

ter from Barcelona from the agent of *L'Echo Forestier*, the leading timber trade journal in France, stating that some of our woods which we consider of little value are in demand there.

Morrison's mill has finished its season's work and the machinery will stop for the winter. The Aberdeen mill, owned by McDonald Fraser, has closed down for the winter. The cut at the Aberdeen mill, which did not open until August, has been about 3,000,000 feet.—*Fredericton Gleaner*.

The quantity of lumber taken by barge from Ottawa and immediate vicinity during the navigable season is placed at about 305,000,000 feet. Of this some 280,000,000 feet were taken by the boats of the Ottawa Transportation Company, and the remaining 25,000,000 feet by American boats. The quantity shipped by rail during the same period is estimated at about 100,000,000 feet; but by including the shipping by rail during the winter months, this amount would be almost doubled.

James McEvoy, of the Government staff, who has just been surveying through British Columbia, reports that forest fires this year were more destructive than ever before. The Indians, he says, are responsible for this great destruction of valuable timber. They purposely set the fires with the object of making hunting easier. After strips of forest are burnt the burnt country in a year or two becomes covered with a growth of grass, and the large game leave the thick forests for grass meadows.

CLEARING-HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing-houses for the week ended with Thursday, Nov. 29th, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	Nov. 29.	Nov. 22.
Montreal	\$11,549,487	\$10,649,246
Toronto	6,167,151	4,683,815
Halifax	1,163,795	915,415
Winnipeg	1,595,210	1,360,553
Hamilton	664,798	546,218
Total	\$21,140,441	\$18,155,247

Aggregate balances this week, \$3,094,117; last week (five days only), \$2,639,392.

PATENT RECORD.

The following list of United States patents granted to Canadian inventors, Nov. 6th, 13th and 20th, 1894, is reported for this paper by James Sangster, Patent Attorney, Buffalo, N.Y.:

- Card-cutter—Ormond Barnard, Oxford Mills, Canada.
- Plug for establishing electrical connections—Charles W. Brown, assignor to the Bell Telephone Co. of Canada, Ltd., Montreal, Que.
- Dumping car—Wm. G. Lane, Pictou, Canada, assignor to the Universal Coal Dumping Co., Springfield, Ill.
- Frame or casing for window sashes or blinds—Peter McKenzie, Ottawa, Ont.
- Inkstand—Thomas S. Shenston, Brantford, Ont.
- Remedy for tooth-ache—Henry Ievers, Quebec, Que. (Trademark.)
- Bridle for paint brushes—Charles Boeckh, Jr., Toronto, Ont.
- Automatic railway gate and signal—Edward Death, assignor of two-thirds to E. W. Wyatt, Toronto, Ont.
- Hose-coupling—Jules Doster, Montreal, Que.
- Windmill—John Boisclair, Montreal, Que.
- Wringing machine—Alfred Burkholder, Toronto, Ont.
- Clothes-drier—James Reilly, Calgary, Canada.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

CANUCK, Collingwood.—We have not seen the figures you mention, and are disposed to doubt their authenticity. But with respect to the point in question as to what you call "mutual give and take" in the matter of lake transportation, you are not quite just to the Canadian Government. The true state of the case, we believe, was set forth by the *Montreal Gazette* not long ago, thus: "Wheat shipped from Winnipeg to Duluth cannot be brought back from the latter port to Canada except in a Canadian vessel. Some discussion on this requirement of the law has recently arisen, and the statement has been made that it is based on an order-in-council. This is an error. While Article XXX. of the Treaty of Washington was in force, Canadian wheat could be brought to Canada from a United States port in a United States vessel. The United States, however, abrogated this section, and a return to the old conditions followed. Vessels of both countries, it may be mentioned, are exactly on the same footing as respects the lost privilege, the concessions, which the United States stopped, having been mutual."

J. M. B., Winnipeg.—Rhodes' Journal of Banking for November will give you the discussion of the American bankers at Baltimore, nearly in full. It is some months since Mr. Horace White published, or rather the Philadelphia Academy published, a pamphlet by that gentleman on the subject of National and State Banks. It took the view that the National bank note system of the United States should be continued, but minus the feature of Government bond security.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

CANADIAN ALMANAC FOR 1895.—This excellent desk companion appears to grow more useful each year. Certainly the present issue is more attractive than usual in illustration and arrangement and appears larger than before. The map on Mercator's projection, of the world, with the British possessions marked in shading, is inspiring to a Britisher. The articles on the defences of Canada, the fisheries protection, &c., are instructive. Dr. Bourinot has contributed an article on Parliamentary Procedure. The editor and the publishers, the Copp Clark Co., are to be congratulated on this issue.

THE METHODIST MAGAZINE, Wm. Briggs, publisher, Toronto. The Toronto News Co., wholesale agents.—A good number. The Hymn of Trust, by Rev. Frederick G. Scott, is a gem; and the story of Tent Life in Palestine, by the editor, shows what wide observation and a good literary style can do, aided by really good illustrations, to render a threadbare subject freshly attractive. Mrs. Harvie has a paper on Woman's Work for Woman in Heathen Lands, and the sketch of the Ontario Institution for the Blind is of a kind to make us grateful to those among us who give their lives to such work.

—A specimen of the sort of whited sepulchre of a man that brings discredit upon the Christian religion is John R. Tait, who when arrested a week ago confessed to having embezzled \$15,715, the money of the Chemical Bank of New York, of which he was paying teller. He was a leading member of a village church, and superintended the Sunday-school, was a great advocate of teetotalism and fought the saloon-keepers. He was a strict Sabbatarian, too, and had two little boys arrested for violating the Sunday law, who were employed by the Department of Public Works of New York city in removing rubbish from condemned land, claiming that they should be in church. But all his religiosity did not keep him from being a thief. He is somewhat the type of hypocrite and bigot scarified by Thomas Hood in the lines quoted the other night by Dean Hole:

A man may cry "Church, church!" at every word
With no more piety than other people:
A daw's not reckoned a religious bird
Because it keeps a-cawing from the steeple.

—The London assessors have made their return of municipal valuation. The complete assessment returns show that real property in that city has increased from \$12,905,660 to \$13,201,110. In personal property there is a slight decrease, the figures now being \$1,650,150, against \$1,687,750 last year; taxable income, however, is higher, being \$862,800, against \$778,500 last year. Total assessment, \$15,654,060, a gain of \$282,150 since last returns. The population of the city has grown nearly a thousand in the year, namely, from 32,571 in 1893 to 33,427 now.

—There is possibly satisfaction, but no comfort for Grand Trunk grumbling shareholders in the fact that the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railway [Erie and leased lines proper] shows a deficit of \$1,167,000 on the last year's working, compared with a surplus in the previous year. The falling off in its earnings was one-seventh from 1893. The New York Central Railway's earnings fell off more than three millions on the year.

—The incendiary fiend is in the county of Hastings, and Belleville has felt some of his handiwork. The underwriters are alarmed and insist on steps being taken to discover recent incendiaries. The Associated Underwriters will supplement any reward by an equal amount, not exceeding \$500, that is to say, \$250 for each arrest and conviction. Find the rascals out.

—The successor of the late Carlton D. Richardson in the Canadian management of the London Guarantee & Accident Company, is Mr. Hubbard, of the Montreal office, a gentleman who comes to take up his residence in Toronto, bringing with him the prestige of success in his business, and kind expressions from many admirers.

—The Western Canada Loan & Savings Company declares its dividend for the December half at the usual rate of 10 per cent. per annum.