

New Dominion Line Steamer.

A new steamer, named the Labrador, from the building yard of Messrs. Harland and Wolff, Limited, Belfast, has just been added to the Dominion line for that company's service from Liverpool to Montreal. The trial trip on the run across the Channel was most successful, there being an entire absence of heating, the speed throughout being 15 knots, which was in excess of the expectations of the owners. The vessel is constructed throughout of steel of extra strength necessary for the North Atlantic trade. She has eight watertight bulkheads, and her dimensions are:—Length 400, breadth 47, and depth 32 feet; tonnage, 4,700 gross, and 2,998 net register; dead-weight capacity, 5,700 tons. She has a double bottom throughout containing water ballast, and also fresh water supply for cattle. Her rig is four pole masts, square-rigged on foremast only. The steering gear is Messrs. Wilson and Pirrie's patent, geared direct to the rudder head, dispensing altogether with chains. The engines are triple expansion, indicating 3,800-horse power, pressure 170 lbs. A special feature of the Labrador is that the saloon and staterooms for first-class passengers are contained in a house erected on the bridge deck, being thus entirely isolated from other departments of the ship, and securing perfect ventilation in all weathers. It is only necessary to say that the saloon, smoking room, ladies' boudoir, and staterooms are finished in Messrs. Harland and Wolff's well-known style. The second cabin is on the main deck underneath. The comfort of this class of passengers has been catered for beyond what is customary. The steerage passenger decks are very lofty. Their beds of white canvas, in frame-work of wood, can be folded and put up under the beams, so as to be out of the way during the daytime. In the cattle decks every provision is made in accordance with the new regulations of the British Board of Agriculture and the Canadian Government for the safe carriage and comfort of the animals. Water is delivered from the fresh water tanks by pipes carried overhead the entire length of the ship and on both sides, with taps and short lengths of hose attached at frequent intervals, thus reducing the labour of the attendants to a minimum, and securing proper watering of the animals. The ventilation of the 'tween decks is provided by cowls, by Utel's automatic ventilating ports which can be kept open in all weathers, as they exclude water while admitting air by two trunks extending fore and aft, fixed overhead, with apertures at frequent intervals, through which air, drawn from the deck above, is forced by two large fans, each driven by a separate engine. Electric light is fitted throughout the vessel, with two complete sets of generating plant supplied by Allen, of London. Protection against fire is provided by steam pipes connecting with each separate compartment, by which steam can be turned into any part for extinguishing fire, the valves for same being placed together on deck, where they are easily accessible. The refrigerating machine is Haslam's cold dry-air system, with chambers capable of conveying a large quantity of dressed beef. The Labrador will be classed on the Admiralty List as a transport, being admirably adapted for troops and cavalry. The ship is finished throughout in the style for which Messrs. Harland and Wolff's building-yard is so justly famed, and has been constructed under the supervision of Mr. William Glover, consulting engineer to the company.—*Liverpool Journal of Commerce*, August 17th, 1891.

A Great Record.

ACROSS THE CONTINENT IN 84 HOURS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—Postmaster-General Wanamaker is devoting his attention to the question of facilitating the delivery of transcontinental mail matter. The delivery record of the Japan mails via Vancouver, B. C., to Liverpool has been twenty-five days. The system sought to be established by the Postmaster-General, it is believed, can reduce this time to twenty-one days. The mail by the Empress of Japan, which arrived at the Grand Central station at 4.45 o'clock this morning from the point named, was immediately transferred to the steamship City of New York, which shortly afterwards sailed for Liverpool. The time of the delivery of this mail will be particularly noted by the Post Office Department, which has supervised its transit to New York and its shipment on the steamer.

The train arrived at the Grand Central station at 4.43 o'clock. The city of New York was due to sail at five o'clock. The question was, "Could the mails be transferred from the Grand Central station in 17 minutes?" The Canadian Pacific people in this city and Superintendent Jackson of the railway mail service, had seen the Inman people and arranged for

HOLDING BACK THE VESSEL

a few minutes. Quick as lightning Assistant Superintendent Bradley, who had come down on the special train, had the twelve foreign mail bags dumping in, had the driver whip the horses into breakneck

speed through the streets. The horses were equal to the emergency and shortly after five o'clock the dock was reached and the ship set sail at 5.10 a. m. The trial was a grand success. If the vessel makes the voyage in the usual time Liverpool will be reached on September 7, landing the "Empress of Japan's" mails 20 days from Yokohama.

