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### Mercantile Summary.

WHEN William Stephenson, foundry man, took his sudden departure from Petrolea, he was well esteemed by its residents. It is now learned, however, that he owes a large sum of money, and creditors are very anxious. Messrs. Fairbanks & Vaughan being largely interested in the property, will, it is said, continue the business.

In June last, shortly after the failure of R. Wallace & Co. at London, their stock, amounting to \$14,000, was sold to R. G. Balmer, tailor, at 65 per cent., on which he paid \$2,000. The opinion then expressed that he had paid too much for the stock seems to have been confirmed by the event. Now it amounts to \$12,500, and is to be sold to-day. He has assigned.

A snoe dealer in this city, named C. E. Boyd, has assigned with liabilities of \$3,500, and nominal assets of about half this sum. The creditors of J. J. Tonkin, tailor, also in Toronto, held a meeting the other day, but nothing definite was accomplished with respect to the debtor's position .-- C. R. Brownlee, furniture dealer, Toronto, has assigned to Campbell & May.

In a letter to the London Times, Messrs. Allan Bros, of Liverpool, Glasgow, and Montreal, give some information about the live cattle carrying trade from their own experience. During the year 1890 they carried 5,057. of which one died and five were lost, which shows a loss of about one in a thousand. They point out that the refrigerator trade is dying out, that if the live cattle trade were stopped, or even if cattle could not be carried on deck, it would simply mean throwing the trade into the hands of a few large butchering firms in Chicago. The final result of this, they contend, would be that the British workman would have poorer beef at a higher price. They deny that the "Erin" or "Thanemore" were lost by reason of their carrying cattle.

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