

Our Montreal correspondent says:—"Moderate sales of domestic iron have been made at \$16.50 to 16.75, with a little firmer tone to the market; for Summerlee \$20.50 is asked for small lots ex-yard."

The shipments of coal this year, says the Stellarton, N.S., *Trades Journal*, will probably reach 2,100,000 tons. Of this Cape Breton's contribution will be 1,220,000, Cumberland's 480,000, and Pictou's should be 400,000 tons.

Seven months ago the market price of Bessemer pig iron was \$1 a ton lower at Pittsburgh than at Chicago. Now, says the *Chicago Tribune*, "the value of Bessemer is \$1 a ton less at Chicago than at Pittsburgh." Pittsburgh advanced from \$10.25 to \$12.25 a ton, while Chicago maintained the old quotation of \$11.50 a ton.

The *London Times* says: Despite the ignominious failure of the syndicate which engineered the corner in tin in 1887, another combination of French and Dutch speculators is now trying to obtain control of the tin market. It is asserted that they already hold about sixteen thousand tons of tin, but the actual quantity is thought to be nearer twelve thousand tons.

LUMBER AND TIMBER PIECES.

The exports of lumber products from St. John, N.B., during August were valued at \$378,866.

The mill of Thomas Conlon, at Little Current, is being rebuilt, and will have a capacity of 125,000 feet daily.

Basswood is in good demand. Merchants in New York and Boston are the principal enquirers after stock.

Some fairly large shipments of 1st and 2nd grades of birch have been made from Toronto to Detroit during the week.

Ship-lap has been reduced \$2 a thousand by the Winnipeg Retail Lumbermen's Association, while lath is lower by 25c. a thousand.

A large lumber and stave mill is being erected at Wheatley, Ont., for the Sutherland-Innes Company. The mill, it is expected, will be running in a few weeks.

The prospect is that the mills will have to shut down from four to six weeks earlier this fall than usual, as there is not a sufficient stock of logs in the boom to keep them going. Men and teams have begun to go into the woods to begin operations for the winter.—*Chatham World*.

The Fredericton Boom Company has rafted 96,005,245 feet of logs and 262 tons of timber. The logs are divided as follows: Spruce, 87,282,435 feet; pine, 4,441,120 feet; cedar, 4,271,240 feet; hemlock, 10,450 feet. There are 10,000,000 more to come in. Last year the company rafted 140,000,000 feet.

The United States Treasury has issued a circular to officials on the Canadian border directing them to dispense hereafter with all inspection or certification of American lumber, or any of the manufactures thereof included in paragraphs 672 and 683, inclusive, of the free list, which goes through Canada in transit to another point in the United States. Very cumbersome regulations have been in force up to this time in certifying the country of origin.

INSURANCE NOTES.

The hat factory of Messrs. Craig & Sanluier, at Truro, N.S., was burned recently, and Messrs. G. Clish and W. P. McNeil were appointed appraisers to settle the loss. Mr. F. B. Butcher, of St. John, N.B., being the adjuster for the insurance companies. The amount agreed upon that the companies should pay was \$5,202. This factory will in all probability be, says the *Amherst News*, refitted and re-opened in Truro, though already the proprietors have had offers from one or two towns in Ontario, holding out inducements for the removal of this factory to that province.

The Fire Committee has succeeded in getting through the Montreal Council a project which will meet with the approval of all the members of the Fire Department. Formerly when a member of the department was killed in the course of duty he must have been ten years in the department before his heirs could claim \$1,000. According to the by-law passed by the Council in January, 1875, the scale was fixed as follows:—4 years' service, \$300; under 5 years, \$400; under 6 years, \$500; under 7 years, \$600; under 8 years, \$700; under 9 years, \$800; under 10 years, \$900. Now this has been changed, and if a fireman—no matter the length of service—is killed at duty, his heirs will receive \$1,000.

