Mercantile Summary.

The Berlin Brush Works, in Waterloo, were on the 21st damaged by fire to the extent of about $2,500; insured.

On the 21st inst., the "Hamilton," a large steel barge, for the Montreal Transportation Co., was launched by the Hamilton Bridge Co.

Experts figure the cost of the recent great steel strike in the United States to have been to the men about $10,000,000 in wages, and to the companies, $15,000,000 in earnings.

Those interested in the St. Lawrence shipping trade are expressing great satisfaction at the completion of the cable connecting the Labrador coast with Belle Isle.

The Head line SS. "Dunmore Head," sailed from Montreal this week for Belfast via Quebec, where she completes her deckload. She had on board from Montreal 3,000 sacks of flour, 3,731 bundles of staves, 50 standard deals, 500 boxes cheese, and other cargo.

Messrs. Elder, Dempster, & Co., have received a cable from their Liverpool office advising them of the safe arrival there from Newcastle of their new steamer, "Lake Manitoba," intended for the passenger service between Montreal and Liverpool. This vessel has been built by Messrs. Swan & Hunter, of Newcastle, and is 18,000 tons measurement, and about 12,000 tons weight.

At the Richardson mill, Stormont, N.S., in July, 2,254 tons of quartz crushed yielded 263 ozs. gold. At the Sanders mill, Harrigan's Cove, in the same province, during August, 230 tons from the St. Anthony property gave 231 ozs. gold.

On a recent Alaskan trip, the steamer "Bertha," brought to Seattle from Cook Inlet and the Copper river district 11 tons of copper ore, the product of the mine on La Touch island, owned by A. K. Beatson.

A change has been made in the management of Bradstreet's Commercial Agency in Nova Scotia. Mr. F. W. Heatherington, who has been many years with the company, has resigned, to engage in another business. Mr. George E. Streeter is appointed superintendent for Nova Scotia, with headquarters at Halifax. Mr. Streeter represented a Toronto wholesale firm for some time in the Maritime Provinces; the past two years he has been assistant superintendent in the company's branch at St. John.

For the past eight months the entries for homesteads at the Edmonton land office have numbered 1,295. These are the largest number of entries for an equal period ever recorded. The returns of the office for the official year show that from the 30th June, 1900, to 30th June, 1901, there were registered 1,633 entries for homesteads, as compared with 1,033 for the preceding official year, a difference of just 600 in favor of this year. There were also located during the fiscal year just closed 568 scrip, comprising 69,764 acres of land.