

Mercantile Summary.

THE American Bank Note Company, which has been the subject of a good deal of discussion in the House of Commons, has commenced work in its new building in Ottawa. The workmen are engaged upon the jubilee stamps. No doubt the American Company will do excellent work, and whatever the sentiment may be in regard to these United States capitalists, the feeling has hitherto been that the Government was pretty well taxed for its fine engraving.

DICKERSON V. RADCLIFFE.—An action for words written and published relating to articles of the plaintiffs' manufacture and the rights of the plaintiffs under certain letters patent by virtue of which they claimed a monopoly of the manufacture and sale of the articles, is not an action of defamation properly so-called, but an action for maliciously acting in such a way as to inflict loss upon the plaintiffs, and does not come within the Judicature Act, so as to be triable only by a jury, unless by consent.

THE provision store of R. W. Higginbottom at Victoria is closed, and he is in financial difficulty. It is stated that the mortgagee will take the stock, and unsecured creditors will get no dividend.—Nearly ten years ago Cope & Young gave up the dry goods trade in Simcoe, Ont., where they had accumulated considerable money, and went to Vancouver, where they launched out in the same line. Sometime afterward they opened a jobbing store. This, however, they did not find so profitable as expected, and they changed to the house furnishing trade. Besides these changes, they invested a considerable sum in real estate. Now they find the sheriff in possession of their assets.

MR. A. O. BOEHMER had been engaged in private banking, and was president and manager of the Berlin Shirt and Collar Co., etc. In 1895 he succeeded to the general store business of Boehmer & Co. Since then, the business has been changed into a departmental store in Berlin, under the style of The Boehmer Co. In April last, they were granted a charter to do business under the style of A. O. Boehmer Co. (Limited), with a capital of \$90,000. We understand that the company could not operate under its charter before Saturday last. Now Mr. Boehmer finds that he is unable to meet the liabilities of the old firm, and is consulting with his creditors, with the view of making some arrangement that will enable the new company to continue the business.

O'NEILL V. TOWNSHIP OF WINDHAM.—An appeal by defendants, the townships of Windham, from a judgment in favor of plaintiff for \$250 damages. The plaintiff was driving along the town line between the townships of Windham and Townsend, on the evening of January 14, 1896, when his horse shied at a pile of oak railway ties left at the side of the road, and he was thrown out of his trap and injured. The ties had been on the road for seven days, and had been left there by a servant of defendant, Taylor, whose wagon had broken down at the place. The appellants contended that it was not a case of non-repair, but of nuisance, if anything, and, therefore, the townships could not be liable, nor defendant Taylor liable over to the townships. Held by the Court of Appeal that the travelled part of the road was in good repair, the ties having been thrown out on the untravelled portion of the highway, and that the action was not maintainable against the municipality.

—Those who say that a heavier beer tax would send the revenue up by leaps and bounds might be more in keeping if they said by hops.—*The Times, Philadelphia.*

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, June 2nd, 1897.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average price 1896.
Montreal	229	227½	13	235	228	219½
Ontario				83	80½	56½
Molson				195	183	175
Toronto				235	226	234
Jac. Cartier						
Merchants'	173	172½	43	175	172½	164½
Commerce	124½	124	41	126	124	130½
Union					100	97
M. Teleg.	168	168	27	170	167½	164
Rich. & Ont.	93½	93	46½	95	93	90
St. Ry.	211½	211	300	211½	211½	208
" Rights.	52½	52	139			
Mont. St. Ry., new stock				205	204	
Gas	185½	184½	380	185½	185	184½
C. Pacific Ry.	59½	56½	2000	59½	59½	62½
Land gr't bonds					108	108
N.W. Land pfd.						
Bell Tele.	166½	166	40	170	166	159½
Mont. 4% stock						

HARBOR PLANS.

The members of the Board of Trade Council, together with a number of gentlemen interested in the shipping trade, met yesterday afternoon and approved of the harbor improvement plans mentioned in yesterday's *Star*, provided that certain modifications were made in them. Mr. John McKergow presided, the others present being Messrs. James Crathern, Charles F. Smith, Henry Miles, E. L. Bond, Charles McLean, A. J. Brice, James W. Pyke, Charles Chaput, F. W. Evans, Harry Stikeman, Robert Mackay, David G. Thomson, W. B. Mathewson, David Watson, Hugh A. Allan, Robert Reford, Thos. Harling, H. G. Johnston, Abner Kingman and D. A. Watt and Edgar Judge, president of the Corn Exchange Association.

The plan which Hon. Mr. Tarte, Minister of Public Works, has submitted gives three main piers, exclusive of Victoria pier, while the old plan provided for four. Another difference is that according to the new plan all the piers will be considerably shorter than those in plan No. 6.

A special committee was appointed to go to Ottawa and lay before the Hon. Mr. Tarte the modifications desired. The committee, which consists of Messrs. John McKergow, Robert Mackay, Chas. Chaput, Thos. Harling, and D. A. Watt, left this afternoon for Ottawa. —*Montreal Star, June 1.*

FEW FIREPROOF PAPER.

A new and apparently fireproof paper is now made of ninety-five parts of asbestos fibre of the best quality, washed in a solution of permanganate of calcium, and then treated with sulphuric acid. After the fibre has been thus treated, five parts of ground wood pulp are added, and the entire mass is placed in an agitating box, with some lime-water and borax. After a thorough mixing, the material flows out into an endless wire cloth, whence it enters the usual paper-making machinery. Paper produced in this way will, it is said, resist even the direct influence of a flame, and may be placed in a white heat with impunity. This invention is another small contribution to the diminution of fire risks.—*Ins. Times.*

—The last Sunday of May is called "Shirt Waist Sunday" in New York, as it usually marks the blooming forth of that garment. But the shirt waist will presently claim all days for its own, and rightly, for it is a neat and thrifty fashion—one of the best for women that ever came from the bargain counters.—*Record.*

—Broker Chapman's thirty days in jail will be a light punishment compared with what he has already undergone. His attorney's fees amount to \$45,000.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

—Professor—"If you used a little energy you could find plenty of work to do." Teetery Tomkins (with dignity)—"Sir, any one conversant with the first principles of physics knows that the expenditure of energy lessens the ability of the body to perform work." Professor—"Um—ah—here's a dollar."

DEBENTURES

Municipal Debentures bought and sold, also Government and Railway Bonds. Securities suitable for Investment by Trustees and Insurance Companies and for Deposit with the Government, always on hand.

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