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Mercantile Summary.

An Ottawa telegram of the 22nd states that large quantities of phosphates continue to be taken out of the mines in Templeton township. The demand at present is good and operations more extensive than usual. Quotations are from \$20 to \$22 per ton.

THE arrivals at the port of Halifax during the past twelve months are stated to number 3,751 steamers and sailing craft, manned by 41,736 men. This is irrespective of ships of war and their crews. The steamers in the list numbered 474; ships, 5; barques, 95; brigs. 285; schooners, 2,892.

A DRY goods dealer in St. Hyacinthe Que., Mr. L. V. Sicotte, is endeavoring to compromise at 50 cents on the dollar, payable in instalments of 3, 6, 9 and 12 months, secured. Mr. Sicotte was burned ont in 1875, on which occasion he compromised at 621 cents. Most of his creditors have accepted his present offer. Liabilities \$9.600.

N. Hudon, a general trader in a small way at Coaticooke, Que., has assigned, after a very brief career dating only from January last. His liabilities are stated at \$3,300, and the estate will be wound up, as he has no desire to continue business. Trade at this point is greatly overdone, which is the principal reason assigned for want of sucess in the present case.

Mona Lesser & Co., a Montreal firm of eigar manufacturers, have failed and assigned to S. Davis, one of their principal creditors. Liabilities are stated at about \$15,000, and the estate admittedly will be a poor one. The business will likely be wound up, as Mr. Lesser states he has no desire to continue it- Their troubles are assigned to mismanagement and leaks in the manufacturing department.

THEY can beef down in Cape Breton, although western people may think there is nothing but fish down there. Fourteen thousand lbs. beef was put up in one week in 1 lb. and 2 lb. tins., by D. McDonald & Co's., Beef Canning factory at Port Hood; while another firm, Campbell & McLellan, are going into the same business, or have gone into it. If nearness to the Old Country market be an advantage, these Cape Breton shippers have got a decided start.

A CHICAGO despatch of last week states that Matthew H. Escott, who was a defaulter of some \$17,000 to the Canada Investment and Loan Agency Company, who has lain since 1880 in the county jail as an insolvent debtor, came before the county court again, to present a second schedule of his property, and ask again a release from imprisonment. In his first schedule he represented that he squandered \$4,000 in Canada before he came here, and brought \$13,000 with him. Now he says that besides squandering \$4,000, he gave \$2,000 to his wife, and brought \$11,000 with him. In addition to this change, he tells a story which contradicts his first one. The case was continued to the 29th inst.