

## THE NEWS.

—J. R. Warrens has started a new shingle mill at Colden, Ont.

—Chattanooga Tenn. saw mills, cut 42,000,000 feet of lumber last year.

—In the district about Kinnmount there are 3,000 men at work in the woods.

—About 170,000,000 feet of logs remain in the Menominee above the lower dam.

—Richard Nagle has 720 square miles of timber limits on the Kippewa in the market.

—Thirty inches of snow on the Kippewa interferes greatly with lumbering operations.

—Richard Bell, of Glenwilliams, Ont., fractured his leg when teaming logs in the bush lately.

—At the annual sale at the Nassau mills, Peterboro, over 1,000,000 feet of lumber was sold.

—Messrs. Gilmour & Co. are building a large sash, door and blind factory, at Trenton, Ont.

—Messrs. Mason & Morgan, Springbrook, Ont., have put in operation their new shingle mill.

—John Smith, of Marmora, had his leg broken by a falling tree while chopping in a cedar swamp.

—Edward Beuoir, of Wallaceburg, Ont., has been killed by a falling branch when sawing down a tree.

—H. F. McLoughlin, of Arnprior, Ont., has bought a timber limit near Papineauville, Que., on which he will build a saw mill.

—Mr. J. C. Bedard, Hardwood Hill, near Sherbrooke, Que., has finished his new steam saw mill and put it in operation.

—Over 60,000,000 feet of lumber, 35,000,000 shingles, and 25,000,000 lath, were handled at St. Joseph, Mo., during 1887.

—Col. Talbot, the pioneer who cut the first tree where London, Canada, now stands, is 90 years of age, but still hale and hearty.

—Mr. Stearns' steam mill at Lake Megantic, where he had about 40 men employed taking out pulp wood, was recently burned.

—Mr. Raymond, Mitchell's Bay, Ont., will rebuild his lumber mill and also add machinery for the manufacture of staves.

—Messrs. Hamilton Bros., lumber merchants of Ottawa, are operating near Desert and have to send supplies by team 100 miles from Ottawa.

—Messrs. Wait & Spear have completed their siding on the C. P. R. near Wood Station, Ont. and are getting out ties, cedar posts and cordwood.

—Mr. James Drake, Selkirk, Man., is moving his saw mills from that town to Broken Head River, on Lake Winnipeg, and will manufacture oak lumber principally.

—Mr. W. H. Murray, Indian town, N.B., is building an addition to his lumber mill, in which he will place machinery for the manufacture of staves and clapboards.

—The cut in the woods this winter on the upper Ottawa, will be large. In the camp of Louis Carisse alone 32,500 logs and 425 pieces of square timber were cut this winter.

—Messrs. N. L. Todd & Co., St. Margaret's Bay, N.B., have one of the largest and finest saw mills in the Province, having capacity to cut 8,000,000 feet of lumber a year.

—There are in California, Washington and Oregon 190 sawmills, employing over 3,000 men, without counting the crews of the many vessels engaged in freighting lumber.

—Mr. R. White, lumber merchant of Ottawa, has recently sold, on bank account, some \$100,000 worth of timber, held by the Bank Nationale. It is understood that good prices were obtained.

—Last year, 1887, the Flint and Pere Marquette hauled 215,291,134 feet of logs, the Detroit, Bay City and Alpena an amount nearly as great, and the Mackinac Division of the Michigan Central hauled 148,000,000 feet.

—Messrs. Bronson, Weston & Co., lumber merchants of Ottawa, have disposed of 5,000,000 feet of lumber to the Export Lumber Co., of Montreal, for shipment to South America, for which upwards of \$75,000 was realized.

—During 1887 there was received at the Port of New York the enormous quantity of 220,599,289 feet of Southern Yellow Pine. This is an increase of nearly thirty per cent. over 1886, or, to be exact, 66,060,469 feet and an increase over 1885 of 91,409,854 feet. The greater part of this lumber went into consumption in this city and its immediate vicinity.

—The largest cut on the Saginaw River was in 1882, when the mills cut 1,012,000,000 feet. The estimated cut for 1887 is 700,000,000, which is the smallest cut since 1878, and the probabilities are that it will never be increased.

