

abolition of the monopoly, and the enormous increase of exports resulting from free trade in the article, down to 1s. 3d. in 1888, which scarcely covered it was deemed the cost of production and careful cultivation. The average export from Ceylon in the monopoly days rarely exceeded 500,000 lbs. a year. With the absence of all restriction the exports rose rapidly to 3,000,000 lbs. What is certain is, that the product which was once so valuable in commerce and for which Ceylon was so famous or many ages has fallen on evil days, and now resembles silver in the days of Solomon in being little accounted of. Ceylon has swamped the markets of the world with cinchona and cinnamon, and strenuous efforts to open up new markets must not be intermitted, lest the same fate should befall tea. — *London Markets Review.*

As to sham disinfection, disease germs are very tenacious of vitality and their destruction is not always easy of accomplishment. The researches of recent years show that many of the substances thus far relied upon as disinfectants have no power to destroy disease-causing bacteria. Unfortunately, however, the results of these researches are so little known that the general public, and even those who should know better, continue to use these worthless disinfectants. Physicians have been forced to give this important question a great deal of attention, and pharmacists should not allow themselves to fall behind. They are constantly being asked for advice. A little careful study of the subject will enable them to do valuable service in diffusing correct information, and in consequence, the prevention of disease. — *Medical Classics.*

A story about a patriotic druggist in St. Stephen's, N. B., is told by the *Halifax Herald*. A drug traveller from Ontario was taking orders in St. Stephen's, and was told there were no first-class hotels in that place, so he put up across the border, in Calais, Maine. He secured a good order from a druggist in St. Stephen's, and was feeling good over it, the best order in his book. During a conversation, however, between himself and the druggist, the latter learned that the drummer was staying at a hotel across the line. The drummer was immediately dumbfounded by the request from the druggist to "please scratch my orders off your books, we do not patronize people who do not patronize us." And he actually had to cancel the order.

A. PROMISING ENTERPRISE.

The Polson Iron Works Co., Limited, are the proprietors of the Owen Sound Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Works, and also of the machinery warehouse at No. 38 Yonge st., Toronto. This company was formed in 1886 with a paid-up capital of \$50,000 to take over the machine shop business of Wm. Polson & Son. An Act of Incorporation was obtained, and from time to time the paid-up capital was increased by the subscriptions of friends of the proprietors until it amounted to \$136,000.

From the inception of the business it was manifest that the demand for a well-equipped boiler and engine works, having machinery of the most recent device, and capable of handling the largest class of work, was such as to warrant the enterprise of the company, and the proprietors, in erecting these works and purchasing the required machinery, spared no expense to obtain the very best that could be had, and it is to-day universally admitted that in all respects the Toronto works are second to none in the United States, and far superior to any in Canada.

As soon as the works were equipped, and continuously since then, the company has had more work offered to them than they could handle, all of which was of a profitable nature, and this branch of the business to-day is in the very best condition. The machinery and plant has been overhauled piecemeal by experienced men, and the sum at which their value is stated in the assets of the company is declared to be one-third less than they could be replaced for.

In June, 1888, the company were asked to tender for the construction of a steel steamship for the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., "The Manitoba," to be delivered on the opening of navigation in 1889. No work of this kind had hitherto been undertaken in Canada, but the company, feeling that the day for wooden bottoms was over, and that the demand for steel ships must assume large proportions, engaged to construct the steel steamship for the railway, and in May, 1889, "The Manitoba," the finest steel vessel afloat on Canadian waters, as Mr. Van Horne wrote the company over his own signature, was launched at the Owen Sound works, from which ground a crop of hay was cut eleven months before.

To arrange with the authorities of the City of Owen Sound for a free site of nine acres, exemption from taxation for ten years, and the necessary dredging required to secure proper launching ground, took considerable time, but the chief delay experienced was in getting the heavy machinery from England necessary to do the work. These delays weighed heavily upon the finances of the company, but nothing daunted they pushed on the work, completed and delivered the steamship "Manitoba," and took another contract for the construction of a steel ferry for the C.P.R. Company to ply between Windsor and Detroit. When half through with this contract their means came to an end, and with most profitable work on hand and a live and thriving business they were compelled to go into voluntary liquidation because of want of funds to carry on their operations, their capital paid up being only \$136,000, and the amount of contracts on hand nearly \$700,000.

The company at Owen Sound have the finest equipped shipbuilding works on this continent, and equal to any of similar capacity on the Clyde. They are also owners of the Owen Sound dry dock, which is of sufficient capacity to float the largest vessels on inland waters. A complete statement of the assets and liabilities is given in the report prepared by the liquidators, which shows that the company has a surplus of \$188,000 after payment of the liabilities, which would show the stock worth 40% premium.

In view of these facts, and the large surplus shown by the company's statement, it has been decided to increase the capital stock of the company to \$250,000 or \$300,000, which will enable it to continue the business and earn large profits.

The City of Owen Sound has been approached, and there is every reason for believing that it will grant a loan of \$50,000 to the company, repayable \$2,000 a year and interest at 5%.

It is estimated that on the work now on hand \$100,000 profit will be made within one year. The prospects of the business could not look better. Within the last few months nearly \$100,000 of work has been refused by the company because of lack of means to handle it.

