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A SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND MINING NEWS.

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Montreal Stock Market.

STRONG MARKET BUT NOT VERY ACTIVE — VIRTUE LEADS WITH 10 ADVANCE — ELECTRIC STRONGER TO-DAY — A BET AND AN IMPORTANT CABLE

Montreal, Dec 12

Virtue drew a great deal of attention to itself this forenoon in advancing 10 points to 70, a noticeable enough feat in a dull market, where nearly all stocks but itself seemed weaker. The present advancing condition of Virtue was strengthened as an attraction by the prediction of future advances, and advances greater than those of other mining stock. A memorandum of a bet of \$100 between Mr. R. Forget and Mr. Rykert, that Virtue will cross Centre Star's price the next year, another \$100 that it will cross Republic's price and another \$100 that it will cross Payne's price with the next year. When it is remembered that Centre Star's last quotations on the Standard Mining Exchange, Toronto, are 164 to 160 b, that Republic's price was to-day around 112 and that Payne's was around 102, while Virtue's highest as yet is 70, it seems that Virtue has its work before it. The mine, however, may be like its great namesake, about which the Latin proverb says that it is great and will prevail.

Royal Electric on good buying advanced 2½ points to 198.

Virtue on transactions that amounted to about 12,000 shares advanced from 62 to 70, falling off a little at the close, but closing strong at 65a and 64½b.

Payne advancing 1½ points was stronger this much, and would, as all know, get out of the present rut, if the miners would agree to work or the government remove its restrictions.

Republic was unchanged and the same is true of Montreal Gas, Richelieu and Ontario, Dominion Cotton and Merchants' Bank.

War Eagle advanced 20 points to 275, and closed firm with 27½a and 27½b.

Bell Telephone Rights were a point or two lower and are being realized on for

the purpose of adjustment towards the issue of new stock.

Twin City was stronger by something like one point.

The market was thus, if not very active, strong in its resistance to the bearish influence of cables being lower. London being depressed, New York not yet recovered from yesterday's panic.

About the London market an important cable was received around noon at the office of Messrs L. J. Forget & Co., from their London agent.

"Markets better general. Have on good authority \$1,000,000 bullion coming from Paris."

Mr. Forget's comment on this is that strong financial men and interests on both sides of the English Channel are working together and have nothing in common with the rowdiness of several low class newspapers.

MORNING SALES.

Twin City—10, 65¼, 25, 65½
 Roy. Elec x-d—400, 196, 50, 196½, 225, 198, 25, 197½, 150, 198, 125, 197.
 Com Cable—25, 189
 Tor Ry.—25, 108, 25, 108½
 Virtue—1500, 62, 1750, 63, 6500, 61, 3000, 65, 30, 70
 Payne—500, 102, 500, 103, 500, 103½
 Republic x-d—1000, 112¼, 500, 112, 500, 111.
 Mont Gas—150, 190.
 R. & O.—25, 112¼, 25, 112¼
 War Eagle—50, 275, 1000, 273.
 Dom Cot—2, 102
 Bell Tel Rights—2, 71, 3, 70, 12, 68, 12, 70
 Mehts Bank—25, 165.

AFTERNOON SALES.

Can Pac—25, 94.
 Com Cable—100, 190
 Twin City—75, 66¼
 Tor Ry—50, 108¼
 Payne—2000, 104, 700, 105
 Halifax H. L.—25, 12.
 Republic—1000, 111.
 Roy. Elec x-d—150, 197, 25, 196½, 3, 195, 3, 196.
 Virtue—2750, 61½
 R & O—75, 112¼
 Bell Tel Rights—1, 69, 10½, 68.
 Mont. St. Ry.—150, 310.
 Mont. Cot.—3, 143.

BRADSTREET VISIBLE SUPPLY.

Wheat east of Rockies, inc	2,070,000
Europe, inc	1,600,000
	3,670,000
Corn	311,000
Oats, inc	516,000

STRAWS.

Omaha dividend 5 p.c on the common and 30½ on the preferred will be paid.

The Champion Copper Co., \$2,500,000, has been incorporated at Houghton, Mich.

Dominion Coal Co has declared regular semi-annual dividend of 4 p.c on preferred stock payable January 1 to stock of record December 20.

Chicago Great Western has declared a dividend of \$2.50 per share on preferred stock, payable January 31. This places the stock upon a 5 p.c basis.

Thomas Tompkins, a C. P. R. conductor, of Vancouver, has discovered extensive springs of lythia water at Albert Canyon, and will locate a large sanitarium at that place.

Northwest directors have declared a semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent. on the common, an increase of ½ per cent. The regular quarterly preferred dividend of 1¼ per cent has also been declared. Payable Jan. 5.

St Paul R.R. will use Duluth north from the Milwaukee terminus at Champion. The copper country here is becoming very important. By using Duluth road 62 miles is saved from Chicago to Houghton and 23 miles from Chicago to Marquette.

Construction of the Ontario and Rainy River, which extends from Port Arthur on Lake Superior to Winnipeg, is an assured fact. The road has been subsidized by the Government, the contracts have been let and the rails are being delivered. The building of the road which, according to the terms of the contract, is to be completed within a year, will be of great benefit to the mine owners in the vicinity of Port Arthur.