

Mercantile Summary.

THE iron foundry at Pictou has been closed down.

A NEW steel steamer is being built at Quyon for the Upper Ottawa Improvement Company.

MR. J. R. BOOTH, of Ottawa, has offered \$10,000 for a sanitarium, and wants it established at Algonquin Park.

THE number of passengers carried over the Galt, Preston and Hespeler Street Railway in 1895 was 175,000.

FIVE small Montreal grocers have assigned, as follows; A. Begaouette, owing about \$2,500; T. Price & Co., owing about \$500; Joseph Brunet, who owes about \$1,000; A. C. Bourassa, whose liabilities are \$1,870, and Z. Boismenu, owing \$1,500.

ST. JOHN, N.B., furnishes a couple of small failures this week: R. W. Carson, a tailor, is offering 35 cents, cash, on a liability of \$1,600.

F. S. Thompson, a manufacturers' agent, would like to settle his indebtedness of \$1,200 at 20 cents on the dollar.

MR. THOS. MERRITT, general agent for Central and Northern Indiana of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, has been transferred to that company's general agency at Toronto, and is succeeded at Indianapolis by Robt. N. Merritt & Co.

THE annual meeting of the shareholders of the Edwardsburg Starch Company was held in Montreal on last Tuesday. A satisfactory statement of the affairs of the company was submitted, and the old board of directors was re-elected. G. F. Benson was re-elected president, and Wm. Strachan vice-president. We understand that J. D. Reid will be secretary and managing director at Cardinal as before.

WE regret having been, through a misunderstanding, the means of doing injustice to a worthy merchant by a paragraph in this column last week. Our item said that Mr. Charles Richards, general merchant in Caledonia, had been impelled by dull trade to hand his affairs over to an assignee. This was not the case. Mr. Richards has, like everyone else, felt the pressure of the hard times, but has not made any assignment, and assures us that he never even contemplated such a thing, having more than enough to pay everyone he owes. It is a matter of concern to us if we have done any injury to Mr. Richards' good repute or made his task as a merchant more difficult.

THE total assessment of Ottawa city for the current year is \$21,721,720, which is an increase of \$1,322,625 over that of 1895. The property assessed for public schools is valued at \$15,687,060, and that of separate school ratepayers at \$5,388,750.

THE annual report of the electrical department of the Michigan Inspection Bureau for 1895 shows a total loss of \$74,265 in nineteen fires of electrical origin. Over 816 installations were inspected, with the result of remedying 396 defects. Most of this work was done about Detroit.

THE annual meeting of the Montreal Transportation Company was held last week. At the election of officers Messrs. Hugh McLennan, W. W. Ogilvie, Andrew Allan, G. M. Kinghorn, F. A. Crane and D. G. Thompson were chosen directors. Mr. Hugh McLennan was re-elected president and Mr. G. M. Kinghorn secretary of the company.

THE Joggins mines, Nova Scotia, have been closed down. The men got notice that on the 15th of January a reduction of ten per cent. would be made on the wages of the over men and five per cent. on the wages of the under men. The men did not accept the reduction; hence the closing of the works.

A. DAVELING, general merchant, Maddington Falls, Que., has become involved, through endorsements for Esnouf & Co., millers. Mr. Daveling is a returned Californian, who went to Maddington Falls some twelve years ago, buying a good part of the then new village site, and tried to boom the place, with a certain measure of success, the mill built by above concern being part of the scheme. He has tried to arrange a compromise, but a demand has now been made upon him. He owes about \$24,000, and shows a fair apparent surplus.

MR. JOSEPH R. DUNDAS died in this city, on Friday last, at the age of 60. His had been an active business life. It is more than thirty years since he was in the grain and provision business, in Peterboro'; then in 1864 he went to Lindsay, and had a long and successful career as a member of the firm of Cluxton & Dundas. Since he came to Toronto, he has been of the firm of Gunn, Flavell & Co., provision merchants, etc. Mr. Dundas represented South Ontario in Parliament. He was president of the Toronto Savings and Loan Co. and vice-president of the Central Canada Loan Company.

WILLARD FULLER, of Bolton Centre, Que., who has carried on a butter tub factory for some years, his output in some years being calculated at 50,000 tubs, has had to assign. His indebtedness is stated at \$10,690.

PERRY & TURNER, contractors and hardware dealers, Victoria, B.C., are in difficulty. Lately they have been heavily pressed for payment and sued several times. They are erecting the Parliament buildings and collecting material for the Nanaimo court house. This has taxed their capital entirely too much and led to their assignment.

THE recent extensive fire in Drummondville, Que., has brought about the embarrassment of two leading storekeepers of that town. E. A. Piché figures up his position as follows: Liabilities, direct, \$7,800; indirect, \$2,200; assets estimated \$6,750, and he will require a compromise to enable him to continue. J. N. Turcotte has also made a considerable fire loss, and is proposing to pay 65 per cent. upon liabilities of \$13,600.

JUDGE CURRAN has granted a petition for a winding-up order, applied for in the matter of La Compagnie d'Approvisionnement Alimentaire de Montreal, which put into English, means the Montreal Provision Supply Co. The company was organized several years ago, to do a general business in French wines, liqueurs, canned goods, etc., and subsequently absorbed the wholesale grocery business of Telmosse & Co. The nominal paid-up capital was \$42,000, which was found insufficient. Arrangements were pending for the investment of fresh capital by French and Canadian business men, but the above action will now likely lead to liquidation. The bulk of the liabilities are due in France.

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References { The Canadian Bank of Commerce.
The Union Bank of Canada.

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