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Mercantile Summary.

INGRAHAM & McLean, general merchants of Sydney, N.S., lately reported failed, are making a proposition to pay 40 cents on the dollar, 25 cents cash, and 15 cents in three months.

THE cranberry season has been a good one in British Columbia, and the fruit brings three cents the pound. Over 100 barrels were shipped to Victoria in the last week of September.

THE Thompson Lumber Company, of Windsor, has secured the contract for all the dressed and rough lumber required for the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway shops at London. It will take 1,000,000 feet.

MR. GEORGE VAUGHAN, of Sussex, N.B., has purchased the old Stewart mill at Black Brook, Miramichi, and will operate it next season. The *Gleaner* says he has contracted with Mr. M. Welch to get out 9,000,000 logs this winter.

A WINNIPEG despatch of this day week states that H. F. Holmes, of Rat Portage, has completed the sale of the Bad Mine for \$55,000. The property is situated about six miles east of Rat Portage, near the Scramble, Sweden, Treasure and other mines.

DUTIES collected at the Winnipeg custom house during September were \$58,152, which was \$3,020 more than in the previous September, the value of imported goods entered (\$236,251, of which \$51,560 was free goods) being higher. The exports last month greatly exceeded those of September, 1895, the figures of value being \$310,687 and \$206,873 respectively.

A MINNEAPOLIS paper says that an ear of Indian corn put on a fire makes more heat than its bulk in wood, but it does not say what kind of wood. Anyhow there will be a quantity of corn burned for fuel this winter in many sections of Minnesota and South Dakota. Coal is \$2 per ton dearer there than last year, and with corn at eleven cents a bushel, it is more valuable as fuel than as food.

A MEETING of the creditors of P. Pigeon, general merchant, Mattawa, Ont., was held a few days ago, when he made a proposition to pay 50 cents on the dollar, in instalments at four, eight and twelve months. He shows ordinary liabilities \$6,000, privileged \$575, mortgage \$1,400. He was in trouble before a few years ago, on which occasion he obtained an extension of time.

THE St. Lawrence Machinery Agency, a style under which George Hunt, of Montreal, has carried on business for the past couple of years, is closed up, Mr. Hunt having filed consent to assign after having been sued several times.—The assignment of the Canada Machinery Company, of the same city, whose embarrassment we noticed a fortnight ago, is now reported. The liabilities are scheduled at \$30,829, of which about half is indirect to their bankers.

Lewis Fraid, a clothier, of Gananoque, Ont., and one of those who were unfortunate in being burned out at the fire of last week, has written his creditors asking them to accept 25 per cent. of their claims, as his stock is a clean loss, and he has only \$2,000 of insurance, against liabilities of \$4,500.—After being in the jewelry business for some eight or nine years at Renfrew, Ont., A. S. Rusland has found it necessary to assign. He has generally been reported slow, and labored under a chattel mortgage.—S. H. Eagleson began a small grocery business in Ottawa a year ago last spring, but has not made it a success, and his insolvency is reported.

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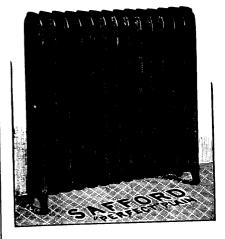
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