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Mercantile Summary.

THE work of remodeling the Winnipeg oatmeal mills, recently purchased from Stephen Nairn, by the Ogilvie Milling Company, is already well advanced. The plant and buildings will be greatly enlarged.

THE steamer "Monarch" of the Elder- Dempster line sailed from Montreal for London on Wednesday last with a large cargo, including 190,000 bushels of grain, 1,200 sacks of flour, 3,000 boxes of cheese, 800 standards of lumber, 460 cattle, 20 horses, 6 cars of meats and 6 cars of produce.

CLIFT, WOOD & Co., a St. Johns, Nfld., general commission house, said to date back to 1796, are reported to have assigned. The firm at one time was a prominent one, but the business has shown signs of retrogression of late years, and they also made heavy losses by the big fire of 1892, and by the failures during the financial crisis of 1895 in the island.

A RATHER important country failure is reported from Magog, Que., A. H. S. Bessette, a general dealer there of some ten years' standing, having assigned to Kent & Turcotte, accountants, Montreal. The liabilities are stated at some \$17,000.

with nominal assets shown at about \$2,000 less.—Charles Rousseau, general store, Cedar Hall, Que., reported last week as failed, is offering his creditors 65 cents on the dollar, namely, 50 cents cash, and 15 cents in four months.

ON this day week the Western Passenger Association declined to grant the reduced rates from Western American points to New York asked for by the Merchants' Association of that city. The W. P. A. controls the passenger business of the roads running west of Chicago and northwest of St. Louis. It had been asked a year ago to make special rates to New York for buyers' excursions, but declined.

THE addition to W. R. Brock & Co.'s dry goods warehouse will improve the corner of Bay and Wellington streets in this city. It is of brick, and uniform in style and decoration with the part of the warehouse earlier built. There will be, when it is completed, five flats, each 70 feet by 110. The firm expect to occupy the completed premises by August 1st. It is a proof that Messrs. Brock & Co. do not share the pessimistic views of some people as to the dry goods trade of this city when they enlarge their warehouse to accommodate increased trade.

FROM the circular of James Watson & Co. dated Glasgow, 17th June, we learn that there were 81 iron furnaces in blast in Scotland at that date, 93 in the Middlesbrough district of England and 41 in Cumberland district, compared with 79, 93 and 37 furnaces in blast respectively at the 18th June, 1897. The stocks of pig iron were, of Scotch iron in Connal's stores, 329,000 tons, and of Cleveland iron, 91,000, as compared with 355,000 tons and 115,000 tons, respectively, in June, 1897. The stock of Cumberland iron was also smaller. The tone of the pig iron market was dull and a trifle lower.

WORD comes from Montreal that a number of \$10 bills on the Dominion Bank, unsigned when they were stolen from the Napanee branch of that bank last autumn, have been offered in that city within the week, bearing a cleverly forged signature of "E. H. Baines." The series of stolen bills, which are lettered "A," ran from 46,001 to 47,001. Detectives have secured a number of these notes with the forged signature, and are convinced that either the burglars who stole them or their confederates are in Montreal. The elucidation of the mystery of who the burglars are, is however as yet unsolved.

AN item of Saturday last in The Montreal Times refers to activity in trade and building at Shediac, New Brunswick, and thereabout. There is considerable shipping at Point du Chene. J. L. Black & Son are loading two barques and will ship in the vicinity of five million feet this year. The total shipments, however, will be smaller than last year. Senator Poirier is building a three-story flouring mill at Shediac, the capacity of which is to be 125 barrels per day. O. M. Melanson is building a residence on Main street. Mr. Richard, of the shoe factory, has a handsome new dwelling. Mr. Tait has put up several tenements on Concord street, and the foundation is down for a new hotel by P. Legere near the Terrace.

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