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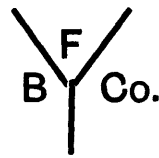
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Mercantile Summary.

THE report of the Finance Committee of the Portage la Prairie Council shows a balance of uncollected taxes in that town of \$22,800.

A PARTY of New York capitalists has purchased four acres of ground near Lehigh, Pa., upon which a factory will be erected to manufacture fuel from coal dust.

SOME 10,000 tons of iron ore are already raised, we are told, from the Salmon River Iron mine, Nova Scotia. It is being conveyed to Guysboro for shipment to New York.

DURING the season, it is stated, the Canadian Pacific will add 640 miles of new road to its mileage; 520 miles of this will be on the main line, and the balance on branches.

It is expected that work will shortly be commenced by the Canada Iron & Steel Company at Hochelaga, near Montreal. Quantities of ore have been received and are being broken up.

It is stated that the new council of Winnipeg city has decided to order another large size fire engine, 2 hose reels, and 2,000 feet of hose from the Ronald Engine Works, at Brussels.

SALT was struck at Exeter, Ont., at 1,125 feet about 80 feet of solid salt rock. According to the Petroleum Reporter, drilling is still going on and the drill is not through the salt rock yet. "About ten pounds of first class salt was made from a little over half a pail of brine."

GEORGE A. CORBIN, of Bridgewater, N. S., doing business as a store-keeper, auctioneer, &c., is in trouble, owing to some real estate complications, and writes his creditors that he is obliged to ask an extension or as an alternative will pay 50 cents cash, a friend advancing the money.

INSURANCE, banks and other corporations in Hartford, Conn., declared dividends amounting to \$850,000, payable in July. The July dividend and interest disbursements in Philadelphia estimated at about \$10,000,000. The semi-annual dividends payable in Boston in August aggregate \$3,845,000.

FREIGHT rates, on Lake and Canal have advanced decidedly during the last week, says the Railroad Gazette of 5th inst., the rate on corn from Chicago to Buffalo from 2 cents to 2½ cents a bushel, while the canal rate has gone up about 1½ cents to 5½ cents, a bushel for corn and 5½ for wheat from Buffalo to New York.

FREE quinine has not been of much benefit to the consumer in this country, says a United States exchange. Mr. Robbins testified before the tariff commissioners the other day when sitting at Long Branch, that the average retail price was 1½ to 2 cents a grain. As there are 437½ grains to an ounce, the retailers get from \$8 to \$9 an ounce for quinine which costs them only \$2 or \$2.10.