

Mercantile Summary.

THE new marine railway at the Island of St. Pierre, which cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000, has been burned.

IN Ontario during 1897 the number of births was 46,908, and of deaths 24,857. The number of marriages was 14,904.

THE *London Engineering* says the number of working days lost by the great strike now in progress is 8,973,378, and represents easily over \$12,000,000 in wages.

THE jury at the Hamilton assizes gave Mrs. Chas. Curran a verdict of \$5,500 damages against the Grand Trunk Railway, the jury agreeing that her husband's death was due to the frog in question not having been packed.

THE jury in the matter of the recent London disaster find that no complaint of unsafeness of the City Hall floor was made by any of the city officials or any others. That the evidence has been very carefully gone into, and the jury are unanimous in their opinion that the sad occurrence was purely accidental.

IN mentioning last week the death of Stanley Paterson, of Port Hope, we unfortunately spoke of him as president of the Midland Loan Company. This was an error: he was not president of that company, and had no connection with it. The company of which he was president is the Midland Trust Co.

AN action has been brought in the Supreme Court of British Columbia on behalf of Mrs. Fred. Cope, says the *Victoria World*, to compel the London Guarantee and Accident Company to pay the accident policy of \$5,000 taken out by her late husband before she started for the North.

A BAILIFF went into possession last week of the Horseshoe Inn, the place in Hamilton so handsomely fitted up by ex-Mayor A. D. Stewart. The Grant-Lottridge Company and others held chattel mortgage for \$4,500. It is said that Mr. Stewart had spent between \$5,000 and \$6,000 in fitting up the place, besides paying \$2,800 for a license.

WHEN Charles McLerie's house was burned at Windsor the insurance money was garnished by a number of his creditors. Mrs. McLerie set up the claim that the insurance was her own, that it could not be used to pay off her husband's debts. The creditors, however, showed that the husband had been given power of attorney to use his wife's name in his business transactions, and claimed that his debts should be met by Mrs. McLerie. The judge took this view of the case, and granted the claims of the creditors.

IN the spring of 1899 a new trans-Atlantic steamer, the "Castilian," will be added to the Allan Line. But for the engineers' strike she would have been ready this year. Her length is to be 520 feet, beam 58 feet, capacity 8,800 tons, which makes her half as large again as the "Parisian." She will have passenger accommodation for 150 first cabin, 120 second cabin, and 800 steerage, and her speed will likely be 17 miles per hour. She is intended to carry a large amount of freight, and will have refrigerators for perishable goods.

MONCTON City Council estimates an expenditure for 1898 of \$44,784. Of this \$7,000 is for the Board of Health; \$6,800 for water and light; \$14,000 for schools; \$4,200 for city government; \$4,200 for fire protection; \$1,000 for Windsor relief fund, and \$1,000 to retire debentures.

A MANUFACTURING company at Lequille, near Annapolis, N.S., assigned last week to the Union Bank of Halifax. Overproduction of manufactured wares and the shortage of the fruit crop last season prevented them from disposing of the large stock on hand. The stock of the company is mostly owned in Halifax.

ACCORDING to the *Buffalo Courier*, Cleveland parties have asked for tenders from leading ship-builders on the lakes for the building of a steamer, 428 feet over all, 410 feet keel, 50 feet beam, and 28 feet deep, and fitted out with all modern improvements. It is expected that the new boat will be ready for business in September next.

THE aggregate receipts of fifty-four railways in Great Britain and Ireland, for the twenty-six weeks of the latter half of 1897, amounted to £46,000,659, or an increase of £1,391,214. On forty-two lines the aggregate receipts for that period, from passengers were £20,453,291 or £710,751 increase, and from goods £23,964,577 or £634,454 increase.

AT the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Saint John Bridge and Railway Extension Company last week, a 2½ per cent. dividend was declared on the stock. The following directors were elected: Hon. Judge Barker, president; John H. Parks, vice-president; Simeon Jones, W. H. Thorne, Thomas Williams, Thomas R. Jones, and Hugh H. McLean. Mr. T. R. Robinson is secretary.

THE sale of the steamers "Pennsylvania," "Ohio," "Indiana," "Illinois," and "Cone-maugh," by the International Navigation Company to the State Steamship Company for the Pacific trade, leaves but five steamships flying the American flag crossing the Atlantic Ocean. They are the "St. Paul," gross tons, 11,629; "St. Louis," gross tons, 11,629; "New York," gross tons, 10,802; "Paris," gross tons, 10,794; "Evelyn," gross tons, 1,963—the latter three built in English shipyards and denationalized.—*Maritime Journal*.

BESIDES the vote of \$270,000 by the Ontario Legislature to the James' Bay Railway project, which consists of a transfer of \$150,000 voted to the Nipissing and James' Bay Railroad project in 1889—fifty miles—and a new vote of \$120,000, being \$3,000 a mile for forty miles between Sudbury and Parry Sound, the following grants have been made to other roads from the same sources: Ontario & Rainy River road, from a point at the westerly end of the 165 miles heretofore aided, to a point at or near Fort Frances, \$420,000. Pembroke Southern Railway, between Pembroke and Golden Lake, 3½ miles, \$10,500. Irondale, Bancroft & Ottawa Railway, from a point 45 miles from Irondale, and thence due west, ten miles, \$30,000. Bay of Quinte Railway, formerly Kingston, Napanee & Western Railway, a re-vote of \$90,000, which was granted in 1893.

John Mackay

Public Accountant, Auditor, Receiver and Trustee

Bank of Commerce Bldg., Toronto
Cable Address: CAPITAL. Tel. No. 2732.

Notice is hereby given
that the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Shareholders of the

IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

Of Canada, will be held at the Head Office of the Company, 26 King St. East, Toronto, Ont., on Wednesday, the 2nd day of February, 1898, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, for the reception of the Annual Report and Statement of the Affairs of the Company, for the Election of Directors for the year, and for all other business and general purposes relating to the management of the Company.

F. G. COX, Managing Director.

Toronto, January 17th, 1898.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS

ATTENTION!

Lucknow Central Furniture Factory
Offered for Sale.

REASONS FOR SELLING:

The company being composed principally of local merchants, not one of them understanding the business; at the present time are without an experienced manager. Factory is a commodious one, having all the modern conveniences; electric light plant, heated throughout by steam, &c. Factory now working on full time. Plant offered at a very low figure. Small payment down; balance yearly payments without interest. About three hundred thousand feet seasoned lumber on hand. This offer is a decided snap for an experienced person. The company and the corporation of Lucknow will encourage and offer such inducements as will make it pleasant and interesting for the purchaser. Lumber can be bought for years to come at a low figure. Plenty of natural woods close by. Better investigate quick.

Address

G. W. BERRY, President,
Lucknow, Ont.

TORONTO STORE:

147-149 YONGE STREET.

Welland Vale
Mfg. Co.,
Limited

FACTORY,
ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

WE MANUFACTURE

Axes
Saws
Scythes
Forks
Hoes
Rakes

And Perfect, Garden City, Dominion & Chainless BICYCLES