

Thos. McCornick, biscuit manufacturer, London, Ont., entertained his employees at his residence, and afterward gave each \$5 per year for each year he had been in his service, one man receiving \$100. The total amount distributed was about \$2,000.

The possible competition of Spanish with British pig iron in the United Kingdom has been foreshadowed in the English press. It is now stated that vigorous efforts are to be made to push the introduction of Spanish iron in England, and samples have already been sent into Staffordshire.

There are no less than four projected railway lines commencing at Port Arthur as follows: The Ontario and Rainy River Railway Company, the Ontario, Minnesota and Manitoba Railway Company, the Lake Superior Mineral Railway Company and the Thunder Bay Colonization Railway Company.

It seems that the dairy farmers of England are feeling the effects of competition from butterine. The British Dairy Farmers' Association has the draft of a bill to be presented to Parliament prohibiting the sale of imitation butter under the title of butterine, American butter, or any other terms indicated in the act.

The Canadian Pacific returns for last year are as follows:—For twelve months ending Dec. 31, 1885, the figures are as follows—Gross earnings, \$83,684.93; working expenses, \$51,432.76; net profits, \$52,252.16; increase in net profits for twelve months ending Dec 31st over the same period last year is \$2,033,326; miles in operation, 3,527.

Foreign advices indicate that a proposed government monopoly of the sale of spirits in Germany will be brought before the Reichstag. The fact that this body refused to grant the government a monopoly of the sale of tobacco does not seem to have deterred the government from broaching the scheme. The general proposition as stated is that the state shall buy up all the raw spirits in the empire, and after refining, retail them at home and export them abroad. The granting of licenses to sell would naturally be a source of revenue to the government.

The collection of mineral specimens from the Thunder Bay district for the Colonial Exhibition is a magnificent one, according to the Port Arthur *Sentinel*. There are in the exhibit specimens showing some of the metals in their virgin purity and ores of most of the economic minerals, viz., iron ore, fit for Besemer steel, galena or lead ore with rock, and galena solid; zinc blende carrying upwards of 50 per cent. of metallic zinc; copper ores also rich in precious metals; copper in its native state; plumbago, barytu, asbestos, mica, various kinds of silver and gold ores, and gold and silver in their native state as found in the veins in the district. Precious stones are also exhibited, viz: garnets, greenstones, Thompsonites, amethysts and agates of exceptional beauty. Building, useful and ornamental stones are exhibited, viz: cement stone, glass stone, ordinary building stone, free stone, the beautiful Nipigon sandstone, red granite, gray granite, roofing slate and different kinds of marble.

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