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Mercantile Summary.

MRS. MARY A. S. McKenzie, of Truro, N.S., who has been carrying on a hotel, since the death of her husband, in 1890, is reported as having assigned.

MILLER'S Tanning Extract Co., of Millerton, N.B., make, on an average, 325 barrels of hemlock extract every week. Forty-five cords of hemlock are consumed every day at the work of making the extract.—Times.

THE harbor commissioners of Quebec had, this year, says La Semaine Commerciale, \$350,000 to spend for building and improving wharves, docks, etc. It might be proper to ask what sum has been really expended and what further sum is held in reserve at interest.

A PRESS despatch from Philadelphia, dated 1st November, gives out that the organizers of the Continental Telegraph, Telephone and Cable Company, a New Jersey Concern, has obtained control of all the independent telephone companies in the United States, and aims to combine these with the great telegraph companies and the five Atlantic cable companies.

AFTER a few years' experience as clerk, Hector Robitaille, of Joliette, Que., opened in the dry goods line, two years ago last spring. Six months ago he was reported as obtaining a quiet extension, and now he has assigned to the court, upon the demand of Messrs. Hodgson, Summer & Co., of Montreal, and his statement shows liabilities of \$3,868.—D. McLarty, confectioner at Hull, Que., late McLarty & Bishop, is reported assigned, with small liabilities.--Raymond & Co., general merchants, St. Anne de Beaupre. lately noted as failed, are making an offer of 35 cents. •

WHY the boot and shoe manufacturing business should be so liable to disaster for many of those who engage in it, is not readily explainable, but the fact remains that it is so. During the present week, two failures are reported in this line, one in Quebec, and one in Montreal, and in both cases the failure is not the first failure of the parties concerned. From Quebec it is reported that Joseph Poirier is offering ten cents on the dollar, cash, to his general creditors. Mr. Poirier has been in business quite a number of years, but is reported to have been in financial trouble about ten years ago, and again in the spring of last year he is stated to have compromised liabilities of \$16,000 at 35 cents in the dollar. bankers are understood to have advanced the money for that settlement, and they are the principal creditors at the present time, his merchandise indebtedness being moderate.-G. Brouillet & Co., a Montreal firm of shoe manufacturers, have assigned on demand. They also were in trouble several years ago, and offered 25 per cent. compromise, on liabilities of some \$25,000, but eventually had to assign, and business was resumed under the wife's name. The present liabilities are \$14,800, we are informed.

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