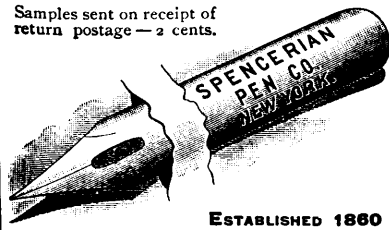


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MONTREAL AND TORONTO**Mercantile Summary.**

BLACK caterpillars are said to be ravaging the forests at Chicoutimi, Que.

GALT has just let a second contract for granolithic walk, this time for 11,000 square feet.

CHATHAM has decided to spend \$14,000 on an electric street lighting plant, the Thomson Electric Light Company, of Hamilton, securing the contract.

SOME 1,500 lbs. of sugar beet seed have been distributed among farmers in the Owen Sound district. The object is to extend the beet sugar industry of the Dominion.

THE new elevator at Owen Sound is ascending towards the clouds at the rate of eight feet per day; 170 men are employed, and 100,000 feet lumber a day is being used.

THE waterworks by-law was carried by Fort William last Friday by 119 of a majority. Every ward gave a majority. The election of three commissioners to look after building the works will take place next.

ENTRIES for the Winnipeg Industrial Fair exceed in number by 50 per cent. those of any previous fair in that city. The exhibits are expected to be pretty well in order by tomorrow. The opening as we have elsewhere noted, takes place on Monday.

BURGLARS have been busy for a week or two in various parts of Huron county. One gang at Exeter robbed a show-case of Bishop's hardware store, and got off with some plunder. Another gang tried to get into McKay's hardware store in Brussels, but failed.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway steamship "Empress of Japan" has broken all records for fast time in her last passage across the Pacific Ocean from Vancouver, B.C., to Yokohama, Japan. Deducting the difference in time during the trip, the actual running time was 10 days, 3 hours and 44 minutes. The ship left Victoria at 10.20 a.m. on June 26th, and Vancouver at 4.15 p.m. the same day, and arrived at Yokohama at 1.30 p.m. on July 7th. The distance is 4,217 miles, and the average speed was 17.3 knots an hour.

A NEW steamer of 700 tons, named the "Prince Edward," and a sister ship, the "Prince Rupert," have been built in England for the Dominion Atlantic Railway, at a cost of \$200,000. It is not yet known by anyone outside the company where this new boat is to ply. But the Digby, N.S., *Courier* hears that she will coast in the Bay of Fundy. Another says she is for the Boston route, which would seem to be confirmed by the recent purchase of a wharf property in Yarmouth. "But a Boston-Digby route would, however, be an excellent move, and one which some day must come."A NOVA SCOTIA lumberman, Mr. Frank Davison, of the firm E. D. Davison & Sons, Bridgewater, thus speaks his mind to the *Chicago Lumberman*: "We are thankful to be out of the region dependent on the American market, as your own production seems to be fully able to supply the demand, and there is sound argument in favor of a duty on Canadian lumber, while your lumbermen have to pay such high duties on all they consume. The British markets are now advertising free trade, and we hope some day your people may realize that if free trade is the thing for the United States it is a good thing for the whole continent, and that your Chinese principle of exclusion is behind the times. We are running full time at present, cutting 150,000 feet a day, and have all we can do to fill the contracts now made with foreign customers."**COLLECTION OF ACCOUNTS A SPECIALTY.****STANDARD**
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