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WEIR's lumber mills, near Kemptville, Ont., were on the 20th inst. completely destroyed by fire. The damage is about \$4,000, and the insurance very small.

THE Sheriff's sale of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway, which was to have taken place at New Carlisle, Que., on the 19th inst., did not come off, opposition having been filed by C. N. Armstrong.

N. CANTIN, boots and shoes, Ottawa, reported failed in last issue, is offering 20 per cent., cash. In the matter of John Buchanan, also a lately failed Ottawa shoe man, the estate has been sold at auction.

—A. L. Mattice, a small grocer of the same city, has assigned.

HIRAM HYDE, coal and wood dealer, of Truro, N.S., a man well up in years, and who is said to have had several marked ups-and-downs in the past, has had to make an assignment. Mr. Hyde was prominently connected with the laying of the first Atlantic cable.

ALEXANDRE LAJOIE, doing a small general and liquor business at Clairvaux de Bagot, Que., for the last three years, has arranged a compromise at 40 per cent., cash.—G. H. Renaud, a baker of Hull, one of the victims of the late fire, is reported as seeking compromise indulgence from creditors.

THE Nova Scotia Steel Co. have purchased the coal mines of the General Mining Association, of North Sydney, for \$1,500,000. The company, which will, it is said, employ some 500 hands, will be a competitor with the Dominion Iron and Steel Company. Operations are to begin in September.

CITIZENS, of Waterloo, Ont., voted on Monday last on the by-law to grant \$9,000 to the Port Dover, Brantford, Berlin and Goderich Railway. The vote was 266 for, and 124 against. An effect of the building of the road would be to afford connection with the C.P.R. to both Waterloo and Berlin.

THE Shore Line Railway, running between St. John and St. Stephen, has, at the instance of the Metropolitan Trust Co., of New York, passed into the hands of receivers. It has not been paying expenses, and will probably be sold at auction. The receivers are Russel Sage, of New York, and H. H. McLean, of this city.

WASHINGTON statistics say that the foreign commerce of the United States during the fiscal year 1900 exceeds that of any preceding year, being \$320,000,000 greater than that of 1899, the heaviest one on record. The total commerce of the year, as shown by the figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, is \$2,244,193,543. The exports are \$1,394,479,214. The imports were \$849,714,329. Manufactures imported show a gain of about \$20,000,000 over last year; articles of voluntary use, luxuries, etc., also about \$20,000,000; articles of food, about \$15,000,000; articles wholly or partially manufactured for use in manufacturing, \$25,000,000, and articles in a crude condition, which enter into the various processes of domestic industry, over \$75,000,000.

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