The Empress of Japan left Yokohama at 8.45 a. m. on the 19th August, and made the trip across from land to land in 9 days 19 hours.

The mail train left Vancouver at 4.08 p. m. eastern time, on the 29th August, and arrived at the Grand Central Station, New York, at 4.43 a. m. on the 2nd of September.

In the journey across the continent the C. P. R. mail train made the run from Vancouver.

2802 MILES IN 77 HOURS, and the New York Central ran from Morristown to New York in seven hours, making the total time from Vancouver to New York, a distance of 3162 miles, in 84 hours. This speed for such a distance has not before been made on any railway. For the shorter distance between Utica and Albany, the 95 miles were made in 90 minutes.

The journey from Yokohama to New York not only beats the record of travel between these two points, but surpasses any known record in the world.

THE FORESTERS.—The eighth annual communication of the Supreme Court of Independent Foresters has just been held in Detroit. There was a very large attendance of representatives five-sixths of whom received the Royal Foresters degree. Supreme Chief Ranger Oronhyatekha presided at the sessions and a large amount of business was transacted. In his report the Chief showed that at the last meeting, two years ago, there were 14,286 members in good standing; on 1st July 1891 the number had increased to 29,617, and every one of these had assessments and dues paid to date. Two years ago the society had a surplus of \$167,759, and today the amount is \$361,960. Several New Brunswick members were placed on committee, including Judge Wedderburn, J. T. Hawke, and A. P. Sherwood.

AS THE evenings grow longer special efforts should be put forth to make the Division meetings interesting. The attractiveness of a happy home should ever be found there. Yet, while the meetings should be made attractive, we earnestly entreat our members, by the memory of the past, by the grandeur of our aims and principles, by the magnitude of the work that lies before us, by the solemnity of duty's present call, let not the division room become a mere place of mirthful enjoyment! Make it a place where the mind may grow, right principles will be instilled, where true manhood will be cultivated, where the weak will be strengthened, the strong made stronger, the cause of humanity advanced and God honored. The division that lives for anything else than this had better live no longer.—*Index*.

THE BELIEF in alcohol as a source of inspiration has so declined of late years that people will receive without surprise Alphonse Daudet's declaration that drink makes him incapable of writing or conceiving a line. The general belief is that it creates a feeling of strength, physical and intellectual, which on trial is found to be delusive. Thus it is said that Wilkie Collins once drank wine pretty freely and found himself in a splendid mood for work. He sat down and wrote for several hours, carefully put the precious manuscript away and went to bed. In the morning he read what he had written, found it pure rubbish, and threw it into the fire.

REV. FATHER Chiniquy's addresses in Fredericton last week were greatly enjoyed, and contained much to show the necessity of a purer life among the people. His lectures contained considerable of a temperance nature, though some people might think him not altogether temperate in some of his remarks.

THE STATE of Maine has now the most severe law for the suppression of the sale of liquors, that any country or state ever enacted. It has been found by experience that it is time wasted to deal gently with this traffic.

WE ARE bound by the most sacred obligations to avoid unjust accusations. On very many subjects it is often more loyal to the truth to hold our judgment in suspense than to draw hasty inferences. And, if we do this when we may and should, we shall be better fitted to form just decisions when duty calls for them.

SOME MISSING LINKS

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The finest diamond cutting in the world is done in Boston, Mass.

It is proposed to establish a mail service on the street cars in St. Louis.

Russia has just borrowed another \$100,000,000 for the extension of railways.

To make one pound of honey the bees must visit from 90,000 to 200,000 flowers.

Kansas farmers planted 2,000,000 acres more of wheat last fall than the year before.

St. Pancras railway station, London, covers ten acres. It was built nearly 25 years ago.

It has been estimated that 23,000,000 bushels of oysters are opened annually in the United States.

It takes about three seconds for a message to go from one end of the Atlantic cable to the other.

An aerolite exactly the shape of a human foot is reported to have fallen from the sky near Macon, Ga.

In London, what they call an "American bazar" is a fair for charity at which only second-hand goods are sold.

Dr. Dowd, of New York, has found that each cubic inch of soil contains from 60,000 to 2,350,000 minute organisms.

The fastest train in Ireland is the "American mail" from Dublin to Cork—165 miles, made in 3 hours 20 minutes.

