

MARITIME PROVINCE NOTES.

The present scarcity of tonnage and high freight rates have given new life to shipbuilding in Bridgetown, N.S. The keel of a large schooner is already laid, and work on another will be commenced in a few weeks.

The capital stock of the Star Line Steamship Co. has been increased from \$40,000 to \$95,000, divided into 1,900 shares of \$50 each.

Captain John E. Simpson, of Yarmouth, will build a lumber mill at Upper Prospect, N.S., to cost \$5,000.

At the Bluenose mill, Sherbrooke, during March, 1,168 tons of quartz crushed yielded 400 oz., 11 dwt. gold.

Cecil Burt, of Burt & Coburn, St. John, has bought the grocery stock and fittings of Hutt & Co., and will open on his own account.

The Nova Scotia Steel Co. advanced the wages of its employees 5 per cent. on April 1st. Two years ago the Steel Co., owing to depression in the steel trade, were obliged to reduce the wages 10 per cent. Last year the old rate was restored and last October 5 per cent. added. With the 5 per cent. just added, the employees of the steel works are paid 10 per cent. more wages than they were before the reduction.

At the annual meeting of the St. John River Log Driving Company an assessment of one per cent. per thousand feet in addition to the regular driving fees was ordered to be levied to meet the expenses of the company. The following directors were elected: W. H. Murray, president; A. J. Beveridge, R. A. Ealey, Donald Fraser and F. H. Hale.

Imports for the port of St. John for March, 1900, amounted to \$572,174, as against \$392,209 for the same month last year. Exports for the same period were \$1,280,403 in 1900 and \$1,946,469 in 1899.

WESTERN MINES.

It is estimated that 600 stamps will be in operation in the Rainy River District this year, and that the output may reach \$2,000,000.

The smelter at Grand Forks, B.C., is nearing completion. The present week will, it is expected, see all the machinery and plant in the power house and reduction works.

Greenwood's new smelter is to be in operation by August 1st. The capacity of the stamp mill at the Cariboo mine, Camp McKinney, is to be doubled this spring, there now being several years' supply of ore in sight. This mine has, up to date, paid \$409,337 in dividends.

The output of the Mikado mine for two weeks in March was \$14,000 in gold bricks. This is a record for the mine and for the Rainy River district.

It is stated that in retaliation for the Atlin Exclusion Act, American miners at Cape Nome will promptly expel any Canadians who attempt to locate there. As the climate is atrocious, Government bad, necessities high and fever plentiful it would appear that there are many inducements for Canadians not to go to Cape Nome.

Some of the men who quit work on the Mikado, near Rat Portage, give a peculiar reason for their action. They claim they objected to a charge of \$1 admission to a patriotic concert, and boycotted it. The day after the concert two men, supposed to be leaders in the boycott, were discharged. About 20 men out of 100 employed quit.

The Wakefield concentrator, near Silverton, B.C., has settled down to a run and shipments to the smelter will soon be in order.

The shareholders in the Pathfinder mine at Grand Forks, B.C., are considering an increase in the capital stock of \$500,000 for the purpose of purchasing claims subsidiary to the mine.

Returns have been received by the owners of the Capella mine in the Slokan, from the ore recently shipped by them to the Trail smelter. There was a little over six tons in the consignment, which yielded \$920.

Work has been commenced on the Lakeview group of mines, between New Denver and Silverton, owned by the North-west Mining Syndicate.

The Arlington at Ymir has been steadily shipping all winter. The shaft is down a distance of 400 feet. The vein has an average width of eight feet and has been traced on the surface a distance of 1,200 feet, lying between graphite slate and porphyry. Sixty men are employed on the mine.

The Kamloops copper-gold mining camp is beginning to attract attention. It covers an area of 60 square miles immediately south of the city of Kamloops, the chief copper bearing bodies existing in large veins forming a parallel series on either side of the magnetite dykes, and forming a belt from two to three miles wide. Some of these veins are not only very wide, but are clearly defined for long distances by cross cuts and trial shafts. If depth confirms the richness indicated by surface showings the camp has a future.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

Montreal summer millinery openings are fixed for the 24th to 26th April, inclusive.

White and colored piques are much in request by retail dealers in the Eastern States.

Great preparations for the Easter week trade are being made by New York dry goods and millinery dealers.

Nottingham manufacturers of curtains and furniture lace are well occupied. There is great activity, too, in fancy millinery laces in that city.

Prints and gingham are in great variety in all Eastern American cities, held at firm figures and with faith in the consumptive demand. Domets and other napped fabrics are also reported strong.

The statistical position of new crop cotton continues strong but the uncertainty as to the damage by the Texas floods has unsettled the market. There is no great activity in transactions in either New York or Liverpool.

A representative of a prominent linen importing house tells The N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Monday: "I believe that linens have touched their highest point. In my opinion damasks and higher grades of goods will not show the advance that has been obtained on lower fabrics."

A London contemporary, The Draper's Record, describing a boom in "Patriotic Drapery" in the city, says that a single Wood street firm sent out, within a day or two of the relief of Ladysmith, as many as 20,000 dozen flags, mainly Union Jacks. On 17th March an enormous number of the green flags of Ireland were sold. Rosettes, favors, khaki hats and suits are symptoms of the patriotic boom, so to say.

As far back as 1860 the Crossleys, carpet manufacturers of Manchester, Eng., employed 3,500 hands at their Dean Clough works, Halifax, and in 1870 the number had increased to 5,000. The Crossleys are now the largest carpet manufacturers in the world, says the correspondent of The Draper's Record, with possibly one exception—that of the Smiths, of Yonkers, in the State of New York. I am not sure which of the two holds the record as to the number of hands employed and the value of the output. I am disposed to believe, however, that the turnover in the case of the Yonkers concern is the larger, as it is naturally swollen by the assistance of the higher tariff which all American manufacturers enjoy.

We have all heard of amalgamations of thread-making companies in Scotland and England. Half a dozen such factories, more or less big, have come together, and still other combinations are proposed. To show how prosperous one of these concerns is, we have seen a circular addressed by J. & P. Coats, limited, of Paisley, stating that, "the directors have decided to pay dividends on the ordinary stock of the company at regular periods, viz.: 10 per cent on 31st March, 10 per cent. on 31st July, 10 per cent. on 30th November, less income tax, as long as the profits warrant such a distribution. Should the profits permit of it, the directors will recommend an additional distribution in the shape of a bonus to be paid with the November dividend." The same being signed, W. P. Stewart, secretary. One would think thirty per cent. per annum would satisfy the ordinary shareholder, but when a bonus is added to this a potentiality of wealth beyond the dreams of avarice dawns upon the humble client of the Ferguslie thread firm.