

Railway Matters.

THE Woodstock and Centreville Railway is to be built at once, it is said.

THE Shenango ferries have been given the contract for handling 50,000 tons of coal for the Canada Southern division of the N.Y.C. Railway.

THE Columbia and Western Railway is now completed between Trail and Rossland, and trains are running regularly in connection with the steamboats plying between Trail, Robson and Arrowhead.

THE C.P.R. is replacing a number of trestles with large stone bridges and arches. This work is in progress over the Surprise and Illecillewaet rivers in British Columbia, and is the heaviest construction work undertaken for some time.

THE Grand Trunk Railway system no longer makes locomotive repairs in the various round-houses along the road, and has laid off a large number of men in consequence. The repairs are now all made in Stratford or Montreal.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Company, which has been operating the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway practically since its building, has entered into a fresh agreement with the C., L.L. and S. for the operation of its system for a period of five years from August 1st.

THE Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk Railways have, it is understood, been asked by some American railroads to co-operate in a scheme looking towards a uniform height in freight cars. The object is to make all cars in the future equal. This will prevent many accidents to brakemen, and will cause a great saving in life.

THE first sod for the building of the Cobourg, Northumberland and Pacific Railway, was turned at Cobourg, Ont., July 5th. C. H. Bowen, the contractor, is superintending the road, which is to be completed within two years, and will extend from Cobourg to a point on the C.P.R. called Springbrook, twelve miles north-east of Campbellford, Ont.

GOVERNMENT Engineer McCallum, returned recently from a trip of inspection of the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway. He says that the road is now complete for some 45 miles, as far as Baptiste Lake, in the township of Herschel, Hastings, and but eight miles yet remain to be laid before Bancroft is reached, where several mills are working, and valuable water-power is located.

THE contractors hope to build one hundred miles of the Dauphin Railway this year, but the wet season has retarded the work, and it seems hardly possible to build more than fifty miles. The Kingston Locomotive Works are building four locomotives, and the Crossan Car Works, of Cobourg are turning out fifty box cars. The rolling stock is ordered early to be used in constructing the line.

THE South Shore Railway (better known as the Montreal and Sorel) has just opened a new bridge over the Richelieu River at Sorel, which is 500 feet long, consisting of two stationary piers, each 130 feet in length, and of a centre turnstile, 240 feet long. It was designed by James McCarthy, C.E., was built by the Dominion Bridge Co., Montreal, and was placed in position by Hyacinthe Beauchemin, contractor. It cost about \$150,000. The directors of the South Shore Railway propose to rapidly push on the work of construction as far as Levis, passing *en route* Yamaska, St. Francois du Lac, Pierreville, La Baie and Nicolet, bridging the Yamaska, Nicolet and St. Francois.

IN the railroads of the United States stock to the amount of \$3,475,640,203, or 70.05 per cent. of the total outstanding, paid no dividend, and \$904,436,200, or 16.90 per cent. of funded debt, exclusive of equipment trust obligations, paid no interest during the year covered by the report. In no other year since the organization of the Division of Statistics has so large a percentage of stock passed its dividends, or, except in 1894, has so large a percentage of funded debt defaulted its interest. Of the stock paying dividends, 6.89 per cent. of the total stock outstanding paid from 4 to 5 per cent.; 5.39 per cent. of this stock paid from 5 to 6 per cent.; 4.41 per cent. paid from 6 to 7 per cent., and 3.99 per cent. paid from 7 to 8 per cent. The total amount of dividends was \$85,287,543, which would be produced by an average rate of 5.74 per cent. on the amount of stock on which some dividend was declared. The amount of bonds paying no interest was \$624,702,293, or 13.41 per cent.; of miscellaneous obligations, \$54,498,288, or 12.24 per cent.; of income bonds, \$225,235,619, or 91.52 per cent.

THE G.T.R. is turning out Pullman sleepers from its shops in Montreal which are equal to those of the famous Pullman works.

THE G.T.R. is effecting a great saving in the handling of coal in its yards at Point St. Charles, Montreal, by putting up overhead trucks to take the place of the old time carts.

THE British Pacific Railway Company will seek incorporation with power to build a line from Victoria, B.C., to Winnipeg, via Butte Inlet, Cariboo, Edmonton, and Prince Albert.

THE Tobique Valley Railway, New Brunswick, is again in operation. It is being run by J. E. Stewart and James McNair, who have secured an engine from the I.C.R. and cars from the C.P.R., and expect to run a train on the line daily.

IN following out his policy of economy and concentration, General Manager Hays of the Grand Trunk is said to have decided on removing the workshops from Toronto and centring the locomotive repairs at Stratford, Ont., and the car repairing at London, Ont.

THE Dartmouth branch of the Intercolonial Railway at Halifax is now complete. This will be the only construction work carried out by the I.C.R. this year; but some maintenance work will be accomplished, among which is a new stone and brick station at Moncton to cost \$40,000 or \$50,000.

NOTICE is given by the Canadian Pacific Railway that application will be made to Parliament for an Act confirming and giving effect to an agreement between the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk Railway for running powers by the former over the tracks of the latter, between Hamilton and Toronto.

THE Parry Sound Colonization Railway and the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway have been amalgamated under the name of the O.A. & P.S. Railway. Wm. L. B. Ross, the cashier of the O.A. & P.S. Railway, is to be treasurer of the amalgamated lines. The Parry Sound Colonization Railway extended from Emsdale to Parry Sound, and is about sixty miles in length.

THERE is now a prospect of the Orford Mountain Railway being finished, the Quebec Government having decided to extend the time for the building of several unfinished lines till December, 1898, among which is the Orford Mountain, whose claim to the Provincial subsidy expired in June last. The likelihood now is that the bridge to cross the St. Francis, so as to connect the line with Richmond, will be built at an early date.

Marine News.

THE International Trading Co., Kaslo, B.C., launched its new steamer, the "City of Kaslo," on July 7th.

THE new pleasure steamer "Assiniboine," which has been under construction at Winnipeg, is completed.

THE steamer "Westport," of Westport, N.S., has been sold to parties in Yarmouth, to ply on the Cape Breton route.

THE company owning the "W. Hunter," New Denver, will build a new steamer 110 feet long to run on Slocan Lake, B.C.

THE railways and canals department has prepared plans for the enlargement of the Galops Canal at Iroquois. The work will cost about \$1,750,000.

THE ore steamer "Rustler," belonging to D. D. Mann, contractor for the Dauphin Railway, was wrecked in Kootenay River when carrying ore from the North Star mine to Jennings, B.C.

THE Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co., with its usual enterprise, has made soundings in the St. Lawrence River between Coteau and Beauharnois, and has discovered a new channel, which will simplify the navigation of the Split Rock rapids greatly.

Canada is the fifth maritime power in the world. The total number of vessels on the register book of the Dominion, on Jan. 1st last, including old and new vessels, steamers and barges, was 7,262, measuring 825,836 tons registered tonnage, being an increase of 17 vessels, and a decrease of 43,788 tons register, as compared with 1894.

THE Canadian Association of Marine Engineers, St. John, N.B., recently closed a very successful season of meetings. During the winter season (Dec. to April), Geo. R. Davitt, of the St. John Grammar School gave the benefit of his services to the association in conducting a series of lessons in mathematics, which proved of great value to the members.