—The tariff of rates to be charged by the Rouge Boom Co. for 1888 has been fixed by the Privy Council as follows:—Pine logs, 5 cents per piece; spruce logs, 2 cents; round timber, 5 cents; square timber, 10 cents; railway ties, 1 cent.

—Mr. Wm. Sutton, of Walkerton, Ont., is the owner of an extensive saw mill plant located at Cowichan, Vancouver Island, B.C., which has a capacity to cut from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 feet of lumber a year, and which has been idle for about two years.

Some heavy transactions have recently taken place in the Quebec timber market, Messrs. McArthur Bros., W. & J. Sharples & Dobell, Beckett & Co., being the principal purchasers to the extent of about \$7,000,000. Very little spruce remains in the hands of manufacturers.

—The Americans are waking up to the necessity of preserving what is left of their forests. Congressman White, of New York, has introduced a bill containing stringent provisions for the protection of the public forests, and also for setting aside timber land to be reserved as perpetual forests.

—Mr. Yates Ferguson, of Almonte, has a curiosity in the shape of a limb of an ironwood tree, on which two twigs, on opposite sides, having grown out and upward a distance of about twenty inches when they decided to enter the tree at points directly opposite to each other, forming a loop on either side.

—While two men named Narcisse Fournier and Joseph Leclaire were engaged felling trees in Gilmour & Co.'s limits, in the township of Bethune, the tree they were felling struck a dry one close by which caused part of it to fall in an opposite direction, instantly killing Fournier and badly injuring Leclaire.

—The repairs and improvements to the Saginaw river mills which are in progress or in contemplation at this time, pre-empt activity in the manufacture of the pine product in the season of 1888. Besides improvements, very material additional capacity is announced as being introduced to some of the mills.

—The Ottawa Government has received valuable information from the director of a government survey on the Spellumchurn River, B. C., concerning this new district. The soil is rich, game and fish plenty and the timber is reported as very large, much of it too large to handle, one hundred feet being the ordinary length of logs.

—A chestnut at the foot of Mount Aetna is believed to be the largest and the oldest tree in Europe. It is hollow and large enough to admit two carriages driving abreast to pass through it. The main trunk has a circumference of 212 feet. This grizzly giant is said to measure 92 feet in height. That certainly is a "regular old chestnut."

—Quite extensive lumber operations are being carried on for Messrs. A. L. Wright and A. J. Babang of Moncton, N. B., whose mill is at Little River. Charles McAnulty, who has leased the mill at Albert from Jardine & Co. of St. John, has already contracted with parties to put in about 1,000,000 of lumber for sawing next season.

—Reports from the Lake Superior region in the U.S., state that the depth of snow is proving a serious drawback to lumbering operations. Most of the camps near Bayfield, Wis., have been abandoned. Logging is very slow and expensive in the neighborhood of Marquette, Mich. Four feet of snow is reported at Ashland, Mich.

—The proportion of water held by different woods varies greatly. According to Scheubler and Hartig, freshly-cut horn-beam contains 18.6 per cent. of water; willow, 26 per cent; ash, 28.7 per cent; birch, 30.8 per cent; oak, 34.7 per cent; pine, 39.7 per cent; red beech, 39.7 per cent; larch, 48.6 per cent; and white poplar, 50.6 per cent.

—The finest collection of maple logs ever brought to Lucknow, Ont., may now be seen at Mitchell Bros. saw mill, and which are being manufactured into "rollers" 27 inches in length for shipment to the Old Country. Messrs. McDonald have also received a large consignment of very fine logs, both hard and soft wood, for the manufacture of lumber.

—As an evidence of the prosperous condition of Southern mill men and wood-workers generally, it is stated that 90 per cent. of the sales of saw mill and wood-working machinery in that section during the past year, have been on a cash basis. Five or six years ago nearly all such sales were made on credit. This state of affairs is taken as conclusive evidence that the Southern states are making profitable progress in the lumber and wood-working business, and at the same time as a result of purchasing improved machinery turning out a better class of lumber products than ever before.

