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Mercantile Summary.

WE learn from the St. John Globe that the rate of assessment for this year in that city is ten cents on the hundred more than last year. The rate this year will be \$1.56.

A LIVERPOOL, N.S., journal says that the value of lumber and paper pulp exported from that town this year will reach \$400,000. One man at that point has shipped \$20,000 worth of lobsters.

SHAD were very plentiful at the head of the Bay of Fundy last week, according to the Amherst "Press." Three men took enough on one tide to fill ten half-barrels, a feat which is said to break the record.

THE shipments of iron ore from the head of Lake Superior for the present season to July 1st, have amounted to 1,739,180 tons, as compared with 1,573,091 tons for the corresponding period last year.

THE educationists are very much alive in the Maritime Provinces. We observe that the Summer School of Science visited Moncton cotton factory on Monday last; then they were going to the I.C.R. work shops.

It is stated in a St. John despatch of Monday last, to the Gazette, that during the week ended 16th July, 20,000,000 feet of lumber cleared at that port, all but one and a quarter million of it for transatlantic ports. The total lumber exports for the past two weeks have been more than 30,000,000 feet.

THE railroads of Michigan show an increase in freight and passenger traffic that indicates general business improvement. The Michigan Central reports its earnings for May at \$668,000, as against \$576,000 during the corresponding month last year, while the Grand Trunk earned \$203,000, as against \$151,000 during the month last year.

THE third annual meeting of the Michigan Hardware Association was held in Detroit some days ago, about 200 delegates present. Papers were read as follows: "Special Leaders at Special Prices and Special Sales Days, as a Means of Advertising," by C. G. Jewett, of Howell, and "Is it Possible to do a More Successful Business on a Spot Cash Basis?" by G. W. Bloodgood, of Wyandotte.

THE Electric Cloth Gutter Company is the name of a limited liability company incorporated in Toronto last week, capital \$40,000. The parties are Robert Jenkins, James Hardy and Thomas Jenkins, accountants; Alfred Ansley, merchant; Edward James Henderson, assignee, and Nicholas Garland, insurance adjuster. They propose to make and sell electric cloth cutters.

THAT was a ready-witted man, better up in geography than he was in finance, who, to the question of his wife, what the Spanish fours are, that are always rising and declining, answered: "Why, let me see, my dear, — they are the Philippines, the Antilles, the Caroline Islands, and the Canaries." Whereupon Mrs. Newsy answers, "Dear me, how stupid I am, to be sure!" The story is told by Truth, and is said to relate to a man "in the city." We are disposed to think he was a grocer.

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