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Mercantile Summary.

THE National Portland Cement Co., Jackson, Mich., with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, are about to establish a branch plant at Durham, Ont.

SEVERAL employees of Taylor, Scott & Co., broom-makers, Toronto, went on strike this week, owing to the employment of a non-union hand.

THE Moncton Board of Trade is making efforts to induce the Ossekeag Stamping Co., whose works at present are located at Hampton, to remove them to the former city. This will be done, it appears, if the citizens will subscribe for \$50,000 worth of stock.

A CO-OPERATIVE steamboat company has been organized by busines men and hotelmen, among the Thousand Islands, under the title of the Rapid Transit Company, of Odensburg, with a capital of \$60,000. Several Peterboro, Brockville, and other Canadian business men are interested

THE annual meeting of stockholders of Rhodes, Curry & Co., Limited, Amherst, was held on the 26th ult., when the annual report showed that last year's business was highly satisfactory. The old board of directors and officers were all re-elected, and a dividend of 7 per cent. declared.

THE Harness-makers' Association held a convention in Toronto on the 5th inst., and elected the following officers: President, Charles Kelly, Uxbridge; first vicepresident, John Broderick, Mitchell; second vice-president, Walter Kinsey, Bracebridge; treasurer, E. B. Snow, Bradford; secretary, Alex. Downey.

In reply to an enquiry, United States Secretary Gage said that between October, 1899, and the end of January last, 76,632 horses and mules were shipped from American ports to South Africa. The value of these, with wheat, canned beef, rum, and other supplies shipped, amounted to \$26,595,692. One day last week, 1,200 mules were shipped from New Orleans to Capetown.

UPHOLDERS of municipal and government ownership of public service will glean pleasure from the report upon the electric street lighting of Winnipeg, which inaugurated a municipal system early last year. According to this report, the cost per light has been less than 19½ cents. The year preceding the cost was 45 cents per light per night. In addition to the enormous reduction in the cost, the light furnished has been greatly improved.

A voluntary assignment has been made by L. Sicotte, who has done a moderate general trade at Boucherville, Que., for the past thirteen years. He owes about \$3,000.—B. Schaefer, dry goods and shoes, at Magog, Que., whose affairs have been in the hands of the assignee for some weeks past, has succeeded in settling at 25 cents on the dollar.—An offer of 40 cents on the dollar is being made by T. A. Bedard, St. Hyacinthe, a boot and shoe retailer. . He owes \$2,500.

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