

ED. WILLIAMS, Dartmouth, is building a wooden steamer for the Acadia Sugar Co., to take the place of the "Mascotte"; the "Mascotte" engines, with new boilers, will be placed in her.

THE notice in the *Official Gazette* that the Ottawa Valley Canal Co. would apply for an extension of time to commence operations has drawn public attention once more towards this great enterprise. Marcus Smith, C.E., is about to make a new survey, and will, it is said, run the line of the canal through the southern channel at Allumette Island, passing the town of Pembroke. Mr. Smith estimates the cost of the canal at fifteen millions. It is thought that the motor power developed by the construction of the canal would be sufficient to operate all the industries in Eastern Ontario, the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway, and the C.P.R. from Quebec to Winnipeg.

Among the members of the joint-stock company of the "Royal William," built at Quebec in 1830 and 1831, the first vessel to cross the Atlantic under steam, was Sir Samuel Cunard, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, who followed up this Canadian enterprise by building four steamships in 1838, the "Britannia," "Acadia," "Caledonia" and the "Columbia," which formed the first of the splendid fleet that since has been known as the Cunard line. It is the boast of this company that during fifty-six years, in which their vessels have transported people continuously to and fro between Europe and America, it never lost the life of a passenger. In an address recently given by Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.M.G., before the Royal Colonial Institute, a comparison of the "Britannia," the first Cunard ship launched in 1840, with the latest Cunard liner "Lucania," launched in 1893, is made in order to show the marvellous advance in construction of ships during the half century. The "Britannia" was a paddle-wheel steamship constructed of wood. The "Lucania" is a double-screw steamship constructed of steel:

"Britannia."		"Lucania."	
Length, feet.....	207	Length, feet.....	620
Tonnage.....	1,139	Tonnage.....	12,950
Horse-power.....	740	Horse-power.....	30,000
Speed per hour....	8½	Speed per hour.....	21½
	(knots).		(knots).

The "Britannia" had accommodation for ninety passengers; the "Lucania" for six hundred first class, four hundred second class, and seven hundred to a thousand third class passengers.

Mining Matters.

IT is reported that extensive beds of rock salt have been discovered in the city of Toronto by boring.

THE Bullion Mining Company of Rat Portage has been launched to do developing and general mining business. William Hamilton Merritt is consulting engineer.

"From what I have seen and heard, I consider that British Columbia is probably the finest gold mining country in the world"—P. A. Peterson, chief engineer of the C.P.R.

J. REEB & SONS, have bought the Mutual Gas Co.'s wells and plant. This gives Messrs. Reeb & Sons control of the gas supply in Welland, except the Greenwood line and the wells of the Ontario Silver Co.

THE drill plant for the Trail Mining Co., Trail Creek, B.C., is now being placed in position at the Copper Jack mine. The plant weighs 107 tons and \$5,000 was spent in building suitable foundations for it.

COL. ENGLEBUE, of the South African General Development Company of England, which was organized in 1894, with a capital of \$300,000, for the exploration and working of mining properties in South Africa, has recently visited the leading centres of mining interest in Canada, and has secured options on a number of fine properties in British Columbia and the Rainy River district for his company.

IN the month of June the Hall Mines, Ltd., smelted 3,420 tons of silver ore, which produced 283 tons of matte, containing 135 tons of copper and 70,847 ozs. of silver, says the *Victoria Colonist*. The value of this is estimated at about £14,510, while the outgoings will not exceed at most £6,000. This means an annual profit of £100,000 on the paid-up capital of £300,000. As late as March last the shares could be bought for 10s. They now stand as high as 50s., and look like going to £3.

THAT mining stock, even at five cents a share, may not be a good bargain, is shown by the following from the *Rossland Miner*:

"In connection with the Gold Hill swindle, all the labor on the mine was paid in stocks at a nominal value, we believe, of 6 to 10 cents a share. At 10 cents a share, the men would be entitled to 20 shares of stock a day and their board, or at 5 cents a share to 40 shares of stock a day and their board. At the price for which the mine was sold these men will get about one-eighth of a cent a share, or from 16 cents to 32 cents a day."

THE Le Roi Mining and Smelting Company is sinking a shaft from the 450-foot level, and will continue it for 100 feet. When this is completed, it is said that if the ore continues there will be \$7,000,000 in sight, and that there is now in sight between the 350-foot and the 450-foot levels, where the present work is being done, \$2,000,000. If there is no mistake in these figures, the Le Roi is all that has been claimed for it, the biggest gold mine in North America. One hundred tons of ore are being taken out of the mine daily, and there is said to be 10,000 tons on the dump ready to be taken to the smelter. Eighteen months ago the stock of this mine sold at 10 cents per share, last month an Ottawa capitalist is reported to have bought 12,000 shares at \$5.

THE North Brookfield Mining Association of Queen's county, N.S., are putting in a \$15,000 crushing plant from the Truro Foundry and Machine Co., in addition to a chlorination plant. This company took hold of a property which was abandoned some years ago, and now they are working at a good profit, and are said to have \$120,000 of ore in sight. Three other Nova Scotia companies, who are making handsome profits are the New Glasgow Gold Mining Co., the Egerton Gold Co., and the Blue Nose Gold Mining Co. The first named are going to put in an additional ten stamps, while the last named company of New Glasgow capitalists, who have got control of the Springfield, Cobourg and Caledonia mines, are putting in an elaborate plant, having both formerly been worked only by the old methods. Fraser Bros, of New Glasgow, are putting in some of the plant. The Egerton Company, operating at Fifteen Mile Stream, are now putting in fifteen stamps, making a total of thirty stamps. They have been taking out 350 to 400 ounces a month since July, 1895.

AMONG the new mining companies gazetted last month in British Columbia are: California Gold Mining Company; head office Spokane; capital, \$2,500,000; R. H. Pope, president. The Columbia Mining Company, of Victoria, B.C., Ltd.; capital, \$100,000, in 200 shares of \$500 each; directors, J. C. Davie, surgeon, B. W. Pearse, gentleman, A. P. Luxton, barrister, F. B. Pemberton, financial agent, A. C. Flumerfelt, merchant, Victoria. The Interstate Mining Company; head office, Spokane; capital, \$750,000; no names of directors. The Kootenay-London Mining Company, Ltd.; capital, \$1,000,000 in \$1 shares; directors, E. Pritchard, London, Eng., mining engineer; W. Bennisson, Everett, Wash.; A. J. McMillan, Liverpool, Eng., and J. W. Cover, W. A. Campbell, C. O. Lalonde, J. W. Boyd, J. S. Paterson, Hiram Kildea, of Rossland; the company is formed to buy the Comet No. 2 and Annie (fraction) claims at Rossland, and general mining. The Pittsburg Gold Mining Company, Ltd.; head office, Rossland; capital, \$750,000 in \$1 shares; directors, L. T. Schooley, Winnipeg; A. D. Clabon, J. McLaren, W. R. Hall, M. J. Brown, D. Thoroton, David McBeath, T. H. Armstrong, all of Rossland; the company is formed to purchase the Pittsburg No. 1 and Yellow Copper claims, and general mining. The San Francisco Gold Mining Company, Ltd.; capital, \$1,000,000 in \$1 shares; head office, Rossland; directors, W. W. Davis, grain broker, Rossland; Joseph Harris, grain merchant; John Dick, lumber manufacturer, Winnipeg; J. B. McArthur, Q.C., C. O. B. Reddin, broker, of Rossland; the company is formed to purchase the San Francisco mineral claim, and general mining.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Statistical Year Book of Canada for 1895 contains its usual wealth of information. It contains the first of a series of biographical notes of advocates of the principle of Confederation, the third of a series on "Countries with which Canada Deals," and an extended analysis of the industrial, mechanical and manufacturing return of the Census by provinces. A digest of the treaties Canada has made with her Indian tribes is appended to the synopsis of the treaties made by the Mother Country, in which Canada is specially interested. The Abstract contains gleanings from and analyses of the return made to the Government through the several Departments, the whole being arranged so as to give, first, an idea of the wealth derived from the soil and the waters—agriculture, fisheries and minerals (forest having been dealt with in the first part); then the trade and commerce created by the distribution of