



DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

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PETERBOROUGH, Ont., OCT. 15, 1885.

A MAN named Magloire Roberge was cut in two by a saw, in a mill near Arthabaskaville, Que., on Oct. 10th.

THE Rathbun Company have an order from Ottawa for 300,000 ft. of cedar lumber to be used for stringers for new boardwalks.

THE schooner Onward, bound to Milwaukee with a load of lumber, went ashore at Gill's pier, five miles north of Northport, Mich., during a recent gale.

IN order to evade the 10-hour law, Saginaw valley operators in the woods are having contracts printed for more than 10 hours work each day, which they require each man employed to sign.

THE tug McArthur, with a large raft in tow, ran into Cobourg storm bound Friday night, and remained until Monday evening. She brought the tow from Lake Superior, her destination being Quebec.

THE Ludington, Wells & Van Schnick Company of Chicago, recently purchased 600 acres of pine land on Point river, Marquette county, Mich., for which it paid \$48 an acre. The land is estimated to have on it 9,000,000 feet of pine.

A PARTY of surveyors is in the upper peninsula, Mich., running lines for the Canada, La Crosse & Southwestern railroad. The line has already been run from La Crosse, Wis., to Negaunee, Mich., to which terminal surveys will be completed in October.

A SUDDEN rise in the Snohomish river, W. T., lately, broke the Pillechuck boom and let loose 1,500,000 feet of logs. The whole lot went out to sea. About 1,000,000 feet were saved and turned into Ebey's cove, 100,000 feet going out on ebb tide and drifting into Port Susan bay. Through the breaking of the other booms it was thought that not less than 2,000,000 feet of logs went out to sea, about three-fourths of which were saved.

JARRETT & CUSHING are about to erect a steam ash and door factory at Calgary.

THE prevalence of small-pox in certain sections at the present time should cause lumbermen to be cautious and careful so that the disease may not find its way into the woods. When men are engaged who reside in places where the disease exists, care should be taken to see that there is no danger of the infection being carried into the camp. With proper care there need be no alarm, but to be safe, and for the safety of the men in the camps, care should be exercised. Lumbermen should see that their agents pay attention to this matter.

WOOD-WORKING PATENTS.

The following list of patents relating to the wood working interests, granted by the U. S. Patent Office, Sept. 29th, 1885, is specially reported by Franklin H. Heugh, solicitor of American and foreign patents, 925 F. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.:

- 327,343.—Lath, boring—H. B. Stevens, Buffalo, N. Y.
- 327,322.—Lumber drier—A. M. Schilling, Chicago, Ill.
- 326,030.—Lumber drier—H. S. Smith, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- 327,346.—Planing machine—H. B. Stillman & W. F. Paterson, Boston, Mass.
- 327,189.—Planing and polishing lumber—W. R. Norris, Fort Ann, N. Y.
- 327,015.—Saw handle—R. E. Poindexter, Indianapolis, Ind.
- 327,428.—Saw mill, band—D. K. Allington, East Saginaw, Mich.
- 327,103.—Saw mill head block—G. M. Pelton, Belmont, N. Y.
- 327,416.—Saw sharpening device—W. Tucker, East Brookfield, Mass.
- 327,270.—Saw swage—N. Johnson, Jasper, N. Y.
- 327,303.—Saws, Device for operating vertical—C. W. Page, Chatham, Washington Territory.
- 327,203.—Wood dressing machine—C. D. Smith, Templeton, Mass.

PATENTS ISSUED OCT. 6.

- 327,903.—Mumber drier—C. F. Starkweather, Pullman, Ill.
- 327,588.—Planing machine—F. J. Plummer, Boston, Mass.
- 327,968.—Planing and turning machine—H. S. Stillman & W. F. Paterson, New York, N. Y., and Boston, Mass.
- 327,736.—Saw, drag—F. C. Storrs, Hudson, Ind.
- 327,774.—Saw filing machine—J. W. Dale, Du Bois, Pa.
- 327,742.—Saw frame—S. Hale, Bloomfield.
- 327,776.—Saw handle—C. Elshardt, New York, N. Y.
- 327,574.—Saw mill—J. S. Miller, Erie, Pa.
- 327,637.—Saw mill dog—E. S. Woodworth, Allegheny, Pa.
- 327,609.—W. O. Smith, Boston, Mass.
- 327,651.—Saw table gage—J. D. Bradshaw, Providence, R. I.

