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General Notes.

The Duluth, Minn., Iron and Steel Company have begun the construction of a blast furnace at Duluth.

The strawberry pack at Baltimore this season has proved very unsatisfactory, the result being a much smaller quantity than usual placed in cans. The leading packers are gradually moving their ideas upward.

A Chatham, N. B., paper states that not a lobster has been on sale in the town this season. The catch is only fair and is unprofitable on account of the enforcement of the law against canning undersized lobsters. The fishing will cease in two or three weeks for this year, and perhaps for two or three years more.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company are about to extend their works at Hochelaga (Montreal) by the addition of a large passenger car shop, wood machinery shop, blacksmith and machine shop, and store-room and foundry, the cost to be about \$300,000. The new works when completed will give employment to one thousand additional hands. Plans are ready and the works will proceed at once.

Canadian apples are likely to meet with competition from Australia during the coming season, 14,000 boxes from Australia were received in London, England, lately. It was found, however, that a considerable portion of them were frozen whilst en route in the refrigerators, but this will, of course be remedied in future. Former shipments, it appears, gave great satisfaction. Australian products are bound to become important factors in the English market, and in time will no doubt be formidable competitors with Canadian and American goods.

Liquidation less Extravagant Now.

Mrs. Napoleon—I hear so much much about liquidation in Wall street, my dear. What does that mean?

Mr. Napoleon (who is a Wall street man himself and knows what he is talking about)—Well in times gone by (sighing) liquidation meant champagne, now it means beer.

Lumber Cuttings.

The new mill at Fort Ellice, Man., is offered for sale, together with timber limits.

Donald Truth: Fred Robinson's mill at the Beaver is cutting 40,000 feet of lumber a day, and gives employment to between 30 and 40 men. He is unable to get a rate from the railroad company that will leave him a profit, and is piling the lumber in the yard, to await such time as he can ship with profit.

A British Columbia exchange says: The customs regulations are somewhat ambiguous as to what constitute a log upon which an export duty can be charged. A pile is by some construed to mean a log out of which shingle bolts could be manufactured; by others no such interpretation can be deemed possible. A case calling for a decision has arisen at Burrard Inlet, and the matter will be referred to the Customs department at Ottawa for a ruling.

Mississippi Valley Lumberman: The shingle makers over in Michigan are reported to be engaged in cutting up every scrap of timber they can get hold of, not even the stumps escaping them. A machine has recently come into use which is moved into the woods and which slices shingle length bolts off every decent stump within a radius of 100 feet. In this way, in the language of a Michigan man, the shingle mills are becoming the scavengers of the lumber region.

The Selkirk Herald says: Complaints are being made that owing to the scarcity of steamboats and barges the lumber trade of Lake Winnipeg will be greatly embarrassed. Lumber dealers are puzzled as to how they can get their stock brought in to Selkirk; there being upwards of nine million feet around the shores of Lake Winnipeg ready with very little, if any means of getting it to the market. This is a serious affair, and one for which we can find no remedy, so far as this summer's trade is concerned, as steamboats and barges can hardly be built in time for service this season. It is a pity, however, that one of the principal industries of Selkirk should be so hampered; but we trust that some means will turn up shortly to remedy this drawback.

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