

An old and much respected merchant of Toronto passed away on Wednesday, when Lawrence Coffee breathed his last. It is over fifty years since he came to this country from the old land, and we believe Toronto has been his home ever since. He began in a modest way at an early age as a grain dealer, and prospered, as he deserved to do, and some of our citizens remember his premises about Caroline street, in the east end, changed some twenty-five years ago to the Manning Block, and later to the present premises of the firm, corner Church and Colborne. In 1883 or 1884, Mr. Coffee suffered an accident whose results disabled him, and he had not been out of his house for years. His age was 72 years. The grain commission business goes on as usual meanwhile, Mr. Thomas Flynn being the surviving partner.

A LETTER of last week from our agent, Mr. Oliver, takes a rather less despondent view of commercial matters around Ridgetown than that of our previous correspondent on page 545, who thought the McKinley Tariff had nearly ruined some people in the West. Mr. Oliver instances one firm's operations for one week only—that of Mr. Arch. Patterson. He has shipped three cars of oats, three of wheat, two of beans, one of apples; a cargo of 13,000 bushels of wheat, 500 barrels of apples, 100 of beans, 800 pails of jelly. The total of all this was about \$20,000. Beans are selling in Ridgetown at low figures, from \$1 to \$1.10; wheat is low, ranging from 60 to 62 cents per bushel. A fruit canning factory, mainly for apples and tomatoes, has been established in Ridgetown. The company has taken possession of the building formerly held by the casket factory and fitted it up for their purposes.

A DESCRIPTION of the Eastville gold mine at South Uniacke in the county of Colchester, Nova Scotia, is given by the *Hants Journal*. The property comprises nine areas of 150 x 250 feet each, or about 7½ acres in all, and is owned by James Thomson of Halifax and John Quirk of Bridgetown. These gentlemen secured the property from the Government in 1888 and had the works in operation in 1889. They went down 100 feet before they struck a paying vein. "But since the main lead was found, two years ago, the mine has paid handsomely, the aggregate being between sixty and seventy thousand dollars for that period, the highest yield per month being in 1891, when from 29 tons of quartz 404 ozs. were obtained, valued at about \$8,000—this, too, with a 5-stamp mill, which is almost unprecedented in the history of gold mining in

the province. The average yield from the start has been about 11 ounces per ton."

H. W. WEESE & SON, who keep a restaurant at Dresden, have assigned.—At Ridgetown, W. C. McArthur, storekeeper, makes an assignment.—So do McDonald & Clark, hardware dealers in the same place. Formerly they were both farmers, well to do. In February last they began business and were estimated to be worth nearly \$8,000, and through ignorance of business and gross carelessness they are now in their present unfortunate condition.—W. B. Speight, of Markham, assigns. Probably this is for the purpose of winding-up some old complications arising out of the wagon company that failed years ago.—At North Bay, Wm. Featherstone, grocer and furniture dealer, in business there four years, has assigned. Poor ability and lack of experience in his line of trade are the real causes of his trouble.—The mortgagee has closed the hotel premises of D. McCormack at Wingham. Creditors need not expect a big dividend.

THE stock of Wintermute Bros., general storekeepers at Cayuga, is advertised for sale by auction next week. It will be remembered that they failed about three weeks ago.—The assets of the Niagara Casket and Coffin Co. are also advertised for sale.—The stock of C. W. Brown, grocer, Toronto, has been sold to his mortgagee, M. L. Noble.—The bailiff is in possession of the carriage manufactory of Ewart & Johnston here. Some time ago they proposed a dissolution, but this was not completed.—E. H. Alport & Co., jewellers, after being several years in business here, make an assignment to H. Ellis. At the first of the year they claimed a surplus of \$6,000. Of this sum \$2,000 at least proves unavailable.—The Climax Refrigerator Company, owned by J. G. Malcolm, is in trouble. In January last J. W. Curtis, his partner, retired. As he was the monied man of the firm, Malcolm could not well continue, and has made an assignment.

CANADIAN FRUIT FOR CHICAGO.

The Province of Quebec sends to the World's Fair at Chicago, among other things, a display of fruit comprising 350 jars and 175 cases. The list includes the *Fam-uses*, those apples that have made the Island of Montreal famous, and the *Beurre d'Anjou* pears. Salicylic acid not having been found suitable, after repeated experiments a solution of two per cent. of boracic acid and three per cent. of glycerine was decided on for the colored fruits, and a weak solution of zinc chloride for the yellow

and green fruits. Each jar is hermetically sealed with pure paraffin wax, and, together with the cased fruits, which are each wrapped separately in tissue paper, will be placed in cold storage on their arrival in Chicago. A week ago, a portion of the exhibit to be made by the Province of Ontario at Chicago was packed at Hamilton and shipped. It consisted of vegetables and fruit; the grain will not be shipped till April. There were 2,000 jars of fruit put up in acids, and 200 barrels of apples and pears; also 200 boxes of vegetables, of nearly every variety but pumpkins and squash, which will not keep. On arrival at Chicago the vegetables will be put in cold storage, and kept all winter. The object in sending them now is that the exhibit may be ready in time for the opening of the Exhibition.

—It is well enough to be prepared for emergencies, but it is uncomfortable to sleep with a coil of rope for a pillow so as to be ready to go through the window in case of fire.—*Milwaukee Journal*.

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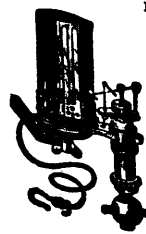
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