

Progress in Ocean Navigation.

If this were not an age in which men had almost ceased to wonder, and had altogether ceased to wonder much and to wonder long, the swift development of our merchant steam marine of iron and steel might well be ascribed to the astonishment of mankind. A hundred years ago Henry Corri's great invention for rolling iron bars and plates had not been devised, and nothing in the shape of iron plates of which ships could be built existed. Even 50 years ago, although several canal boats and some few coasting steamers had been constructed of iron, two or three had made sea voyages on the way to their destinations, the construction of iron ships for ocean navigation, if thought of and spoken of, had not yet commenced. But now it is a matter of daily practice for the American and Englishman to step on board a steam palace of steel, and sweep across the vast sea desert that separates their shores at the rate of 20 miles an hour. In eight days you pass from Pall Mall to Broadway. The City of Rome and the Alaska have each steamed over the distance between Sandy Hook and Queenstown in 6 days and 22 hours. As a means of comparing this ocean speed with what was happening before the days of iron hulls propelled by steam engines, it may be instructive and amusing to refer to a piece of evidence once given to a committee of the House of Commons. The Captain of a sailing troop transport stated that on one occasion lying wind-bound in the Downs, with troops for the West Indies, in company with another vessel similarly employed and having the same destination, a slant of wind came out and he got away down Channel. After an ordinary outward voyage he exchanged troops and made an ordinary voyage home again, many and many a long week elapsing, nevertheless, before he again cast anchor between the Forelands. But when he did so, he had his old companion for a companion again, for the slant of wind that sufficed for the one was insufficient for the other, and there she had lain "above her beef-bones" ever since. It is to the introduction of iron and steel into ship-building that we owe the vast improvements in ocean speed. Neither the strength to resist the enormous strains of moderate engines, equivalent to 10,000 horses, nor the length and fineness of form required for the acceptance, so to speak, of high speeds, could have been obtained all the time when wood was the sole ship-building material. With iron and steel as our material we may be a long way at present from limit to speed and size. And yet the change in size has been very striking. We may give an instance which will illustrate this, and at the same time illustrate the growth of professional opinion on these questions. M Dupuy de Lome, afterward chief naval architect of the French Navy under Napoleon, III, made a professional visit to this country in 1842. He went to Bristol, and there inspected the Great Britain, then building. In a report which he subsequently made to his Government he referred to that ship as "the most gigantic experiment ever tried in the naval department," and stated that "The proportions of the hull depart altogether from any experiment previously made." The Great Britain was 274 feet in length; the City of Rome is 586 feet.—Sir E. J. Reed, in the Contemporary Review.

No Man's Land.

Labrador is apparently a legal 'no-man's-land, for the governments are just now denying in turn that they have jurisdiction over it. The question has been raised by some speculators who wish to locate mining claims on the part of Labrador opposite Belle Isle. They first applied to the officials of Newfoundland, but were informed that the region did not belong to the Island. They then visited the Dominion Government with the same request, but after profound study, the Canadian officials conclude that the sterile shores are not theirs to grant, and suggest that Nova Scotia be interviewed. The original charter of that Province covered the territory now included in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia proper, and also the mainland as far northward as Ungava Bay. Should the mineral deposit prove to be of much value, the venerable title will doubtless be readily asserted.

Special Notices.

BUY your Blankets, Quilts, Flannels, Knit Wool Goods, Wineys, etc., JOHN MCPHEE & CO. [decl 11]. CHOICE Winter Apples at BEER & GOFF'S. GREAT Bargains in Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers, Fur Caps, etc., at JOHN MCPHEE & CO'S. A NEW lot of Skating Boots just made at Dorsey, Goff & Co's. Get a pair at once. nov 27. BUY your Under-clothing at JOHN MCPHEE & CO'S. A SPLENDID lot of China, Glass, and Earthenware, to be sold cheap at COLWILL'S. aug 8 1/2. LADIES' Calf Boots lined with Flannel or Plush at J. B. MACDONALD'S Boot Store. THE best Ladies' Oil, Goat and Kid Boots at DORSEY, GOFF & CO'S. nov 27. J. B. MACDONALD'S Tea is pronounced the best. Try it. [nov 30]. SKATES.—In stock 180 pairs, including Heustie's stock. A further stock to arrive. Cheapest in the city.—W. E. DAWSON & CO. nov 27 3/4 pat. BLACK Cashmires, very cheap at J. B. MACDONALD'S. nov 29. DOMINION Prize Cheese at the City Steam Bakery. J. QUIRK, Prince Street. [nov 22 1/2].

