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BROWN BROS., LIMITED,

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96 YONGE STREET, TORONTO

Mercantile Summary.

The International Navigation Company has secured the contract from the Dominion for a steamer service between Campbellton, N.B., and Gaspé, Que. A boat is in course of construction by a Glasgow firm, and will be ready for the service next spring.

The Newcastle, N.B., Advocate says: "About half the usual number of men are now in the Miramichi woods. A prominent operator stated that he expected that just about half of the usual cut would come out of the woods. Everett Parker, usually a large operator, is not cutting at all this winter, and other operators will curtail their cut one-half.

It is satisfactory news that the big steel freight steamer "Augustus B. Wolvin" has been able to find easy passage up the Kaministiquia River, at Port Arthur, Ont. This boat is one of the big steamers of the Great Lakes. She is 560 feet long, her tonnage is 10,000 tons, and she carries 330,000 bushels of grain.

A warning is sent out by the C.P.R. to shippers who have been consigning goods to Prince Edward Island. It is to the effect that on and after December 1st, freight for Prince Edward Island via Point du Chene and Pictou will be accepted only subject to delay, though it will be hauled from these points as long as weather permits.

The popular house, Brown Bros., Limited, wholesale stationers and bookbinders, who suffered so seriously from fire twice within the present year, have resumed business at their old stand, 51 and 53 West Wellington Street, Toronto. The firm are now in a position to attend to all orders promptly, and will be glad to see all their old friends at their new establishment.

Up to two years ago W. J. Steele worked upon his father's farm. Becoming imbued with commercial aspirations, he then launched into a general store venture at Calumet, Que., and his has been the experience of many others who have gone into retail trade without the necessary experience or aptitude. Mr. Steele has never been found either methodical or prompt in settlements, allowing himself to be sued from time to time, and he has now been asked to assign.

A special to the Montreal Gazette dated Saturday last, says that the Three Rivers saw mills all closed down last week. Alex. Baptiste's, Great Falls Lumber Company, the Burrell Lumber Company, the Union Bag and Paper Company, and St. Maurice Lumber Company. This year, owing to the lateness of the drive the mills were run as long as possible, as a great many logs remain over on the St. Maurice River. About 75,000,000 feet were cut by these mills during the season. There is no snow yet, but booms at mills are frozen up. Logging operations, on a large scale, will be carried on this winter.

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Montreal Toronto

"The pupils and staff of that enterprising Institution, The Dominion Business College, are issuing cards for an 'At-Home' to be held in their class rooms on December 1st. We have to hand an interesting little story, issued in elegant form by the College. This will be sent to anyone on receipt of a postal card at the Dominion College. Address, 4 Richmond St. East. Everyone interested in Telegraphy or Shorthand should write for it."

The Gazette understands that a rich deposit of iron ore has been discovered on the farm of William Talmage, near Sweetsburg, Quebec. The vein is being uncovered and a quantity of the ore will be smelted in order to test its quality.

In a serious fire which took place in Montreal last week the premises of John H. Barry & Co., wholesale millinery, and of Walter H. Barry & Co., dry goods, were damaged to the extent of about \$45,000. J. P. A. Destroismaisons & Co., wholesale milliners, also suffered severely from smoke and water.

A demand of assignment has been made upon J. D. Plourde, formerly traveller for a Montreal dry goods house, who only last spring started on his own account in general storekeeping at St. Raymond, on the north shore, near Quebec. A few months later he also bought out a store at St. Tite, and later started even another branch, and to this over-expansion is attributed his undoing.

An official abandonment has been made by O. J. Beauchamp, Jr., of Ste. Rose de Lima, Que. Possessing some experience as a clerk, he began storekeeping about two years ago on a comparatively small capital. A year or so ago he opened a branch store at East Templeton, which evidently over-taxed his means, as he has since then shown signs of financial strain, with quite numerous recent suits appearing against him.

T. T. Blais & Co., dry goods dealers at Sherbrooke, Que., have voluntarily assigned. The name has been a prominent one in Sherbrooke business circles for over thirty years, and in its earlier history was apparently fairly prosperous, but in 1894 the firm failed, compromising at sixty cents, and they again assigned in 1899, when a settlement was not extended them, but the stock was bought in for Mrs. Blais, who has since been the legal owner of the business. The present liabilities are put at about \$12,000.