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Mercantile Summary.

THE Wiarton beet sugar refinery is said to be an assured thing.

DURING his tour through Western Ontario, for the Monetary Times, Mr. Thomas Gordon Oliver has reached Stratford, whence we have a few lines from him. Among other things, he says: "Stratford can now boast of having one of the finest-looking public buildings in the province, namely the new city hall, now nearly finished. It is a credit to the city. Immediately opposite to it is the Bank of Montreal office, whose gold-lettered front presents an attractive appearance. I observe that Mr. E. P. Winslow, the manager, has added to the attractions of the interior by getting artistic work done, both in the office and banking de-

A BRIEF business experience has been that of P. L. A. Lefebvre, grocer, Montreal. After a short training as clerk, he bought out one L. Lefrancois, last midsummer, but has already assigned to the court on the demand of Messrs. Hudon & Orsali, with liabilities stated at \$5,729, and assets of \$3.860.—P. H. Villeneuve, a furniture dealer of the same city, has also assigned. He owes \$2,700, and shows apparent assets of \$5,950, but \$4,000 of this amount is made up of very dubious outstanding accounts.—Alfred Larocque, a small city dealer in men's furnishings, is reported insolvent, owing \$1,260.—P. F. McGrath, upholsterer, offers 30 per cent. on his small liabilities for a settlement.

Sugar beet cultivation is going on in Michigan to an extent few of us realize. Here are some figures, prepared by the Land Commissioner French, at Lansing. for three months this year: The total tonnage of beets received for October, November, and December at Michigan factories was 85,926, and the total output of sugar, 9,855,555 pounds. The Detroit Sugar Company, at Rochester, turned out 1,585,394 pounds in November; the Michigan Sugar Company, at Bay City, 2,008,776; the Bay City Sugar Company, 1,707,078; the Alma Sugar Company, 367,255; the Wolverine Sugar Company, at Benton Harbor, 250,628; the Holland Sugar Company, 189,677, and the Peninsular Company, at Caro, 1,670,094 pounds.

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