

OCEAN STEAMER CHANGES.

The season of 1895 will witness some changes among the steamship companies sending their ocean boats to Montreal. The Dominion line, which has been well known for many years, no longer exists, excepting in name, the steamers of the company having been purchased by Richard, Mills & Company. The new concern took over all the liabilities of the Dominion line, and paid £35,000 in cash for the company's six steamers. A weekly service will be run as heretofore between Liverpool and Montreal, the steamers to be put on the route being the "Vancouver," "Labrador," "Oregon," "Mariposa," and "British Prince." The latter is a new addition to the fleet. It is said the "Sarnia," "Dominion," "Toronto," and "Ontario" have been sent to Belfast to be broken up, having seen their best days.

The service between Montreal and Bristol has been taken over by Elder, Dempster & Co., who at present own some sixty steamers, including the "Memphis," "Memnon," "Merimac" and "Mariposa." This company intend to establish a service between London and Montreal. Mr. Harling, of Harling & Ronald, has been appointed a salaried manager of the Bristol Line at Montreal. The "Vancouver," which has been commanded by Capt. Williams for some years, the Commodore of the line, is coming out this next trip in charge of a new commander, while the steward's staff is also in charge of new blood. Such changes are to be expected in every steamer in the service.

The Johnston Line Company has decided, the *Star* says, to run a weekly service to Liverpool and a ten days one to London. A few of the bondholders of the Beaver Line residing in Montreal have, it is understood, offered the creditors of the company seven shillings and sixpence in the pound, which has been accepted. These bondholders therefore secure possession of the company's assets. The shareholders of the company get nothing. The offices in the Board of Trade building have been given up, and all the clerks notified that their services will no longer be required after a certain date. Still it seems from a late cable that it is intended still to run these steamers.

—The quantity of tobacco, cigarettes, and snuff taken for consumption was 10,002,347 lbs., slightly more than an average. The duty

collected was \$2,448,957, an increase of \$376,092 over the average. Canadian tobacco taken for use shows a big increase, the total being 904,835, or 321,498 pounds more than in 1893. Cigars also show a considerable increase, the quantity manufactured being 120,345,137, an

increase of 14,679,889 over the average of four previous years.

—Western statesmen, who are both financiers and politicians, talk for free silver and hoard gold. They talk as a matter of buncombe, and hoard as a matter of business.



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