

## Mercantile Summary.

FROM the Behring Sea comes word by the steamer "Portland" that the entire catch of the North American Commercial Company for the season was 20,000 skins, which are now en route to San Francisco on the steamer "Del-norte." Last year's catch amounted to over 20,000 skins. Instead of over seventy sealers that hunted last year in the Behring Sea there are only twenty-nine this year.

MR. FIRMIN HUDON, of the wholesale grocery firm of Hudon & Orsali, died at his residence, 90 Cherrier street, Montreal, this week. Deceased was born in 1840. He founded the firm of Hudon & Orsali in 1875, and conducted its business up till recently. He was well known for his business abilities, and highly respected for his integrity. The deceased had been in poor health for some time past.

ONE by one the big saw mills along the Indiantown harbor front, says the *St. John Record*, Aug. 26th, are closing down for indefinite periods, all on account of the glutted condition of the American market. As soon as the stock of lumber now on hand is used up by the dealers across the line, the demand for our Canadian lumber will spring up. As a consequence of the lumber depression, the schooner business has dropped off considerably. The Randolph & Baker's big mill is shut down after a long run.

THE city of Halifax, N.S., proposes to erect its own plant and do its own street lighting in the future. According to the exponents of municipal control, Halifax now pays something like \$21,500 per year for their street lighting.

They will put in a \$49,000 plant to run 250 arc and 1,500 incandescents. The interest would thus mean an outlay of \$17,000 a year, or a saving to the city of \$4,509 per year.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOWELL, of the United States Government, has received the following telegram from Seal Commissioner David Starr Jordan, at Seattle, Washington: "Investigation successfully completed. Shrinkage of breeding rookeries 15 per cent. since last year of killable males, 33 per cent. Latter due to starvation of pups from pelagic sealing in 1894. Former due to last year's destruction of females plus starvation of pups in 1894. Conclusions of last year completely vindicated in all important regards."

A RECENT advice from Vancouver, B.C., says the Dominion Developing Company has sold 100,000 shares of Golden Cache stock for \$180,000 to J. Oldroyd, M.P. for Dewsbury, England, a member of a big cotton firm. This enables them to pay \$2.07 per share dividend on their shares. This company, managed by J. McQuillan, originally raised the \$30,000 to buy the Golden Cache mines, getting in lieu thereof 125,000 shares of Golden Cache. This is said to be the biggest spot cash sale of stock ever made there.

ABOUT ten days ago J. Garvey, grocer and liquor dealer of London, took possession of the hotel, Detroit Exchange, Windsor, by virtue of mortgages which he held from his landlord, John Allison, amounting to \$670, at the same time paying off several claims which stood against the place, and for which the bailiff was then in possession. Mr. Allison is now ill at Emergency Hospital, Detroit, and yesterday he

made an assignment of all his goods and chattels to J. B. Churchill for the benefit of his creditors. Churchill attempted to take possession, but Mr. Garvey's agent would not have it that way, and sent him about his business. Mr. Garvey claims to be acting fully within his rights in so doing.

THE Customs Department has enlarged the regulations respecting the importation of coal oil in tank cars, so as to allow it to be warehoused in bulk instead of being barrelled on arrival, as has been the rule heretofore.

LIEUT.-COLONEL DOMVILLE, M.P., has organized a company in England, with a capital of £200,000, for the purpose of trading, transporting, exploring and developing mining properties in the Yukon and Kootenay districts. Arrangements are being made to send a body of picked English and Canadians, accompanied with engineers, etc., who are adapted to the necessary work, on an expedition of this sort. E. J. Howell, of Victoria, B.C., will be assistant manager.

A NUMBER of changes have been made within the past few days in the staff of the Intercolonial. The appointment of Mr. W. H. Olive as agent at Montreal, in succession to Mr. G. W. Robinson, has been announced. Besides this change, there have been three others of considerable importance. Mr. P. S. Archibald, who has been chief engineer of the Intercolonial for years, has been retired and replaced by Mr. W. D. McKenzie, formerly assistant chief engineer. Mr. McKenzie is in turn replaced by Mr. T. C. Burpee, late with the Bangor and Aroostook. Mr. T. V. Cook has been replaced as general storekeeper by Mr. C. R. Palmer, at one time station agent at Dorchester, N.B.



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