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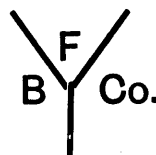
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Mercantile Summary.

HAVE you remitted your subscription for the MONETARY TIMES? If not, do so when you go to the post office to mail your Christmas cards.

Six three-masted schooners will be built next year on Minas Basin, all of them to be used in the plaster-carrying trade.

PARRSBORO', N. S., owns 17,000 tons of ship-ping, and over 16,000,000 feet of deals and deal ends were shipped from there this season.

The Importers' and Traders' Fire Insurance Company of New York, disgusted with low rates and the conditions of fire underwriting in the United States, has withdrawn from business.

It would appear that there is too much competition in St. Thomas in the way of house building to admit of making money. A builder in that city, Mr. Hiram Buck, has just assigned.

NEARLY 7,000 tons of plaster was shipped this season from Smoot & Co's. quarries, Newport, N. S., where about forty men and thirty horses were employed.

MORE vessels have been repaired on the Halifax Marine Railway this year than any previous year since it was built. The largest steamer ever put on was the *Tankerville*, a new steamer of the Brazilian line.

THE Kentville *Chronicle* tells of a gentleman in that town, Mr. J. E. Dewolf, who is 76 years of age and has been in business there for 53 years, almost 50 of them in the corner store. Unfortunately the old gentleman has been stricken with paralysis and is very feeble.

WILLIAM S. WILLIAMS, a stock holder, has begun action against the Western Union Telegraph company and directors to prevent the payment of the dividend just declared on \$89,000,000 alleged illegal stock.

MR. JAMES COYLE, builder in Toronto, having taken contracts at too low figures agreeing to take heavily encumbered real estate as part pay, now finds he cannot meet his liabilities and has made an assignment to R. Y. Milne for the benefit of all his creditors.

THE jewellery store of A. J. Winchell, at Tilsonburg was broken into in November last and a few hundred dollars' worth of goods abstracted. It is also stated that his late partner took advantage of him to the extent of several hundred more. At any rate he has assigned in trust to H. Lavery, Hamilton.

THE decision in the Standard Oil Co. case by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is of importance to corporations everywhere, but especially in New York State, where similar laws exist, says the *Monitor*. "The doctrine laid down, that a foreign corporation is only liable to taxation on assets within the State, has been the recognized principle here; a contrary ruling would subject insurance as well as all other companies to a tax on their total assets in every State where they did business. Such was the monstrous proposition which has just been squelched by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania."