

THE average daily output from the Joggins, N.S., mines for the past year has been about 550 tons.

ONE hundred thousand tons of gypsum were shipped from Hants County, N.S., to New York last year.

THE McCullough Creek Tunnel Co., Big Bend, B.C., are getting ready to sink a winze for bed-rock. They are in about 200 feet.

THE famous Gaspé oil well, when struck first, sent a column of oil 30 feet into air; about 500 barrels of oil were lost before it could be plugged.

DILL BROS. have sold their plaster quarry in Ste. Croix, N.S., to Knowles & Co., of Avondale, for \$10,000. The plaster available is estimated at \$100,000.

THE men at the Springhill, N.S., coal mines demanded a three-quarter shift, or eight hours pay for six hours work, and upon this being refused, struck work.

J. T. SMITH, of Amherst, N.S., is engaged in developing his coal property at Maccan, and has sunk a slope to the depth of 100 feet on the seam recently discovered almost opposite the I.C.R. station.

THE Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce has petitioned the French government to place Canadian petroleum on the minimum tariff list, so as to allow it to compete on even terms with Russian and American oils.

THE Montreal Quarry Co., capital \$200,000, have been incorporated. The incorporators are Peter Lyall, contractor; P. Alex. Peterson, civil engineer; D. A. McCaskill, merchant; W. G. Reid, contractor, all of Montreal.

MR. BUTTERFIELD has resumed work on the Picayune, Chester Basin, N.S. The test shaft is to be sunk 50 feet deeper, making it a total depth of 225 feet. He will also open the westerly extension of the "Captain," which is 18 inches wide.

AN English syndicate offers to purchase some large coal areas lying between Sydney and Mira, C.B., for \$50,000. Experts declare that this district contains one of the finest seams yet discovered. An interest would be retained by the present owners.

THE Anglo-Canadian Gold Mining Syndicate, New Westminster, B.C., has been incorporated, with a capital of \$250,000. The company own 320 acres of gold-bearing gravel benches on the south fork of the Similkameen river. Water will be obtained from the river at a cost of \$40,000, and the work of development will go on at once.

JOHN BROWN reports that fully 30 men are working on Trout Creek, B.C., at present, and are making about \$2 per day. On the Breckenridge claim about 500 feet have been wing-dammed. A good deal of work has been done recently in the way of putting in flumes for washing. The coming summer is expected to prove a good one in the district.

THE shaft on the Smugler Mine, Fairview, B.C., is now down 40 feet. The ore is said to improve with depth, and the vein, as yet, shows no sign of becoming thinner. Average assays give \$22 in gold. A second vein has lately been opened up on the same vein, showing four feet between walls of well mineralized quartz. Mr. Elliott is supervising this work.

LAST month G. Hamilton, of Youngstown, Ohio, and G. Caulfield, of Cleveland, Ohio, of the Dominion Steel and Blast Co., had a conference with Kingston, Ont., City Council, with a view to the establishment of a blast furnace and rolling mill there. They want to erect buildings immediately near the mines. The plant would cost about \$600,000. The company asked the council for a free site, exemption from taxes and free water for a term of years, and to guarantee the interest on the bonds of the company to the extent of \$300,000, taking a first mortgage on the plant as security. The government bounty is estimated at \$100,000 per annum. If Kingston fails to offer these inducements, the works will probably be located in Belleville.

THE curious discovery has been made by Charles Margot, of the University of Geneva, that when aluminum is rubbed upon glass, the latter receives brilliant markings which cannot be washed away. The effect is most pronounced when the glass is wet. With a small aluminum wheel, M. Margot traces ornamental designs upon glass, and by burnishing with a steel tool gives them the appearance of metallic inlaid work. The adhesion is complete. Aside from its probable value as a means of decorating objects of glass, this property of aluminum is useful as a convenient test of the diamond, which is absolutely unaffected, while all siliceous substances are very perceptibly marked by the metal.

Railway and Marine News.

THE G.T.R. will perhaps build a new freight and passenger station at St. Henri.

THE Toronto, Hamilton, and Buffalo Railway steel bridge over the Hamilton and Dundas track is about finished.

THE Ottawa, Arnprior & Parry Sound Railway Co. will, this summer, build a roundhouse and car shops at Ottawa.

THE New Brunswick Government are calling for tenders for the construction of a wharf at Gray's Point, Belleisle, N.B.

THE Temiscouata Railway are about to apply to Legislature for power to extend their line to a point on the I.C.R. near Moncton or Berry's Mills.

TORONTO Board of Trade and city council have come to the conclusion that all they can do for the proposed St. James' Bay Railroad is to give it their moral support.

THE St. Lawrence River Steamboat Co.'s new ship, the "America," is making satisfactory progress towards completion, and will be ready for navigation towards the end of May.

HENEY & SMITH, who were the successful tenderers for asphalt paving in Ottawa, having objected to the form of contract, the city council decided to throw out all the tenders and to call for new ones.

SOUTH GRIMSBY, Ont., ratepayers have decided in favor of issuing debentures to the extent of \$4,000 and of granting exemption from taxation for twenty years in favor of the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway Co.

W. H. COMSTOCK, of Brockville, Ont., has purchased the plant and lease of the Hanlan Ferry Co., Toronto, for \$40,000. He is purchasing the steamer "City of Windsor," and will place her on the route between Kingston and Oswego.

THE Canada Southern Railway Co. are applying to Legislature for an Act authorizing them to extend the time for the commencement and completion of the branches of their line still unconstructed, and empowering them to lease the Leamington and St. Clair Railway Co.'s line.

THERE was a report abroad last month to the effect that an agent of a wealthy English syndicate was in Montreal for the purpose of negotiating with the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co. for taking over their business and vessels, but there is no likelihood of anything of the sort happening.

THE Department of Trade and Commerce of the Dominion Government are calling for tenders for a mail service between Canada and Antwerp, for a period of five years from July 1st next, the service to be fortnightly in summer and monthly in winter. The capacity of the steamers is to be not less than 2,500 tons each, and the speed not less than 13 knots per hour. Tenders must be in by May 1st.

N. K. and M. CONNOLLY, of Quebec, who have the contract for building the continuation of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway from Caplin to Paspébiac, are making active preparations for commencing operations, and hope to have it completed by September next. The line now forms a part of the Atlantic & Lake Superior Railway, and forms a junction with the I.C.R. at Metapedia. A large bridge over the Bonaventure River is still to be built.

MAYOR SUMNER, of Moncton, is bringing before the New Brunswick Legislature a bill relating to the proposed dock for that city. The promoters ask for a subsidy of \$25,000 from the Provincial Government, the city having already granted a similar amount. They will probably obtain a subsidy of \$25,000 also from the Dominion Government, and expect to raise the balance of \$100,000 by private subscription. This will be enough to make a start on the work of building, and it is thought that when the dock is completed several manufactories will be attracted to Moncton.

DAVIS & SONS, shipbuilders, etc., Kingston, Ont., have the steamer "Maud" well under way in their dry docks. Her steel frames are all up and the bottom is nearly all planked. She is 160 feet long and 36 feet wide over the guards. She will be ready to float on opening of navigation. This firm's launch department is in full operation. They have a contract with Rev. E. M. Bland, of Hamilton, for a new 33 ft. steam launch. There are three yachts also under way. They are also constructing six of their new patent single-acting compound engines. These engines are supplied with improved Porcupine boiler, rating six horse power, the whole machinery weighing only 720 pounds. These boilers are tested to 300 pounds cold water pressure.