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THE customs collections at Halifax for 1900 amounted to \$1,177,011.96.

A NEW Baptist college is to be erected at Grand Ligne, near St. Johns. Quebec, at a cost of \$35,000. It is to accommodate 250 pupils.

MONTREAL plumbers are urging the city health committee to establish 2 board of practical examiners to look into the proficiency of all would-be plumbers before the latter are allowed to prosecute their employment.

FIRE did damage, a few days ago, to the extent of some \$6,000, to the premises occupied by Mr. Martineau, dealer in bicycles, sporting goods, etc., in Montreal. Another Montreal fire was at the Empire Dye Works. Loss about \$2,000.

MOOSOMIN citizens are agitating for the discontinuance of the Great North-Western Railway, for the construction of a line starting from there, running in a northwesterly direction to the Qu'Appelle Valley, where it would strike the survey line of the G.N.W.

Mr. Cleophas Giguere, Mayor of Contrecoeur, and both a grower and manufacturer of tobacco, is an enthusiast for the Canadian weed. It is his belief that by the general adoption of intelligent, up-to-date methods, Canada will in ten years be producing the eighteen million dollars' worth of tobacco which is now imported into this country from

THE British Columbia Southern Railway Co. will, on the 4th prox., hold \$ special general meeting, in Montreal, to decide on the means to be adopted for raising funds to defray the cost of acquiring and completing the portion of the company's railway between Kootenay Landing and Nelson; and also the Coal Creek branch, the North Star branch, and other railways and branch lines of the company.

THE Grand Trunk Railway Company has chosen the site in Portland, Maine, for a new grain elevator, with a capacity of over 1,000,000 bushels, which they have decided to build there at an expense of \$300,000. Mr. Reeve has also approved of the plan for the construction of spacious new dock for the accommodation of the ocean line steamers which transport the Grand Trunk traffic British ports. The construction of both elevator and dock will be commenced at once, and it is expected that both will be ready for the grain traffic next winter.

MR. SMITH-CURTIS, late Minister of Mines, in the British Columbia Cabinet, in an interview recently, said that there was no good reason why Vancouver Island should not be the site of extensive iron and steel works. The iron and coal are more conveniently situated than they are in Cape Breton. Of course the market for manufactured iron and steel was not as large on the Pacific Coast as in the east, but the demand was steadily on the increase. The market on the Pacific is still in its infancy, but the time is not far distant when that market will be an enormously large and profitable one.