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Mercantile Summary.

ABOUT the first of next month, a stock of boots and shoes is to be opened for the inspection of the people of Owen Sound by Mr. Wm. Haines, whose shop will be in the Imperial Block.

THE rebuilding of the Jenckes machine shops at Sherbrooke, so unhappily burned in August, has been accomplished with remarkable speed. In three weeks from the date of the fire, the building was roofed in afresh, and inside a month the works were in running order. The president of the company, Mr. S. W. Jenckes, has been on the ground almost day and night since the fire, supervising everything. Last week the company shipped five carloads of machinery.

CONFLICTING accounts of the condition of the Ontario lumber trade, come from Ottawa and from other places, but around Calumet, on the Ottawa river, there seems to be a demand for limits. A despatch of Saturday last says that since the sale of Hon. J. K. Ward's limits, to the Riordan Paper Co., several smaller properties have changed hands, and it is rumored that the Ottawa Lumber Co. will shortly dispose of theirs. The Riordan Paper Co. will not work extensively on the River Rouge this season; about half their cut will come from the North and South Nation rivers.

A LARGE quantity of contraband cigars, made in Porto Rico, have been landed somewhere on the Atlantic coast of Canada, probably on the shores of Nova Scotia. Thence they have been, it appears, distributed over the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, even by express and the Intercolonial and other railways, and payments collected by drafts through the banks. The first trace of the goods was secured by a preventive officer at Hastings, Ont., who secured a list of all the people to whom the stuff had been sold, and the amount they bought.

It was a natural enough thing, considering the position of the Island and her growing interests, that some of its towns or cities should be made a port of call for line steamers between Montreal or Quebec and the United Kingdom. But it was, nevertheless, an unusual thing, experimental and a little dazzling. Mr. D. W. Campbell, manager of the Beaver

Line, has, however, made the plunge, and arranged to have the steamer "Lake Winnipeg" call at Charlottetown. The "Lake Winnipeg" is on the way out now, and outward bound from Montreal will make her first call at the Island. The general opinion among exporters in Montreal is favorable to the move; they say that in a short time quantities of produce will be offered for carriage.

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