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#### Mercantile Summary.

O. GIGNAC & FILS, lumber and planing mill, Quebec, are in difficulties, and have called creditors together. The senior was for a good many years a successful contractor, and went into the planing mill business about 1884, in which he has apparently dropped a good deal of money.

The assignment of A. L. Hurtubise, one of the largest hay merchants in Montreal, is reported. His serious embarrassment has been quite patent for some months past, and his actual failure quite expected. The liabilities are very large, being direct \$101,000, and indirect \$78,960, and the estate will be a very poor one.

W. H. Walker, an Ottawa barrister, who of late years has devoted most of his attention to the development of graphite mines near Buckingham, Que., on which large sums have been expended, and from which great results were expected, has fyled consent to assign, upon the demand of Col. Audet. The liabilities are large, and it has been calculated will run up to some \$130,000 or \$140,000.

TORONTO papers report that Mr. R. A. Dickson, of Dickson & Johnson, barristers, have offered Mr. J. F. Caldwell, of Winnipeg, the sum of one million dollars for his Sultana mine. The offer is made in behalf of Toronto and English capital. Mr. Caldwell, it is stated, has refused the offer and is asking one million and a half. Happy Mr. Caldwell.—Rat Portage News.

Among the storekeepers in Amherst, N.S., are some "old-timers." Among them may be mentioned Campbell Bros., who have been in business some 25 years, and the old established firm of Dunlap Bros. & Co. There are also three bank agencies: Bank of Nova Scotia, Halifax Banking Co., and the Bank of Montreal. Mr. L. Lockwood, for several years manager at Goderich, Ont., of the Bank of Montreal branch, has charge of the last named.

A SOMEWHAT important failure is reported from Pictou, N.S., the wholesale shoe firm of R. Tanner & Son having assigned. The business was established some 45 years ago in quite a small retail way by Mr. R. Tanner, and was gradually worked up to considerable proportions. The old gentleman retired some few years ago, since which time the business has not apparently progressed very well. In 1894 the firm compromised at 55 per cent., the liabilities being some \$41,000.

A Brockville despatch of Tuesday says that C. J. Pussey recently collected several specimens of corundum or emery back of that town, and sent it to an expert in Stronsburg, N.Y., for a report. The reply stated that the corundum was of excellent quality, and made inquiry as to what amount the district would be able to furnish. It remains to be seen what quantity there is. Corundum is found in Georgia, North Carolina, Massachusetts and in Westchester county, New York State.

In reply to R. G., we would say it is too early to get the December figures, and we have mislaid the November ones, but for the twelve months up to the end of October the quantity of cheese imported into the United Kingdom from all countries was 2,243,705 hundred weights, or, say, 75,647 tons. Of this total Canada supplied 1,271,841 pounds, or more than 56 per cent.; the United States 527,928 pounds, or nearly 23 cent.; Holland, 295,408 pounds, or between 13 and 14 per cent. The remainder came from Australasia, France, and other countries.

Last week we noted the difficulties of Mills Bros., of Peterboro, who have been unable to arrange a compromise with creditors, and now assign.

MR. BREIDENBACH of the Mikado reached town from that place on Tuesday morning, and is just as jubilant as ever over the conditions held out at the now famons property, says the Lake of the Woods Mining Journal. The vein is now down about seventy-two feet, and a cross-cut has been started at about sixty feet. The pit head frame is now in position, and the cage and machinery necessary for working have been ordered from Montreal.

Beginning in the year 1884 a grocery business in Sarnia, in succession to J. Campbell, who had been there some time, B. W. Carr seemed prosperous for a few years, but of late the reverse has been the result. Last July he was obliged to call a meeting of creditors, who were good enough to write 55 per cent. off their claims. Large as this discount was, it appears to have been insufficient for his permanent relief, for we now hear of his assignment.

Some idea of the magnitude of the insurance interests of the city of Hartford can be derived, remarks a writer in the Insurance Monitor (New York), from the fact that in 1895 the companies of that city collected premiums aggregating \$38,510,589. Of this sum \$20,487,924 were received by the eight fire insurance companies heading in that city, of which the Hartford Fire received the largest amount, and \$18,022,665 were received by the six life companies, of which the Ætna's quota was the largest.

From Brockville, Ont, we hear of the failure of T. Clearihue, glove manufacturer, who was formerly connected with Hall & Co. in the same line of business, and started for himself in 1892. He has always labored under the disadvantage of limited capital, and of late has apparently had difficulty in financing. The liabilities are placed at about \$28,000.—A. F. Roney, a Kingston tailor, is reported embarrassed, and is asking his creditors for some indulgence in the way of an extension. He is understood to show quite a good surplus, though not readily available.

THE following are country failures that have occurred in Quebec Province since last issue: Edouard Coulombe, formerly a farmer of St. Edouard de Lotbiniere, embarked in cheesemaking and storekeeping three years ago; he called a meeting of his creditors, and proposes a composition in debts of \$5,600. T. H. Hall, a harnessmaker, of Richmond, was one of the victims of the late fire. He had no insurance, and his friends have made up a subscription for him, with the proceeds of which he is paying his creditors at the rate of 35 cents on the dollar. Louis Demers, in a general business at Marieville, since 1888, and supposed doing fairly well, has assigned. He shows liabilities of \$3,500, with assets of \$3,100. -H. L. Snyder is a hay dealer at Stanbridge station, whose assignment is reported with the good-sized liabilities of \$11,370 .-Miss Poirier, a milliner, of St. Johns, is reported as compromising at 25 cents. She did something similar a few years ago.-Domingue, a cheese manufacturer of Adamsville, is in trouble. His creditors met a few days ago, and he offered 50 cents, which those present seemed disposed to accept. -- Wilfred Fortier, of Buckingham, is a veterinary surgeon by profession, and reported a poor one at that. He is apparently no better as a business man. He has lately been running a small grocery liquor store, but has had to assign on demand. He owes about \$2,500.