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## Mercantile Summary.

THE estate of H. H. Pigeon, dry goods, Ottawa, has been put into the assignee's hands for purposes of winding up. Last spring he arranged for a compromise at 60 cents, on liabilities of about \$30,000. Being unable to complete the arrangement, creditors have proceeded as above.

COMING from Lynn, Mass., two years ago, W. C. Brooks started a small general store business at Holmesville, N.B., which has not proved a success, and his assignment is reported to the sheriff of the county.—R. C. Donald, a general contractor, of Moncton, N.B., who has been in difficulties for several weeks, and trying to arrange a compromise, has now assigned.

In Quebec city we note two small failures. P. N. Langlois, formerly a hardware clerk, began business two years ago on limited capital. His assignment is reported, after the landlord had attached for rent; general creditors will get little.—Robitaille & Paradis, respectively a carpenter and shoemaker, started a small grocery business last spring. They are already reported in difficulties.

C. A. JORDAN, of Windsor, N.S., the lessee of the Hotel Dufferin, has made an assignment, having a few weeks previously given a bill of sale for \$855.—F. J. King & Co., who started in the grocery line at Dorchester, N.B., in 1893, have assigned to the sheriff of the county. Judgment was recorded against them a short time ago for \$2,835 in favor of Sarah King.—The dry goods stocks of Dore & Piche and of E. Dagenais, both recent Montreal insolvents, have been sold by the assignee at 55 cents and 59½ cents, respectively.

THE newly appointed inspectors of industrial establishments, Mesdames King and Provancher, who have been lately appointed by the Quebec Provincial Government, are now making official visits. These visits will include inspection of all workshops of dressmakers, milliners, furriers, tailor shops, confectioners and manufacturers of ready-made clothing, etc. The employers, either male or female, are required to conform with article 3,027, concerning the general duties of employers, and particularly with regard to paragraph 4 of the above article, which says that the employer will afford every means necessary for the thorough inspection of the establishment and its dependencies.

ON Friday last, the creditors of Angus Mundy, grocer, Hamilton, had a meeting and transferred the estate, which makes a poor showing, to F. H. Lamb. The liabilities are \$1,092, and nominal assets, \$597. The insolvent offered to pay 25 per cent. for the estate, half of which would be payable in cash, and the balance in three months secured by endorsed paper.

THE new steel steamer "James Watt," the first of the Rockefeller fleet, and the largest ship on the lakes, was launched in Cleveland last week. This vessel is 426 feet long over all, 406 feet long between perpendiculars, 48 feet beam, and 29 feet deep at the shallowest point amidships. The cargo hold is divided into four compartments by screen bulkhead. It is calculated that she will carry 4,000 gross tons of ore on a draught of 14½ feet, or about 6,000 on a draught of 18 feet. Her cost will be \$260,000.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Stratford Board of Trade the circular issued by the Department of Trade and Commerce, how to increase the trade with other countries, was discussed and a committee appointed. The proposition of organizing a Dominion Board of Trade came under consideration, but was finally laid over until another meeting. Additional railway service was considered necessary and the secretary was finally instructed to impress upon General Manager Hays the urgent need of having the "Dutch Mail" continued through to Stratford, or some equivalent accommodation provided. The board was unanimously in favor of the change.

MR. ROBERT LARMOUR, formerly one of the superintendents of the Grand Trunk Railway, is endeavoring to organize a joint stock company for the manufacture of the American Standard Rail Joint, a device now being largely adopted by railroads and street railways for the fastening together of rails. The rail joint is now made by a company in Cleveland, Ohio, and Mr. Larmour has an option on the Canadian patent, which is valued at \$10,000. In addressing the Stratford Board of Trade on the subject, he pointed out that a manufactory such as the rail joint works, would form the nucleus for the manufacture of other railway appliances, and the possibilities of development were very great. The Grand Trunk, Mr. Larmour pointed out, had adopted the Gould coupler as its standard, and was now applying them at the rate of 200 per month.



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