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Mercantile Summary.

H. M. CONDIE, formerly a clerk in Montreal, started in a small general store at Bainsville, near Cornwall, Ont., in the fall of 1896. He has already assigned to J. T. Tennant, of Brockville.

THE Quebec Central Railway is making extensive additions and improvements at the car shops in Newington. A new engine-house, with a capacity of ten engines, has been erected.

ON Monday last, Mr. C. F. Reynolds, who has a 200,000 acre ranch in Texas, and feeds upon it 11,000 head of cattle, bought from Mr. Stone, of Guelph, two carloads of thoroughbred Hereford bulls to be forwarded to Texas.

VICTORIANS say the C.P.R. new steamship "Tartar," for the Alaska route, is a large and handsome one. She arrived from England on Sunday last. The "Tartar" is a ship of 4,500 tons, 376 feet long, and lighted throughout by electricity. Her speed is 18 miles per hour. Her sister ship, the "Athenian," also formerly one of the Union Steamship Company's mail steamers, is due at Victoria on the 10th.

THE Bazar Company of Toronto, limited, is the name of an incorporated body under letters patent, capital \$24,000; parties, Henry Nerlich, Emil Nerlich, John Glass, T. A. Doherty, and Louis D. Merrick. The H. A. Christy Company, consisting of Henry A. Christy, of Chicago; H. Victor Cawthra, Harold A. Wilson, George B. Burns, of Toronto, and Robert I. Towers, of Sarnia, will buy out H. A. Christy & Co.'s bicycle business. The capital is \$10,000.

THE list of creditors sent out by the assignee of the Quebec firm of G. Bresse & Co., manufacturers of boots and shoes, while it can hardly be called interesting reading, is assuredly instructive. The firm owed \$43,478, and they owed it to 117 creditors in twenty-four places in Canada and the United States. There are 69 in Quebec, 18 in Montreal, half a dozen in Boston and New York and Lynn. From Vancouver to Toronto, from Calgary to Pictou, the lengthy list of credits extends, and the respective amounts, outside of the privileged taxes and employees, and outside of three banks, ranged from \$5 to as high as \$3,900. The case is an instance of the extent and widespread nature of credit, as given in Canada. A first dividend of 15 per cent. is being declared.

ACCORDING to an official circular lately issued, the Grand Trunk Despatch has been organized to operate over the Grand Trunk Railway system, West Shore Railroad, and connections. Mr. Sumner Hopkins, of Detroit, is the manager.

THE duties collected at the London Custom house during March amounted to \$69,639, which was more than \$19,000 ahead of the same month last year. For the first quarter of the year the returns show an increase of \$60,000.

THE executors of the late Oliver Thibaudau, dry goods merchant at Lauzon, Que., who died in February, have deemed it advisable to make an assignment of the estate for the general benefit of creditors. Mr. T. was formerly of the firm of Isidore Thibaudau & Co., wholesale dry goods, Montreal, and on the closing of that business, opened in the retail line at Lauzon in 1894. The assets are estimated at about \$12,000, and general liabilities about a similar amount, but the widow has also a dower claim of \$3,000.—Allan F. Longfellow, a carriage maker at Ascot, Que., has assigned, owing about \$1,200.—The failure is reported of J. B. Poirier & Co., dealing in furniture, sewing machines, etc., at Ste. Scholastique. Mr. P. made a rather bad failure in 1895, when he owed about \$5,000, with small assets, and has since done business under cover of a son's name.—A demand of assignment has been made upon P. A. Perron, of Carleton, Que. He was formerly a civil engineer, engaged on the construction of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway, and started store-keeping in 1892.—J. C. Cheval, formerly ran a shoe store in Montreal, but a year ago removed to Waterloo, Que. His career there has been a short one, as he has just assigned; liabilities are stated at \$3,000.

THE following is Nova Scotia's contribution to the weekly failure list: S. Ritcey, jr., dealing in general merchandise and fish at Ritcey's Cove, recently gave two confessions of judgment to leading creditors for about \$1,700, and subsequently assigned. He is now offering 40 cents on the dollar, payable in three months. His general liabilities are about \$4,000, and on mortgage \$2,100.—Mrs. Mary Gillis, Sydney, widow of Angus Gillis, since whose decease in 1887, she has been carrying on general business, is seeking a settlement at 50 cents. Her affairs have been in bad shape for some months past, part of the time being in the hands of a trustee.—The assignment is reported of R. McLeod, of Truro, a trader in cattle, lumber, etc. He failed before in 1894, when he owed some \$4,000.—T. D. Shand, formerly a carpenter of Lunenburg, moved to Halifax two years ago and engaged in a general building and contracting business. He has not met with success in this larger sphere, and several judgments being recently recorded against him, he has now assigned.—Mrs. G. E. Warner, who has been a milliner in Halifax for some 25 or 30 years past, has now been obliged to assign. She owes about \$2,500.—F. E. Burke, a general dealer in a small way at Joggins, has written his creditors, asking them to relieve him of 50 per cent. of his liabilities. He began business a few years ago on a capital of about \$500.

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