

MARINE.

According to the statistics, the year 1903 saw more freight pass through the Soo, Mich., canal than during any of the previous years. In all 44,270,680 tons of freight passed up and down the St. Mary's river, of which amount 38,802,190 went through the American locks. In connection with this amount of traffic 16,019 boats were locked through in 9,757 separate lockages. The little steamer Emma of the Parry Sound Yachting Fleet, which slipped off the ways at Parry Sound and went to the bottom, has been raised after considerable difficulty and expense.

The vessel men state that the water is over a foot lower than last year and that they are experiencing difficulty in reaching some docks with full cargoes. The Matthews when in Midland a few days ago experienced trouble in reaching the esplanade dock on account of the low water and scraped the bottom when drawing about 20 feet of water.

The str. Midland Queen is undergoing repairs in the dry dock at Wyandotte. This trip to the dock is due to a collision in the Detroit River with the str. Mather.

The str. Midland King was in Meaford on Friday with a cargo of wheat.

The Owen Sound Dredge Co. are having a dump scow 125 feet long with 24 foot beam built at Midland. It will have six pockets and a capacity of 250 yards. All the material with the exception of the white oak used in the frame work, which was secured near Buffalo, was purchased in Midland. The scow will cost \$6,000 and is to be ready by August. Mr. G. Dobson has the contract.

The Winona, the new passenger and freight steamer purchased by Mr. Jas. Playfair for use between the different summer resorts up the bay and Parry Sound, has brought to Midland by Capt. McAuley, who will have charge of her this season.

Referring to the steamers of the Sarnia Division of the Northern Navigation Co., the Sarnia Canadian says: "The boats of the line have been fitted out this season in splendid style, and present an appearance which places them among the very finest and best appointed craft on the lakes. On the Huronic, a magnificent bridal suite has been constructed on the upper deck, with sitting room, bathroom and all conveniences for comfortable travel. The suite is beautifully decorated in gilt and burlap, and is furnished in most luxurious style. The steamer has been completely repainted throughout, and a service of electric lights has been installed on the outside of the vessel, which will make her the equal of the North West and the North Land in the particular of brilliant illumination. The Monarch has had a thorough rebuild during the winter, and both she and her sister boat, the Saronic, have been painted, decorated and fitted in the most elaborate style. The boats of the Northern Navigation Co.'s Sarnia and Lake Superior line will be this season in every particular the peers of anything on fresh water."