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Mercantile Summary.

It has been resolved, by the Board of the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company to have three additional steamers built for next summer's business. Two of these are to be built in Montreal for the Montreal and Quebec route, and a third boat will be built for the Western trade.

WE hear that Samuel Siggins, bicycle rim manufacturer, at Woodstock, is in difficulty, and that his banker has taken possession of his assets, which were mortgaged. He began as a carriage maker in 1888. About six months ago he claimed a surplus of \$16,500 over liabilities of \$3,500, but his assets consisted largely of real estate and machinery, hence his present trouble.

TEMPTED by the boom in progress at Grande Mere, Quebec, Hector Lescadres removed there from St. Leon, less than a year ago, putting up a property at a cost of \$1,800, which enterprise more than absorbed his small capital. He then engaged in a grocery and millinery business, of which he had little experience, and his voluntary assignment is already reported.

THOS. ELLIOTT, general storekeeper at Fairview, B.C., has assigned, although a few months ago he was reputed to be worth \$15,000 to \$20,000. It appears that in June he went to Britain to negotiate an important mine deal, which, it appears, did not "pan" out as he expected.—An assignment has been made by McDonald & McKinnon, commission merchants, at Vancouver.

THE St. John firm of A. Lordley & Co., for the past twenty years carrying on a small spice-grinding business, have suspended payment. The liabilities are put at \$2,600, with assets estimated at about \$1,500.—A. L. Grey, of Woodstock, N.B., was a bank clerk, ambitious to do business for himself, and in February, 1897, when barely of age, he started in the men's furnishings line, getting some little assistance from his father. The venture was hardly expected to be a successful one, and the young man's lawyer has recently waited upon St. John creditors with an offer of 60 cents; liabilities stated at about \$2,000.—L. C. Burk, a trader of Botsford, N.B., is reported insolvent, with small liabilities.

In June, 1879, A. T. Sussex started a general store in Bothwell and for a considerable time prospered. About one year ago he began making contracts for wood, now he suddenly assigns, which is something of a surprise to creditors, as he had a good record.—Being unable to arrange a compromise, as expected, Peter Bertram, hardware dealer in Hamilton, puts his affairs into the hands of an assignee.

WRIGHT & COWPER, who engaged in the bicycle trade at Montreal, three years ago, have assigned to the Court, and owe \$2,787.—Richer & Desjardins, tailors, of the same city, reported in trouble last week, have since assigned, and the schedule of liabilities filed in court foots up some \$8,480, \$5,400 of which is due to one house, of whom they have been largely a supply account.—Mrs. W. Ouellette, in the boot and shoe business, has also assigned.

—Another application will be made to the Dominion Parliament next session for a charter for a bridge between Hull and Ottawa, to give the Hull & Aylmer Electric Railway entrance to Ottawa. A vigorous lobby defeated the bill last session.

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