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FAILURES in England are becoming less numerous. The number in England and Wales gazetted for the week ending 7th July inst. shows a decrease of 43, as compared with the like period last year. The net decrease in 1883, to date, compared with last year, is 159.

W. L. RICHARDSON, an old established dealer in picture frames in Kingston, Ont., has assigned in trust. He owes some \$21,000, and has stock and small book accounts estimated at \$28,000. The failure is attributed to overstocking, or buying more goods than his capital warranted.

OWING, it is alleged, to depression in the iron trade, the Robertsville Iron Mine, near Kingston, has been closed. The Roberts Co., who mined about 100 tons per day, and employed some twenty men, whose wages averaged \$4,000 per month, were not able to use all the ore on hand, and, being unable to sell the surplus stock advantageously, were obliged to shut down. The Levant mine continues in active operation.

MURPHY Bros. of this city, of which firm Mr. J. B. Murphy, formerly of the firm of Hodgson, Murphy & Sumner, was the principal, have sold out their recently purchased stock of goods to Messrs. Hodgson, Sumner & Co., the state of Mr. Murphy's health not being sufficiently assured to allow him to carry on the business. Mr. Murphy had retired from business some four years ago.

Leading Wholesale Trade of Montreal.

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COMPANY**

MONTREAL,

**HATS, CAPS,**

—AND—

**FURS.****OUR TRAVELLERS ARE NOW ON THEROD,  
WITH FALL SAMPLES, 1883.****BUFFALO**

—AND—

**FANCY ROBES.****GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING.**

Latest Styles, Lowest Prices,

—SELECTED FOR—

**FALL TRADE, 1883.**

THE TOTAL cost of the Richelieu bridge between Lacolle and St. Thomas, work on which is to be commenced at once, will probably exceed \$30,000. The Government subsidies amount to \$11,000.—An enormous hay crop has been cut in the Eastern Townships, the weather during the past week having been favorable.

THE work on the Waterloo & Magog Railway is being pushed with the utmost vigor. Over 200 hands are employed between Magog and Sherbrooke, constructing the link between those two places, besides a large number west of Magog, who are straightening this portion of the line and laying down new rails. The men are paid \$1.25 per day. It is the intention to have the road completed and running next Autumn.

MR. W. H. FRAZER, of the appraisers branch of the Customs Department, who has returned from an eight months' absence in England, is said to have discovered some new crooked methods resorted to by importers, especially in hardware. One of the plans is to give out that the goods have been shipped at a point much farther from the place of manufacture than that they are really shipped from, thus making the amount to be deducted for freight greater than should be allowed.

THE Montreal City and District Savings Bank is about to open a branch at Hochelaga, an eastern suburb, with Mr. S. Garceau, late paying teller in the head office, as Manager. Having been connected with every department of the Bank during the past fifteen years, Mr. Garceau is eminently qualified for the responsible position to which he has been appointed.—It is proposed to erect a mammoth summer hotel on the Canada side of Lake Memphremagog; a number of leading citizens of Montreal and prominent railway men selected a site last Saturday, and the building of the new hostelry is to be commenced shortly.

THE general store stock of Achille Bourque, of St. Gregoire, Que., has been sold at 50c on the dollar, and the creditors will probably realize 50c to 55c on the dollar. The liabilities were \$3,400, with assets nominally the same.—A. Labelle, storekeeper at St. Henri, called a meeting of creditors last week, and assigned in trust. According to his own statement, he owes \$16,924, and has stock, real estate and book-debts amounting to \$19,206. An inventory of the stock, etc., is being taken, prior to an adjourned meeting of creditors.

THE liabilities of Messrs. Barrett & Frère, general storekeepers, Chambly Basin, P.Q., whose assignment was announced last week, foot up some \$12,000, due chiefly in this city. The assets are said to show a nominal surplus, although the statement of the firm, it is alleged, presents a large deficiency, which they do not account for, hence their arrest on a *capias* at the instance of Thibeau & Bros., on a charge of obtaining goods under false pretences. The declaration of the plaintiffs states that one of the brothers Barrette some months ago filed a declaration in the office of the city prothonotary, stating that his wife was the principal of the firm, and was conducting the business. Since that time she has died, and it is alleged that the declaration in question has been allowed to stand, thus giving a false impression as to the constitution of the firm; furthermore, that the defendants have continued the business, and have been appropriating the goods and money to their own uses and to the injury of the interests of their creditors, of whom the plaintiff was the principal; and, lastly, that they were preparing to leave the country. The same firm recently issued a *capias* against J. Labrosse, of Moose Creek, on a charge of trying to evade payment of promissory notes by contemplated removal from the country.