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Mercantile Summary.

THE Christmas issue of the *Farmers' Advocate* is an attractive one. The cover, done in colors, is handsome, and the contents, among which are a number of portraits and half-tone illustrations of farm scenes, interesting. The list of contributors is not readily surpassed.

THE assignment is reported, from Quebec, of Alain & Co., furniture dealers, after an offer of 25 cents on the dollar had been made and rejected. This sort of thing seems chronic with Mr. Alain, as he failed in 1891, and compromised at 40 cents, and again failed eighteen months later.

IN October, 1893, Robt. S. Beattie succeeded one Dahn as a general storekeeper at Port Alma. In doing so he had the assistance of a London lawyer. In January last he was obliged to give a mortgage to his brother for \$3,500. Recently one of his creditors sued him, and he now assigns.

H. BROWN, junior, in the tailoring business in St. John, N.B., for the last seven years, has had to assign, and owes \$2,300. He was too liberal in credits.—Hyman Jacobson, formerly a peddler, and latterly selling shoes in a small retail way, in the same city, is reported as compromising liabilities of \$1,700 at 40 cents on the dollar.

MR. W. C. WARD will enter into his new duties as manager of the head office of the Bank of British Columbia in London about the first of the year. He will be succeeded in the superintendency of the British Columbia branches of the bank by Mr. George Gillespie, the present Victoria manager, says the *Victoria Times*.

THE boot and shoe factory formerly occupied by R. Smardon & Sons, which has been closed for more than three years, is about to resume operations. It will do so, however, as the property of Messrs. P. A. Thibaudeau, Louis Beaubien and J. Binette, of Quebec, to whom the city council decided, on Tuesday, to give possession.

FROM Nova Scotia we hear of the following failures: J. H. Scott, fancy goods and stationery at Yarmouth, has assigned, owing some \$6,000.—James Shea, a small trader at Ingonish, is likewise insolvent.—Colin McDonald, formerly in partnership with a brother at Bridgeport, and since last July doing a small general business at Reserve Mines, has made an assignment.

A DEMAND of assignment has been made upon Porter, Leskey & Co., jobbers in toys and fancy goods, Montreal, by the Bank of Montreal. Their position has been one of some doubt for the last couple of years, and the failure is not wholly unexpected. The liabilities direct are \$33,800, and indirect \$15,000.—Malcolm Gregory, doing business at Montreal, under the style of the Silica Sand and Gravel Co., has assigned. The liabilities are placed at about \$25,000.

A MEETING of the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Benefit Society was held on Saturday night to nominate officers and trustees. In the absence of the president, Mr. Robert Crean, the vice-president, Mr. T. M. Bayne, presided. The executive and trustees in outside cities were elected by acclamation. Mr. Crean was re-elected president, Mr. Bayne vice-president, and Mr. Warring Kennedy treasurer. The following gentlemen were nominated for Toronto trustees, three to be elected: Messrs. John Burns, W. F. Smith, Henry Goodman, H. Lamont, John Everett, M. A. Harper, Chas. Reid, A. Rowland, Ed. Burns. The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 16th.

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