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MONTREAL.

Mercantile Summary.

It appears from Halifax advices that there has been a general decrease in the tonnage of wooden shipping all over the Maritime Provinces, sailing vessels being gradually replaced by coasting steamers. Shipping registered at Halifax showed a decrease of 7,000 tons at the close of 1890, as compared with 1889.

An invention in the shape of endless chains alternated with stationary timbers sloping to the lower part of the mill, for the safe trans. ference of trimmed lumber, is working very satisfactorily in the Brunette saw-mill, at Westminster, B.C. The lumber is pushed on to a system of hooks attached to the chains after coming from the saws, and is gently and continuously deposited to where it is transferred to the waiting trucks by the men in attendance. The Brunette Mills, it is understood, were the first in the province to take advantage of this way of carefully handling the lighter classes of lumber from the upper floors of the mill to the ground.

THE annual statement of New Brunswick's shipping, issued last week, shows little change since this time last year. The list of vessels registered in St. John lost during this year shows that there were 31 of 10,169 tons, valued at \$224,300. During 1889, 40 vessels of 18,706 tons, valued at \$229,700, were lost, compared with 40 vessels of 17,348 tons, valued at \$555,000, in 1888, and 28 vessels of 17,226 tons, valued at \$270,000, in 1887. The new vessels added to the registry in St. John numbered 24, of 5,843 tons, compared with 29 vessels of 4,237 tons in 1889, 18 vessels of 2,017 tons in 1888, and 13 vessels of 2,421 tons in 1887. As to ship-building, there are now under construction, or arranged for, 24 vessels of 5,903 tons. At this date last year there were 22 vessels of 6,338 tons under contract.

REMOVAL

