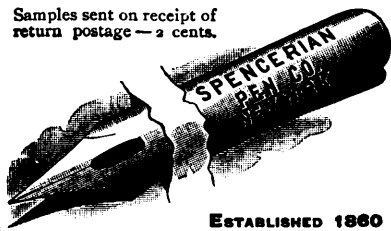


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MONTREAL AND TORONTO

Mercantile Summary.

THE Inland Revenue returns for the month of May at the port of Hamilton reached only \$18,524, as compared with the same month a year previous, when the figures were \$45,046, being a decrease of \$26,522. No doubt this deficit was owing to the expected changes in the tariff.

DISSATISFACTION with the Grand Trunk Railway is expressed by the council of the Hamilton Board of Trade. The railway is charged with violating its agreement with the city in regard to freight and passenger rates, and the facts of the case will be submitted to a special meeting of the Board of Trade.

THE London West council has on the recommendation of the finance committee fixed the rate of taxation at 25 mills on the dollar. Of this sum 18 mills is required for general purposes and 7 mills for schools. The estimated receipts for the year were \$10,717.07, and the expenditures \$9,949.05, leaving a surplus of \$768.02.

It is proposed in Sarnia to stamp the cigarette habit by imposing a yearly tax of \$50 on vendors of cigarettes. The *Observer* does not understand why the homeopathic cigarette should be thus treated when the "robust cigar and the powerful pipe" are "allowed to flaunt themselves in public with all the pride of legalized privilege."

MESSRS. CAMERON and Watkins, preventive officers, made a large seizure of contraband whisky on the north shore below the Moisie River, Que., a few days ago. Their booty consists of one thousand gallons of proof spirits, valued at \$2,500, and the stuff is now safely stored in the examining warehouse. It was found hidden on the Etamau River.

THE Canadian geological survey parties are leaving this week for their various fields. Nova Scotia is to be visited by Dr. Ellis, Mr. H. Fletcher and Mr. Ami, who will cover the Springhill coal fields. The gold-bearing rocks along the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia will be studied by Mr. E. R. Fairbault. There are about fifty gold mines in this district. Guysboro and Halifax counties are said to be particularly rich in auriferous deposits. This party will leave this week, and be absent all summer.

THE boot and shoe factory in the city of Quebec, which was established a year or two ago by Messrs. Harvey & Van Norman, of Toronto, has been sold to Mr. Larochelle, of the former city, and the business of Harvey & Van Norman will be concentrated here. Mr. Larochelle has sold his factory in Quebec to Messrs. Lapointe & Co., the principal in which was formerly accountant for Mr. G. Bresse, in the same line of business. Quebec will not lack for shoe factories, since we learn that Mr. Muir, formerly manager for Mr. John Ritchie, an extensive maker of foot wear in that city, is opening a factory in the old Polley premises.

IN 1882 C. McIlhargey removed from Parkhill to Stratford, and opened in the latter place a grocery and crockery store. His disposition has long been to trade beyond his means, and in order to make sales he would cut prices so low as to leave no margin of profit. On the 25th ult. a meeting of creditors was held in London, when an offer of 50 per cent. was made to them and declined. They, however, expressed their willingness to accept 75 per cent., providing security was obtained, and Mr. McIlhargey is now endeavoring to arrange this. His statement shows assets and liabilities equal at \$8,000 each.

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