It is recommended by a committee of the St. John Board of Trade that the city procure at once a Hayes extension ladder truck, seven hand ladders, hooks, crowbars, rope, tackle, wrenches, etc., and a Detroit door opener for the fire department. There should be also,

says the report, the Callahan water tower attachment, which would enable the fire department to flood a building on fire from above should this be necessary. The committee look upon the purchase of a chemical engine as a matter next in importance only to that of an extension ladder. "If through the purchase of such extension ladder and chemical engine the further extension of the water works system can be deferred and an advance in the rates for fire insurance prevented, a very large saving would be made."

As good a testimonial as could be asked to the effectiveness of a fire extinguisher is the following letter from a Stratford manufacturer, dated September 17th, Monday last: "At half-past three this afternoon there occurred a fire in Dufton's woolen mills, this city, which would have proved disastrous but for the use of the extinguisher, which put out the fire promptly. It started in a picker, and had they not used your extinguisher the whole mill would have gone. The fire was all out, and every one of the employes working when the brigade got there." It refers to the Wilson extinguisher, whose machines were seen putting out fires in varnish-soaked wooden structures at the Grand Stand of last week's Toronto Exhibition. Mr. Wilson appears to have invented a really serviceable hand machine.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Annual Report, Collingwood Board of Trade, for the year 1893, etc.—The Collingwood Board of Trade does not hide the light of that blue-skied, brisk-aired town under a bushel. On the contrary, it sends out a pamphlet of 120 pages, containing "Brief Annals of Collingwood" from the pioneer days onward, "Collingwood's Industries," and the claims of the town as a summer resort. The compilers are frank enough to do what some towns would not, i.e., mention "Collingwood's wants." And the first want mentioned is a waterway 20 feet deep from Collingwood to Lake Ontario. Nothing modest about this. Perhaps Mr. Moberley was at the elbow of the compiler when this was written. Mr. Long's presidential address to the board is reprinted. There are a lot of statistical contents as well, and illustrations are numerous. If we understand correctly that the pamphlet is the production of the *Enterprise* printing office, we regard it as one of the best specimens ever turned out of a country press. Mr. F. T. Hodgson, the compiler, seems to have done his work lovingly and well.

THE CANADIAN MINING REVIEW.—This August issue of 72 quarto pages, twenty of them illustrated, shows, among other things, to what lengths mineral development has attained in this country, and how far the enterprise of the journal that is "the representative exponent of the mineral industries of Canada" keeps pace with this development. As is to be expected of the official organ of the mining societies of Quebec and Nova Scotia respectively, reports are given of the meetings of these bodies. And this is quite regular and proper. The proceedings of the banquet at Sydney are reported in natural—not at all reportorial—English. The speakers speak in the first person, as they ought to do, and not in the third as a stenographer would have them. And they speak as they feel—that is, the report does not smell of the lamp and the dictionary. But we would rather have been on that "Trip to Cape Breton," described by the Junior Reporter, than at any official banquet in Sydney or elsewhere. That is, if the incidents of the aforesaid trip were real, and not elaborated from the inner consciousness of that tall, handsome athletic J. R., when he "was try for to get soam sles-up." The pages on the Sydney Coal Field, and the various enterprises of the Dominion Company, that on gold mining in Nova Scotia, and on silver mining in Kootenay, will doubtless commend themselves to the mining expert. The editorial articles on The Memramcook Fiasco and on Copper Mining in Cape Breton, are deserving of faithful perusal. Mr. Bell is to be congratulated on this admirable issue, the only disappointing pages of which are those facing 164 and 148, for which, let us hope, the sun is to blame. Good-looking men, whether they be colliery officials or lesser mortals, do like to have their physiogns worthily reproduced.

CLEARING-HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing-houses for the week ended with Thursday, Sept. 20th, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Sept. 13.	Sept. 20
Montreal	\$12,095,508	\$12,097,597
Toronto	5,332,726	4,743,964
Halifax	1,512,728	1,023,995
Winnipeg	741,297	929,753
Hamilton	650,147	743,326

Total..... \$20,322,406 \$19,538,635*

Aggregate balances this week, \$2,935,394; last week, \$3,100,143.