Scientists say that the orange was originally a berry, and its evolution has been going on for more than 1,000 years.

A queer fish has been caught off the South Carolina coast. It has a large horn on the top of its head, and weighs over 800 pounds.

During an oil boom in Vanceburg, Kentucky, 700 acres of land sold for \$10,000. The same tract was sold the other day for \$469.

The British Museum, so it is reported, is to be presented with a collection of stamps worth \$100,000, owned by the late Mr. Tappin.

Nine hundred and fifty submarine telegraph cables are now in operation, most of them in Europe; their total length is over 89,000 miles.

A grain of fine sand would cover 100 of the minute scales of the human skin, and yet each of these scales in turn covers from 300 to 500 pores.

Lake Maggiore, in Switzerland, has water of different colors. In its northern branch the color is green, and in the southern a deep blue.

There are 12 streets in Amsterdam on which no horse is ever allowed to be driven, either to draw a hearse or fire engine. They are kept as clean as floors.

The saltiest piece of water upon earth is Lake Urumia, Persia, more than 4,000 feet above the sea level. It is very shallow, and no living thing can exist in it.

During the past few years crime has decreased to such an extent in England that over \$1,000,000 a year less is spent upon prisons than was the case 10 years ago.

The earth is gradually growing larger from the fall of meteoric matter. An astronomer estimates that the globe is annually pelted with 146,000,000 projectiles.

It has been reckoned that if the whole ocean were dried up, all the water passing away as vapor, the amount of salt remaining would be enough to cover 5,000,000 square miles with a layer one mile thick.

It is a practice of the Navajo Indians to stretch a lariat of horsehair about their tents at night, such a barrier proving entirely effective to keep out snakes, tarantulas and centipedes.

An English judge sentenced a woman to five minutes to jail for having married a man without obtaining a divorce from a former husband. This stands as the shortest sentence on record.

The period of "a generation" has been lengthened; it used to be 30 years, and later was increased to 34. Now the average term of human life has increased in the last 50 years from 34 to 42 years.

In Southern Oregon there is a forest 16,000 miles in extent with an estimated amount of mercantile timber of 400,000,000 feet. At \$10 per 100 feet the proceeds would pay our national debt twice over.

When the Mosque of St. Sophia, in Constantinople, was built, more than 1,000 years ago, the stones and brick were laid in mortar mixed with a solution of musk, and the building has been fragrant with the odor ever since.

The depth at which some of the Belgian coal mines are worked is something prodigious. In a pit at Flenu the work is now done at 3,700 feet; in a pit at Fremerin at 2,800 feet, and in the St. Andre pit at Montigny-sur-Sambre at 3,000 feet.

Divers in the clear waters of the tropical seas find that the fish of different colors when frightened do not all dart in the same direction, but that each different kind takes shelter in that portion of the submarine growth nearest in color to that of the fish.

During the past winter the earth of the village of Kirnujarwi, near Paja, Lapland, became suddenly very hot, the ice and snow melting immediately, and the application of one's hand to the earth was liable to result in an uncomfortably warm sensation.

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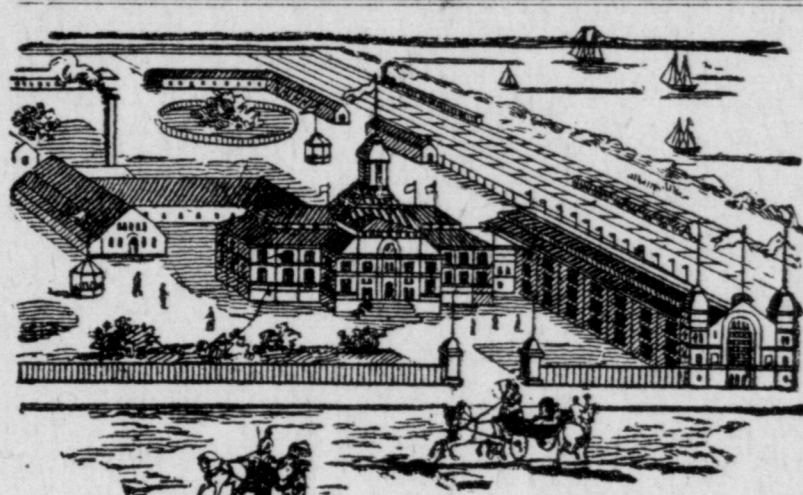
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