To meet the opposition of the line from Alexandria Bay to Montreal, the R & O. Nav. Co have placed three extra steamers a week on that route, the extra boats reaching Montreal an hour before the regular boat The company contemplate building two new palace steamers to run between Toronto and Prescott, and to be built with turbine propellers of the type referred to in a late issue. Such boats would be capable of making 35 to 40 miles per hour, and would do the trip from Toronto to Kingston in from four to five hours if no stops were made at lake ports. No decision has yet been come to on this matter, but meanwhile the regular boats will be altered and improved, adapting them better for tourist travel.

Recent English papers contain accounts of the launching of two magnificent ships for the Elder-Dempster Company of Liverpool and Montreal. One was launched at Wallsend-on-Tyne, and christened the "Monarch." She and her sister ship the "Milwaukee" are the largest freight steamers yet built in England. Her dead weight cargo capacity is 11,500 tons, while her measurement cargo is over 18,000 tons, besides 700 tons of bunker capacity. Her length is 483 feet, beam 56 feet, depth 42 feet 3 inches to the shelter deck. She has 12 steam winches for handling cargo, is lighted by electricity, and the cattle stalls, etc., are of the latest type. The other boat, the 'Montrose,' was launched at Middlesborough. She has a dead-weight capacity of over 8,000 tons, is 400 feet long, 52 feet beam and 30.7 feet deep. She is fitted up with cold storage apparatus for dairy produce, etc

LITERARY NOTES.

The 41st annual report on the sewage and water supply of St. John, N B., has been compiled by Wm. Murdoch, C.E., engineer of the department. The daily average water supply for St. John is 4,903,100 gallons being 135.2 per head of population, or deducting that used by manufacturers, railway and shipping, etc., 124 gals. per head of east side population. During the year 79 new services were laid at an average cost of $24.04 each. The total pipeage of the city is 95.15 miles There are 174 water meters in use. During the year there were 4,400 feet of sewers built, at a cost of $13,852. One of these, which was a difficult work, will be referred to again in this journal.

We have heard so much of old London lately, that a sketch of our Canadian London will be specially interesting by way of contrast, and therefore the new history of London, Ont., compiled by Archie Bremner, and published by the London Printing and Lithographing Company, is both timely and valuable This work contains 136 pages 9 x 12 inches, and is illustrated by over 300 half tone engravings, including a map of Western Ontario The illustrations alone would almost portray the history of the city, but the writer has given a most graphic and entertaining narrative of the evolution of a modern Canadian city from its log cabin beginnings, in 1826, down to the Jubilee celebration of this very year, and embracing almost every phase of its civic life and all its institutions The book is free from advertisements, and is creditable alike to the author and the printers and publishers Sample pages and prospectus will be sent to any one interested.

We have to thank Chevalier Chs. Baillairge, librarian of the Geographical Society of Quebec, for a copy of the transactions of that society from 1893-97, which make a volume of 340 pages in all. This society is doing a most important work in showing the greatness and value of our unknown northern regions, and deserves the encouragement they are now seeking from the Government Among the contributors, besides M Baillairge, are Dr Robt Bell, A. P. Low, John Bignell, H O'Sullivan, and others well known in connection with exploratory work, and several engravings and maps accompany the papers The work throws a good deal of light on the regions about Hudson and James' Bays, and will be specially valuable now that those regions must soon be opened up by means of railways. We hope to refer to the work at greater length in another issue.

The annual report of the several departments of the city government of Halifax, N S., has reached us It is a neat pamphlet of over 300 pages, and gives details of all the departments of the city government. The engineering departments contain many indications of the skillful management of F. W. W. Doane, C.E., the city engineer.

A very attractive pamphlet describing the city of Hartford, Conn., and its principal industries has been published, describing, among other concerns, the Skinner Chuck Co. The sketch shows that the business of this company has developed very rapidly since its establishment in 1887, a development evidently due to the superiority of the firm's products. The company have several patents on their chucks, which are turned out on the most modern machinery by skilled workmen. The Skinner Chuck Co. have an extensive trade all over the continent, including Canada, and will be glad to furnish information about their specialties to those interested.

We have received a pamphlet from the International Correspondence Schools, of Scranton, Pa., which contains 1,000 letters written by friends of the school to testify their appreciation of the advantages it offers.

We notice from the calendar of the Kingston, Ont., School of Mining that the entrance examinations for the session 1897-98 begin Sept. 16th.

Industrial Notes.

The school trustees of Oxford, N.S., have decided to erect new school buildings to cost $7,950.

The town engineer of St. Stephens, N.B., has been authorized to invite tenders for sewers, for which the sum of $5,000 has been appropriated.

The E B Eddy Co., of Hull, will put in a separate system of waterworks, having 40 hydrants, with a pumping force of 5,000 gallons per minute.

The Joliette Lumber Company's mills at St. Gabriel de Brandon, is handling pulp wood at the rate of 50 cords barked per day, besides cutting 50 to 60 thousand feet of lumber daily.

A large number of elevator owners in Manitoba and the North-West generally are looking into the possibilities of gasoline engines, and several have already been ordered, it is said.

Drummond, McCall & Co., Montreal, who have the contract for St. Lambert's waterworks system, will employ from 100 to 150 men until the completion of the contract in November.

A E Whitehouse has commenced business at 684 Craig street, Montreal, as a general machinist and engineer, giving special attention to gas engines, printing machinery, bicycle work and model making.

The St Lawrence Foundry Co., Toronto, is now building a full line of fire hydrants, gate and check valves, and some waterworks appliances not hitherto made in Canada. A further reference to the firm's products will be made in our next issue.

A Cushing & Co offer to erect a pulp mill of a capacity of twenty tons per day, near their big saw mill at the St. John Falls, if the city of St John will supply the water free The mill would cost $150,000, and will pay out $60,000 a year in wages.

The third annual meeting of the shareholders of the Taylor Hydraulic Air Compressing Company, Ltd., was held at the offices of the company, 183 St. James street, Montreal, last month, and the following were elected directors. Samuel Carsley, president, Joseph B. Fair, vice-president, George Durnford, William H. Campbell and R. L. Murchison.

McOuat & McRae founders and machinists, Lachute, are getting very busy on orders for their specialties. This firm make a patent frost dog and patent timber gauge for lumber manufacturers, both of which are coming into general use as the best thing of the kind yet invented. They also make a "stuff" pump for paper mills, which is now used by all the leading paper and pulp mills of Canada. These and stationary fire pumps and friction clutches are among the special lines made by this progressive firm.

Hamelin & Ayers, of Lachute, Que., are building a large dam across the North River below their present woolen mills. Forty men are employed on the dam, which is 360 feet wide, 28 feet high from the river bottom, with a base of 84 feet. It is of the "beaver" type and gives a head of 23 feet at the dam, or by carrying the water across a peninsula formed by a bend in the river the head can be increased to 33 feet The work will be finished this month, and the owners will sell or lease the power for manufacturing purposes.