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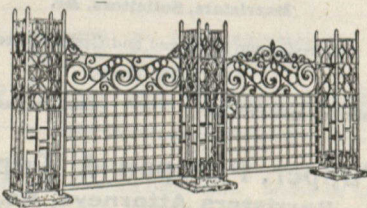
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Mercantile Summary.

MESSRS. Swan & Hunter, Newcastle, England, have just launched the largest floating dock in the world. It is now being towed across the Atlantic for use at Bermuda. It is 545 feet in length, 100 feet in width at the entrance, and the lifting power is 17,500 tons. It will admit of the docking of the largest battle-ships, and has many important improvements. The towing charges alone will be over \$75,000.

ACCORDING to news received in Vancouver, great areas of forest land along 1,000 miles of the Yukon valley have been ravaged by fires and devastated of their splendid growth of spruce and birch timber within the last few weeks, and in places the flames are still raging. From Dawson to near the mouth of the Yukon, the great valley is clouded with smoke. Captains of river steamers from St. Michael report the fires raging extensively in the vicinity of the lower river stations of Nunivik, Greyling, and Kal-tag. At those places the Northern Commercial Company alone has suffered considerable losses in wood piled ready for use by steamers.

A COMPANY has been organized, under the title of the Irondale Coal and Iron Mining and Development Co., Limited, for the purpose of acquiring a valuable iron property, which was recently discovered on Red Earth and Stony Creeks, nearly twenty miles east of Victoria, Alta. The deposit is a ferrous oxide, assaying over 40 per cent. iron. The company proposes, also, to acquire the property containing several coal indications, in the Saskatchewan country, referred to in the report of the Dominion Geological Survey for 1886, as the coal is believed to possess valuable smelting qualities. It is noteworthy that considerable deposits of pure lime have also been discovered in close conjunction with the above property.

THE following is a record of patents recently granted to Canadians in Canada and the United States: Canada—75,752, corn, grain and cutting tool, William Pratt; 76,770, carriage gears, A. B. Bryant; 76,773, process for preparing bog peat for fuel, A. Charron; 76,776, woven wire fabrics for spring mattresses, P. J. Smyth; 76,788, apparatus for forging car wheels, Alex. N. Cameron; 76,789, hair restorer, Marie O. Noiseux; 76,790, speed changing and reversing gear, W. Redpath; 76,792, spike drawing tools, J. K. Reid; 76,800, washing machines, George Drinkwater; 76,819, ice creepers, George B. Farmer; 76,831, dress chart, Catherine Ryan; 76,835, coal unloaders, A. E. Morissette; 76,836, rotary steam engines, H. Denis; 76,841, broom heads, John McDonald; 76,844, snow cleaning machines, F. C. Harris; 76,845, supplemental fire grates or feed receptacles for cooking stoves, Fannie Perryman. United States—705,592, air brake system, Wm. G. MacLaughlin; 705,839, thrust bearing, Albert E. Henderson; 705,951, fence lock, Wm. B. MacLean.

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