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Mercantile Summary

THREE men were last week killed in a boiler explosion, which took place in J. H. McMillan's mill, near Little Current.

It is believed by the promoters of the Franco-Canadian Steamship line, that the French Government will grant it a subsidy.

THE Canadian Pacific Navigation Co.'s steamer, "Princess Louise," was wrecked on the 14th inst., off the southern shore of Thormanby Island, B.C. No lives were lost, the passengers and crew being able to walk ashore, but the vessel is probably a total loss.

A DESPATCH from Iroquois states that the steamer "Theano," bound from Glasgow to Sault Ste. Marie, which has been waiting for water to be let in the new canal to the high level of 14 feet, proceeded on her way west on the 16th, being the first vessel to use the high level.

THE Japanese Diet has passed an appropriation for the purpose of establishing a consulate in Montreal. The position will be filled by Mr. T. Nosse, formerly of Vancouver, and at present consul-general at Fusan, Korea. Hitherto Eastern Canada has been under the consular jurisdiction of Chicago, but in future is to be disassociated entirely from the United States.

THE United States engineering office at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., reports the following commerce passing through the American and Canadian canals at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and Ontario, for the month of April, 1901: Number of net tons east-bound freight, 880; west-bound, freight, 1,665 net tons. Total number of craft passing through the United States canal was 2,982 net tons, and through the Canadian canal, 7,139. The number of bushels of grain passing the Canadian canal, west-bound, was 23,530.

A NEW departure for the Canadian Pacific Railway is the organization of personally conducted tours, on the lines adopted by some of the American roads. The first party will leave Quebec on June 20th, accompanied by a special courier, crossing the continent to Vancouver and Victoria, B.C., taking in Niagara Falls, the Great Lakes, the Prairies, the Rocky Mountains, the Kootenay gold mines, Banff Hot Springs, and the great glaciers, returning to Quebec or any other Atlantic port at the end of a month.

RAILWAY men in Montreal, says the Herald, are greatly interested in the comprehensive pension system which the Illinois Central Railroad Company have decided to put into effect on the 1st of July next. The scheme applies to every officer and every employee of the road from the president down to laborers, except the law and surgical departments. The terms are more liberal than those of other roads, which have introduced pension systems. Under the provisions agreed upon all men over 70 years of age who have been ten years in the service of the company are entitled to a pension. Retirement at the age of seventy is made compulsory for all officers and employees.

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