It is confidently expected that a uniform rate of dividend of 15% can be paid, and a substantial rest account created. There is to-day no more profitable branch of business than that of shipbuilding, and as to boiler and engine works. The Brown automatic engine made by this company has been largely used in all the cities of Canada. The Montreal Electric Light Co. alone have ten of these engines in use. The list of shareholders of the company is given in the liquidator's report. Since the re-organization of the company was commenced the following gentlemen have subscribed for the amounts set opposite to their names:—

Arthur B. Lee.....	\$10,000
Senator Sanford.....	10,000
John Leys.....	10,000
Jas. Morrison.....	5,000

Applications addressed to Mr. F. B. Polson, Toronto, are now invited for subscriptions.

TIMBER AND LUMBER AT QUEBEC.

In every description of wood, save red pine and pine deals, the exports of lumber and timber for the year now closing were greater than in either of the two years last preceding. Even in pine deals the exports were greater than last year, though less than in 1887. Messrs. J. Bell Forsyth & Co.'s lumber circular gives the export of lumber from the port of Quebec for the present season as under, with comparisons:

	1887.	1888.	1889.
Timber—Feet.			
Oak.....	1,012,160	1,178,920	1,538,080
Elm.....	405,040	504,080	791,800
Ash.....	191,840	217,720	335,360
Birch.....	192,680	165,760	479,280
White pine—			
square.....	5,127,080	6,020,000	6,872,960
Red pine.....	405,720	465,360	397,680
Staves—Mille.			
Standard.....	220	55	72
Punchoon.....	306	112	116
Deals—Std.			
Pine.....	1,365,510	1,189,490	1,307,842
Spruce.....	2,399,489	2,448,156	3,584,468

The stocks of lumber held in the port of Quebec on the 1st December, 1889, at the different coves was, according to returns furnished by the cove-keepers:

Square white pine.....	3,146,676 feet.
Waney ditto.....	1,914,001 "
Red ditto.....	653,918 "
Oak.....	596,399 "
Elm.....	238,735 "
Ash.....	127,001 "
Birch.....	35,784 "
Tamarac.....	13,276 "
Black walnut.....	10,492 "
White wood and balm-of-Gilead.....	3,983 "
Hemlock.....	11,593 "
Hickory.....	11,099 "

and trifling quantities of basswood, cherry, butternut, spruce, and maple. The total of these is slightly over 6,763,000 feet. We append a further table of deals and planks in stock, in addition to 77 white pine masts, and 64 pine and spruce spars:

Merchantable pine deals.....	587,136 standards.
Cull.....	106,061 "
Merchantable spruce deals.....	1,059,384 "
Cull.....	100,298 "
Pine and spruce planks.....	13,262,428 feet.
Hemlock & tamarac.....	661,555 "
Hardwood.....	61,118 "

The timber trade of the port for the season, while fairly successful in some lines, has been very disappointing in others. At least such is the tenor of the review of the trade made by the *Quebec Chronicle*, of this day week. That journal goes on to particularize: "During the contracting season last winter our shipping merchants found less difficulty in making contracts on the other side, stocks there had materially lessened, and buyers were in a better mood for doing business. There was, also, a marked improvement in the shipbuilding and other trades, which had its natural effect on wood goods, and sales were large as to quantity and fair as to price. As a consequence there was more activity than usual in the Quebec market during the summer, and first-class Ottawa rafts of white pine changed hands at unprecedented figures, such as 40½ cents for a raft of 70,000 feet square, 62 feet average, and 21,000 feet waney, 22 inches average, which were ported in July, and subsequent transactions at similar rates. * * * We reported, among other transactions, two rafts in August, square about 49 feet, with some waney, 19-inch, at 35 cents; red pine at 22 cents; one common raft of small white pine at 28 cents, and red at 17 cents; choice Michigan waney, 19 to 20 inch, at 45 cents. Later a good raft of about 200,000 feet, the square averaging 54 feet, and 80,000 feet of waney, about 20½ inch, at 41 cents, all round.

"In hardwoods there was also a steady demand, and prices were well maintained, such as oak, 50c. for 60 to 65 feet average; elm, 32c. for 50 to 55 feet average; birch, 22 to 23c. for 16 inch average; 32c. for 18-inch average; ash, 30 to 32c. for 14-inch, and up to 16-inch average. Elm came down in larger quantities, and of ash there was a fair supply, which reduced the price in the latter part of the season. Oak maintained its price throughout the season. The spruce deal market was

also firm and from Great B in Liverpool place, which factures this that values h

It appears ing last season are termed pointing feat impossible for at the prices ments which advanced more or less enhanced cost the increased it more disap have not sup day the sto England is markets are manufacture next year. will be a mat of next season mill owners and curtailing very large sa the prices ful paid for simi be remember special desc suitable for d fair average. for other des will be in th glut the m manufacturi only hurt th else any good sad experien as a deterren

SULPHUR

This week acid works Company are "sulphide fil duced for the manufacture buildings are the Ottawa, 275-horse-po the Polson the industry description.

"The proc fibre starts in the spruce pulled up f chain, and are then clea the bark and wood then g saws, a new discs 1½ inch carried by a of the diges digesters, wh ap wood. H solved with acid is draw pulp is the streams of w It is then ca the "beater the "knot-c the wood a passes to the here to a la is run into s matter or r going into th last place vi the drying r dryers the fi are tied up then ready can be mad bleached or ity desired. three quali

"The sulph towers 112 fe