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Mercantile Summary.

Two Hull harness-makers, unfortunate losers by the late fire, are trying to compromise their small liabilities. Frank Laroche offers 50 cents on an indebtedness of \$800, and P. A. Meilleur is offering 25 cents on \$1,000.

A BY-LAW, in Waterloo, to give a \$9,000 bonus to the Port Dover Railway, was carried by a large majority. The money is to be paid, as follows: \$4,000 when route of railway is graded from Berlin to Preston; \$4,000 when cars are running from Waterloo to Galt; \$1,000 when cars are running from Waterloo to Port Dover.

SEVERAL persons, who have made the trip from Montreal to Detroit by the Grand Trunk Railway, since its "International Limited" train has been put on, express to us their pleasure in the comfort and speed of the day trip, much of which is along the shore of Lake Ontario. One can leave Montreal at nine in the morning, daily, by the Grand Trunk, and reach Toronto, 4.25 p.m.; Detroit, 9.30 p.m., and Chicago, 7.30 a.m., next day.

A BY-LAW is being introduced by the St. Louis, Que., council to authorize the issue of \$135,000 of debentures in order to purchase the Montreal Water and Power Co.'s plant. The proposed debentures are to call for 4 per cent. interest, redeemable in 40 years. One of the conditions is that the Water and Power Company shall supply the water to the town for a term of forty years at the following rates per 1,000 gallons: For the first five years, 15c.; for the next ten years, 12½c.; last twenty-five years, 10c.

MR. JACOB SPENCE, chief of the Ontario Immigration Bureau, says that in recent years there has been a great falling off in the arrivals of young women into this country. Fifteen years ago from 2,000 to 2,500 single young women came out yearly from Great Britain to Ontario, and were employed chiefly as domestics. Now very few women come out, and the young women of the country are fully employed in industrial occupations. This accounts for the remarkable scarcity of domestic servants in our big cities.

FROM Quebec we learn of the suspension and assignment of Reid, Craig & Co., wholesale dealers in paper and paper stock. Mr. James Reid, the senior partner, has had a lengthy experience in the paper trade, extending over some forty years, and has had a good many business ups and downs. He was of the old firm of J. & W. Reid, who for a long time had a paper-mill at St. Ambroise de Lorette, and who failed about 1861, compromising at 33 cents on the dollar. They again became involved in 1880, and settled at 50 cents. In 1891 they assigned, with secured liabilities of \$43,000, unsecured about \$53,000, and indirect about \$30,000. They were able to compromise at 50 cents, in payments spread over two years, after which arrangement the present firm was formed.

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