement Rowland Hanning and Peter Bernhardt. The British America Can Company, limited; share capital, $100,000, with the head office at Sarnia. The provisional directors are William S. Cumming, Thomas H. Cook and Charles R. Morrison. The National Agency Co., limited, is authorized to increase its capital from $100,000 to $500,000.

The following is a list of the patents recently granted to Canadians in the United States;—681,711, nut lock, Gordon R. Kennedy; 681,713, device for breaking the speed of ships, Louis Lacoste; 681,718, variable speed gearing for bicycles, George T. Martin; 681,738, permanent foundation post, William O. Roy; 681,907, gas burner, John H. Cliff et al.; 681,919, rotary engine, Alfred Kitchen; 682,027, propulsion of vessels, Harold F. Burgess; 682,044, scale removing device, George W. Dean et al.; 682,047, ball caster, Richard B. Dixon; 682,129, cork extractor, William A. Walsh et al.