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Mercantile Summary.

On Friday or Saturday last, a sharp cut was made in the prices of plug tobacco in the United States. In September, Leggett & Myers cut the price about ten per cent. But the American Tobacco Co. has seen them and gone them ten per cent. lower.

THE Americans are eager runners after any new thing. The leading bicycle makers of the Eastern States have decided to adopt the 30-inch wheel as a foremost feature of 1899. Query; will those who own 28-inch wheels sell or trade or give away their back numbers?

An American exchange tells us that the Drummond Tobacco Co. has been absorbed by the American Tobacco Co. The cash paid, it is agreed, was \$3,457,ooo, but some say that the balance of \$10,000,000 was given in stock. The president of the late company, Mr. Harrison I. Drummond, remaining in charge, at a fixed salary.

It has been reported to the Ottawa authorities by Mr. D. M. Rennie, Canadian trade agent in the Argentine Republic, that the sugar crop in Argentina is a failure, and that there will be none for export. Building is very flat in the Republic, and the lumber trade is correspondingly dull. The wheat harvest, however, has been prosperous.

In Wallaceburg, Mr. W. Colwell, stationer and fancy goods dealer, has just completed the erection of a fine brick block on James street, 32 x 75 feet, two stories high, to be used as a book and fancy goods store, also the home of the Wallaceburg News, of which he is the publisher. The new building is known as the Colwell Block, and is one of the best in town.

DURING a severe storm at Chatham, N.B., some days ago, about 1,000-000 feet of timber broke loose from the south-west booms. The Masterman Pulp mill, Hutchinson, Richards and Snowball booms also broke, allowing a large quantity of timber to get loose, some of which has been recovered. The truss work recently erected by the Maritime Sulphite Company, for conveying logs, was blown down, causing a loss, it is said, of about

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