—Messrs. Jas. R. Donnel and H. C. Stabler have purchased the planing mill business formerly conducted by Messrs. Kincaid & McWilliam, Peterborough, and have taken possession. The new proprietors are both practical men of long experience in the business; they are also pushing, and we have no doubt that they will secure a fair share of the trade in their line.

—The consumption of lumber in Chicago is estimated to reach 600,000,000 per annum. The receipts of lumber in Chicago the past year reached 2,493,050,592 feet, which allowing for the local consumption would make the shipments exceed 1,800,000,000 feet. The receipts of lumber in Chicago the past year exceeded those of the preceding year by 137,744,210.

—Cypress lumber has entered more largely into consumption during the last five years than ever known before. This fact is partly owing to the advance in the prices of Northern timber and lumber, but more especially to the facts that the merits of cypress lumber are just beginning to be found out. A considerable advance in the price of this material is predicted.

—The cut of the Saginaw river mills in 1887 aggregating 779,661,265 feet pine and hardwood, considerably exceeds early estimates, and shows that while the capacity of the river has been reduced 100,000,000 feet in two years, there has been but a slight decrease in production. It was only 19,000,000 feet less than 1886, and exceeds the cut of 1885 about 51,000,000 feet.

—An appropriation of \$200,000, made by the state of Minnesota for the payment of forestry improvements, has been exhausted, and a portion of the accounts will have to remain over unpaid for a year. The bounty is \$3 for every acre of cultivated forest, the tax to meet it being one-tenth mill. During the past two years, over 13,000 acres of forest trees have been planted in Minnesota.

—A resolution was recently adopted by the United States senate, directing the Secretary of the Interior to report a plan of legislation for the disposition of the public timber lands so as to secure the preservation of the national forest lands at the headwaters of navigable rivers, and so make it a right of settlers, attainable by legal means, that they shall provide themselves with timber for building their homes.

—The contracts for clearing lands at Vancouver, which was the cause of so much trouble early last year on the account of the employment of Chinese, is only about one-third finished. There are altogether 400 acres to be cleared, and the cost of the same will total about \$80,000. Contractor McDougall states that during the past month, owing to the cold and disagreeable weather, only nine days were put in by his force.

—Hon. M. Engelmann, of Manistee Mich., president of the Manistee salt and lumber company, is dead. He was a self-made man and a prominent and public-spirited citizen. He began life by working in the woods, and after his first start in business met with serious reverses but finally overcome his adverse circumstances by his energy and determination, and realized a large fortune. He leaves a widow and seven children.

—Mr. Samuel Gray, Victoria, B.C., is the proprietor of a large establishment employed in the manufacture of sash, doors, mantels, mouldings, hand rails, newel posts, etc. He is the patentee and manufacturer of an improved self-supporting stairs, in which is embraced a stair, elevator, light shaft and ventilator, a unique contrivance for economizing room, and in the sale of which he is doing a prosperous business in Oregon and California.

—The Ottawa Auxiliary Bible Society are prosecuting mission work among the lumber shanties. Four colporteurs were appointed for the Ottawa district, J. L. McCullough to the Gatineau, A. Toshack to Des Moines and Black River, J. B. Tennant to the Bonnechere and Petewawa, and A. Stewart to Madawaska and Mississippi. Four missionaries Messrs. McKechney, Somerville, Hewitt and Ellis were appointed to work in the Nipissing District.

—A continued improvement in the demand for American walnut is reported at London, Eng. The stock of logs is said to be somewhat light, but lumber is in good supply, and recent arrivals are said to have shown an improvement in manufacture, indicating that shippers are reaching a better understanding of the requirements of the trade. Choice planks and boards have gone off freely, and it is believed good stuff will find ready sale at full prices.

—Prospects for a good output of lumber on the Gatineau are not as good as was anticipated at the beginning of the season. There was too little snow in the early part of the winter and considerably too much latterly, so much so that work was much impeded. The lumbermen as it happened put unusually heavy gangs into the bush and by dint of large numbers will be able to make the cut sufficient to keep them sawing most of the summer, but they will not have any surplus logs.