

MANY of the Lunenburg fishing fleet have returned home from the Grand Banks and other fishing grounds, with their bait all gone and a very small catch. Fishermen report the present season so far to be poorer than last, and that was the worst for many years.

BAD debts having accumulated faster than profits, J. F. Austin & Co., wholesale jewellers in this city, have called their creditors together. The firm came from Kingston in 1887, when they claimed a surplus of \$10,000, not a very substantial capital with which to begin a wholesale jewellery business. The firm has submitted an offer of 40 cents in the dollar.

THE Glasgow Mail thus describes the steel twin-screw steamer "Modjeska" built on the Clyde for the Hamilton Steamboat Co., and which was launched quite recently. Her dimensions are:—Length over all, 185 feet; breadth at main deck, 30 feet; depth moulded, 13 feet; gross tonnage, about 500 tons. The main and promenade decks extend the whole length of the vessel, with a wood awning above from foremast to the stern. The dining saloon is placed below the main deck aft. The principal saloon is a spacious apartment beautifully finished and furnished, with ladies' rooms adjoining. Excursionists will find luxurious seating on the promenade deck as

well as ample room for promenading. The vessel is to have a high rate of speed, so as to make two trips per day between Hamilton and Toronto.

PRIVATE advices received in St. John, N.B., from Barbados, are to the effect that the molasses product this year, owing to the very favorable dry season, will be immense. It is estimated that Barbados will produce 10,000 puncheons more than the crop of last year, which was probably the largest previous crop on record. This will make the total product of that island for the year 55,000 puncheons.

C. D. EVERETT, one of the oldest business men in St. John, N. B., is dead. He was the first man on the continent, says the *Sun*, to manufacture hats by steam, and his was believed to be the first stationary engine run in the two provinces. This was in 1833, when there was a law prohibiting the exportation, from England, of machinery to a British colony. Mr. Everett was not aware of the fact until his vessel was seized on the way down the Thames and the machinery confiscated. The authorities subsequently released the goods with a warning not to repeat the experiment. Nevertheless the goods were shipped in a disguised form, as general hardware, and arrived in St. John neatly packed in hogsheads.

THE exports of last month from Hamilton to the United States were of the value of \$33,-

664, principal among them being wool, malt, barley, horses, cattle, apples, and lumber.

A. McMILLAN & Co., proprietors of the St. Thomas Biscuit Works, have made an assignment. The liabilities are estimated at \$3,500, and the assets at \$3,000. A local paper says that since the firm took possession of the works they have shown themselves to be men of business ability and push, and would have made the venture a success had it not been for the unfair competition to which they were subjected.

THE steamship service on the Georgian Bay, from Owen Sound to Sault Ste. Marie, is now in full sail, and all boats are running on rail-road time. The fine side wheel passenger and mail boats "Carmona" and "Cambria," running in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway, are very attractive craft; beautifully fitted up this season with all the necessary comforts for a travelling public. They are lighted with electricity and provisioned under control of the C. P. R., so that their *cuisine* is not surpassed on our inland waters.

A LITTLE more than a year ago J. A. McMurtry & Co., dealers in teas in this city, are said to have shown a surplus of \$11,000. They have been falling behind for some time past, it appears, and have found it necessary to consult with creditors, who will meet to-day. —Having been burned out last month, F. R. Maccomb, a grocer at Welland, has now assigned. —A meeting of the creditors of H. Capewell, who succeeded Radcliffe the jobber, was held this week, when an offer of 40 cents in the dollar was submitted and accepted.

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