MEN'S Reefers for \$3.00, Overcoats for \$4.00 at J. B. MACDONALD'S. [nov 30]. HALF ton Champion Creamer or skim milk Cheese wanted at the Dairy House and Family Grocery. [nov 23]. REMNANTS of Canton Flannel, and Prints, very cheap at J. B. MACDONALD'S. nov 29. H. J. CALBRECK sells knit Cardigan Jackets Drawers and Linters in grey and scarlet. All wool. Prices very low. [nov 15 1/2 pd]. BUY your Wineys at J. B. MACDONALD'S, they are the cheapest. nov 29. KENT MILLS.—The best family flour [oct 28 1/2]. BRACKET WOOD, in Walnut, Whitewood, and Rosewood, a new stock, just received in 1, 3-16, 1/2, and 3/4 inch. Full lines of Bracket Saws, at W. E. DAWSON & CO'S. nov 27 3/4 pat. HEAVY Cloths for Overcoats, Jackets or Ladies' Ulsters, selling very cheap at J. B. MACDONALD'S. nov 29. ASSORTED Fingers and Jumbles at the City Steam Bakery. J. QUIRK, Prince Street. [nov 22 1/2]. A SPLENDID washing machine for one dollar at NORTON BROS. oct 15. OXFORD LEMON and Almond Biscuits at the City Steam Bakery. J. QUIRK, Prince St. [nov 22 1/2]. GO to L. E. PROWSE for cheap ready-made Clothing. Overcoats from \$4.00 up. Reefers \$3.50. [nov 13]. FOR Crockery and Lamps there is no better place than R. K. BRACE'S to go to. Cheap and good. [nov 30]. ONE hundred and fifty Caps at L. E. PROWSE'S for \$1.00 each. [nov 13]. JOHN NEWSON is at the top of the ladder in furniture. Long experience, best quality, greatest variety, and best workmanship. He does not need to advertise that "he is a live" man. The public know it. Go and get real bargains, "Newson's Building," opposite Post Office. [oct 18 1/2]. BOY'S Ulsters in great variety at J. B. MACDONALD'S. [nov 30]. How to save twenty-five dollars.—Carry your old sewing machine to Brown's and have it made as good as new, instead of changing it for a new one. Shop on corner of Prince and Grafton Streets, Ch'town. [jy 3 3/4]. WASHING MACHINES selling for one dollar each at NORTON BROS. oct 15. KEEP your feet dry by getting a pair of Boots from the Boot and Shoe Factory. [sep 7 1/2]. NOW is the time for to buy a Fur Cap. L. E. PROWSE sells a good one for \$1. [nov 13]. WE are making a lot of real good French Calf Custom Boots. Come and get fitted.—DORSEY, GOFF & CO. A PIECE of fine machinery that is composed of steel, iron, brass, copper, gold or silver that Brown cannot mend or make new, you may just as well throw it away. Shop on corner of Prince and Grafton Streets, Charlottetown. [jy 3]. FIVE gallon tins Best American Oil cheap at BEER & GOFF'S. STEADY work and good wages. Ten Shoemakers wanted at the Charlottetown Boot and Shoe Factory. FIVE pound tins Tea just the thing at BEER & GOFF. ANOTHER large quantity of Crockery just received and will be sold cheap at COLWILL'S. aug 8 1/2. BE sure and ask your storekeeper for a pair of Boots made at the Boot and Shoe Factory. [sep 7 1/2]. If you want to be suited with a Tea Set, a Dinner Set, or a Toilet Set, go to COLWILL'S. aug 8 1/2. JUST opened at John McPhee & Co's. three cases of American Hats, latest styles. Prices low. oct 1. GOLD and silver plating of every description done at Brown's. Shop on corner of Prince and Grafton Streets. [jy 3 3/4, wky]. DINNER SETS, Tea Sets, Chamber Sets, in great varieties and cheap, at COLWILL'S. aug 8 1/2. HOME made Boots take the lead. Call for a pair at the Boot and Shoe Factory. [sep 6 1/2].

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Hair Vigor

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