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AGENTS, Montreal and Toronto.

Mercantile Summary.

A STEEL bridge 110 feet long is to be built over Trout River, at Huntingdon, Que., replacing a wooden one. The contract has been let.

MR. P. A. PRINCE, manager of the Bow River Lumber Company, has taken up a good ranche location on the Red Deer River, north of Medicine Hat, which he will stock in the spring.

THE Messrs. Van Egmond, of the Seaforth woolen mills, have dissolved partnership, and Mr. W. D. Van Egmond will take over the business, which he proposes to turn into a joint stock company.

THE man who devotes a week to advertising, and then rails at the returns, is like the boy who studied law two days and then said: "The law ain't what it's cracked up to be. I'm sorry I learned it."

THERE is a prospect, says the Sarnia Observer that the works of the oil refining company at that place will be taken hold of by a powerful concern and remodelled as well as extended. We trust this may prove true.

R. B. NORTON & Co., a hardware concern at Charlottetown, P.E.I., are reported as having assigned, making preferences of \$11,000. They were involved in 1894 through accommodation paper, and arranged then at 50 cents.

THE new buildings erected in Montreal last year numbered 349, and the value of these new structures and of alterations to old ones totalled \$1,883,750. St. Antoine ward showed the largest aggregate, viz., \$475,000, and St. James, \$415,000.

THE 80,000 feet of cedar shipped last month from Vancouver to Seattle is to be sent to Japan by the liner "Wakamura Maru." It is an experimental shipment, says the World, B.C., and consists of squared timber and single bolts. If it is a success a big trade may be established.

THE Petrolia Advertiser says that Parkhill is agitated over the prospect of finding oil close by the town. Mr. James Beresford, a prospector, who has had experience in Petrolia and in India, is superintending the work of prospecting for a syndicate of London and other gentlemen.

R. STAPLES, of St. Mary's, N.B., in the dry goods trade, is offering general creditors 50 cents on the dollar, cash. As he recently gave a St. John, N.B., firm a bill of sale for \$3,600, as well as a mortgage for \$3,900, there is probably no other recourse for them but to accept.

WINNIPEG has a Music Dealers' Association, with a membership of nearly twenty. At the annual meeting last week the following officers were elected for this year: President, R. H. Nunn; 1st vice-president, A. H. Mason; 2nd vice-president, H. B. Marcy; secretary, J. J. H. McLean; treasurer, Wm. Grundy.

WM. CONNERTY, for some fifteen years in general business at Irish Creek, Ont., with a hitherto good record, has got into deep water, and creditors have granted him a settlement at 75 cents on the dollar. It is reported that some were in favor of an easier settlement, but Mr. C. thought he could pay 75 cents, and stuck to his offer.

THE annual meeting of the Montreal Loan and Mortgage Company was held in that city last week, when a statement was submitted that was considered quite satisfactory. Mr. Richard Bolton, president; Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, vice-president; Messrs Charles Alexander, F. Caverhill, W. E. Cheese, C. E. Gault, and J. L. Morris, Q.C., directors, were the officers elected.

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