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Mercantile Summary.

APPLICATION has been made for the in corporation of a company to be known as the Woodstock, N.B., Sash Balance and Lock Company, to manufacture and sell a patented window raising and locking contrivance.

THE Toronto Rubber Company is looking for a new site for its works, and among other places is negotiating with Hull, Que. It is understood that the company will ask for about \$40,000 as a bonus from the city. Some of the leading aldermen are in favor of giving the company very favorable terms, but they consider this amount too high.

THE Montreal Plumbers' Association held its annual banquet on the evening of the 3rd inst. The trade of the whole Dominion was represented on the occasion, with the exception of the Lower Provinces, the delegates from Halifax and St. John being snowed up somewhere east of the city. Mr. J. W. Harris, the president of the Association, occupied the chair. The toast list was ably looked after, and the whole affair was very creditable to the plumbing fraternity.

THE imports entered for consumption at the port of Montreal last month amounted in value to \$3,245,948, as compared with \$2,454,310 for the corresponding month of last year, showing an increase of \$800,000. This increase was shared by both between free and dutiable goods, the former having increased from \$682,-501 to \$912,265; while in the case of dutiable goods the increase was from \$1,758,000 to \$2,311,000. The exports amounted in the aggregate to \$2.312,400 as compared with a total of \$1,415,000 in January, 1897. The total duty collected last month was \$671,288, as compared with \$517,363 in the same month last year, an increase of about \$154,000.

An application has been made by Thomas H. Lawry, Mrs. F. Carpenter, Miss Louise Lawry, and J. J. Scott, of Hamilton, and Anderson Fowler, of New York, for a charter for the T. Lawry & Son Company, Limited, Hamilton. The company proposes to take over the extensive pork packing business of the late Thomas Lawry, and before long the output will be much increased. Mr. Fowler is a member of the firm of Fowler Bros., one of the large American provision houses in the world. T. H. Lawry is to be managing director of the company. Mr. Lawry states that the firm's produce has given such satisfaction in Europe that it was proposed to do an extensive export trade in connection with Fowler Bros.

THE municipal authorities of Halifax, N.S., are making efforts, as our readers know, to secure better railway communication with Yarmouth, along the south shore. The routes proposed are two; one known as the Hervey line, which would connect at Shelburne with the Coast Railway, and run to New Germany on the Central Railway, crossing the Liverpool River 19 miles above the town, to which it is proposed to build a branch. From New Germany the road would go on to some point on the I.C.R. between Windsor Junction and Halifax. The line would pass through the interior, and be about 145 miles in length. The other route is that of the Coast Railway, to run from Yarmouth to Shelburne, and thence through Lockeport, Liverpool, Bridgewater, Mahone Bay, Chester and Margaret's Bay, to some point between Bedford and Halifax on the I.C.R., and giving a total mileage from Yarmouth to Halifax of about 225 miles.

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