

As an indication of the thrift amongst the working classes of France, it is stated that there are now 6,000,000 depositors in the French savings banks, with an accumulated fund of not less than £112,000,000.

THE names of Andrew Gault and Hon. George Drummond are mentioned as probable candidates for the presidency of the Montreal Board of Trade, while some consider that Mr. Greenshields should stand for another term.

At the annual meeting of the Montreal Elevating Company, the old board was re-elected as follows:—Messrs. Andrew Allan, A. T. Patterson, Thos. A. Crane, and Alexander McDougall. Mr. Allan is re-elected president.

On Tuesday last, the Montreal inspector of factories, Mr. Louis Guyon, laid the first two complaints in the Police Court for infringement of the Factories Act. The first is against Mr. Wm. A. Winfield, confectioner, who is charged with compelling girls and boys in his employ to work more than sixty hours a week. The second is against Mr. George B. Burland for neglecting to report an accident which happened to Maggie Owens, one of his employees.

ABOUT six years ago A. Fair & Co., grocers, Brantford, made a very unsatisfactory failure. Then a daughter, Mrs. Yates, bought in the assets and the business has been continued since that time under his management, but without success. The premises have been closed by creditors.—In May last, E. B. Zealand went from St. Thomas to Bowmanville and launched into the jewellery business at the latter place, but not being able to obtain sufficient patronage he assigns.—It is reported that Geo. Vickers, agent for musical instruments at Mitchell, has left there; his present residence is not known.

In answering an enquiry respecting the market for pot and pearl ashes, our Montreal correspondent appends this memorandum to his reply: "Ashes are bought in this market at so much 100 lbs. net weight, the inspector's figures regulating transactions. In former times, twenty years ago or so, they were quoted so many shillings per cwt. of 112 lbs. They are sold to England at so much per cwt. (112 lbs.) gross weight, from which an established deduction of 12½ per cent. for tare is always made. This will explain the expression you sometimes note, 'First pots quoted so and so for good tares,' the buyer calculating to make a little on the weight."

SOME 13,000,000 tons of coal are burned in London yearly. About 4,000,000 are utilized by the gas-manufacturing companies; 9,000,000 are burned in household and industrial fire grates.

On Sunday night last a big freight engine of the Grand Trunk Railway exploded its boiler at the round-house in London. The machine shop was shattered, windows broken everywhere, two men injured, but no one killed.

IN Victoria, B.C., A. J. Smith, planing-mill man, is in difficulties and has assigned. In 1886 he bought out his partner, Clark, paying him \$6,600 for his interest in the business, and since that time Mr. Smith has appeared lax in looking after his affairs. At any rate, he has made an assignment.

IN Montreal we note a couple of failures among small grocers: D. Martineau, who began business in the spring of 1889 with a capital of a few hundred dollars, has assigned, owing about \$3,000.—L. & J. B. Tremblay are also insolvent, and their premises have been broken into by order of the court, with the result that few assets were found.

S. J. Woods, dealer in harness, etc., at Carman, Manitoba, has got into difficulty and makes an assignment. His affairs have almost always been in poor shape.—Another person in bad way financially is C. B. Burgess, dealer in furniture at Virden. His stock has been seized under the power of a chattel mortgage and other creditors need not expect to receive a dividend.—Stone & Co., general store-keepers at Rapid City, have been in trouble for some time, and have at last assigned. Their statement shows liabilities \$13,300 and assets nominally about the same.

LAND OWNERS and business men in Toronto Junction are congratulating themselves on having secured the establishment of Mr. A. Campbell's extensive flouring industry at that place. The mill, which is now being erected, is a solid brick structure 60 x 75 feet, five and three stories high, and will have a capacity of 500 barrels per day. Adjacent to the above, Mr. Campbell purposes, we are told, erecting a cooper shop 36 x 40 feet, barrel and stave warehouses 36 x 70 feet, and 36 x 60 feet, respectively; also an elevator 48 x 60 feet, 80 feet high; all to be completed and in running order about the first of June, 1893, and in all likelihood this will be one of the most thoroughly equipped mills in Canada.

THE premises of a clothing dealer named J. B. Johnston, in New Westminster, have been closed under the power of a chattel mortgage, and there is likely to be nothing left for unsecured creditors.—The stock and plant of the Telegram Printing Co., at Vancouver, have been sold by the sheriff under judgments amounting to \$9,000. The purchaser was E. Davis, solicitor, for \$3,100.

IN November last, Jacob Miller, harness-maker, at Mildmay, assigned to the sheriff, and he now advertises the assets of the concern for sale.—Buck Bros. began a general store at Norwood, in the early part of 1883. Two years afterward they arranged a compromise at fifty per cent. In June, 1887, the style of the firm was changed to O. Buck & Son. The father retired three years later, and the junior member of the firm continued, and it is he who now assigns.—Another assignment is that of James Malcolm, general store-keeper at Whitevale, and his stock is advertised for sale next week.

At Quebec, on the 15th instant, a sale of timber limits was held by the Provincial Government—a number of limits on the Upper Ottawa, St. Francis and St. Maurice Rivers, Lake St. John, Saguenay, Montmagny, Grandville, Rimouski, Gaspé and Bonaventure. A number of limits were withdrawn which had been put up to compel holders to pay their arrears, and the threat fully served its purpose, for \$42,000 was collected on this item alone. The amount realized from all the limits sold was \$42,700, making altogether about \$85,000 derived directly from the sale, as against \$104,000 derived from the previous sale, of which some \$76,000 was paid in, and the balance in arrear was paid in on the 15th instant.

As the Panama investigation proceeds, it develops a degree of excitement and anger which appear to threaten revolutionary consequences. The vast number of people who loan their money by the canal venture, finding out believing that \$100,000,000 went in bribes, are furious against the offenders. They readily believe the worst rumors which malignity or misinformation sets afloat, and call aloud for victims. This demand urges on the Government, as the only means of its own salvation, to make arrests on anything that looks like evidence, good, bad or indifferent. The accused, if guilty, are rendered desperate, and if innocent, their utmost hate is concentrated against the Government. Royalist intrigues

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