FIRES IN THE FOREST.

ACCORDING to reports received of the discussion in the American Forestry Congress, it is the opinion of one lumberman of large experience that lumbermen need not loose so much by the forest fires. If lumbermen, Mr. Little, of Montreal, is reported to have said, would take the same care of his forest that he does of other property, he would not loose as much as he does. Left as he almost always leaves it, the laws of cause and effect would have to be suspended if fire did not follow. When really accidental fire does run through (except on peaty soil), the trees are not destroyed, they are merely scorched on the outside, and if cut at once, as they always are in lumbering regions, they are worth little, if anything, less than other trees. When lumbermen come to value permanent forests we shall have little about fires. Most of them value the woods only as affording them one crop, and after that the deluge. France has as such dry weather as we have, yet she does not lose one-tenth of one per cent. by fire.

Such is the testimony a lumberman of experience gives. When so much material for the flames is left in the woods, within their easy reach, it is indeed not a matter for surprise that destructive fires do occur. The tops and branches, which become very dry and are often left in heaps, are too frequently placed as if they were almost intended to feed a fire. Some lumbermen, as Mr. Little's statement, that neither he nor his father ever lost one per cent. in any one year through fire, shows, understand this so well that they do not leave their forests in such a state. The evil will not, in all probability, be entirely removed, until all lumbermen appreciate the value of all the lumber they possess, or until it becomes so valuable that it will pay to remove the most of it, that it may be placed on the market.

Still, if care was exercised in this matter, solely with a view to preventing fires, it would pay, for much valuable timber would then be saved that otherwise becomes the prey of the flames.

SOWING SEEDS FOR FUTURE FORESTS.

To the Editor of the Canada Lumberman.

SIR,—Many of your readers, no doubt, who have not at present the time for planting may yet intend in a year or two to give their farms the benefit of some wind-breaks and plantations. When ready they will be obliged to go to the forest for young trees, a matter of considerable labor, or to buy of the nurserymen one of considerable expense. Let me suggest that instead, if they sow the tree seed, they will by the time they need them have on hand as many thousand young trees as they desire with far better roots than the forest seedlings, and in a position much more handy for transference to their ultimate stations. This has been a pretty good seed year, and this month is the time for gathering the following seeds:—Hard Maple, Ash leaved Maple, or as it is now called Manitoba Maple, Sycamore, Mountain Ash, English and Native Ashes, Basswood, Buckthorn and Hawthorn, Locust, Oaks, Hickories, Walnuts and Butternuts, Beech, Chestnuts, Pines and other evergreens. Of these, such as have a pulpy covering will need bruising with a hoe or macerating through the hands, the pulpy matter then washed off and the seeds partially dried, when mixing with sand will facilitate the sowing process. The rest should be kept in a cool dry place till they can be sown. They should be sown in light rich loam, but if obliged to use clay soil covering the seed with sand does well. It is well to cover the seed twice the depth of itself and tread it firmly down, then cover all with about two inches of leaves, straw, corn-stalks or strawy manure. They must be so mulched to ensure success. In the spring, this, if of a fertilizing nature, can be raked between the rows and keep weeds down and the soil moist; if too bulky remove it altogether. Next summer from a small bed thus treated, you will obtain thousands of plants of any variety you have sown, and these transplanted the next season will be fine young trees.

Yours, &c,

R. W. PHIPPS.

Toronto, Oct. 9th, 1885.

THE LARGEST TREES.

"Here are the extremes of plant life," said a botanist, holding a microscopic slide in one hand and a picture of a great tree in the other. "This is a diatom, one of the smallest vegetable organisms, invisible to the naked eye, while this," flourishing the picture, "is the largest tree as to height in the world."

"One of the sequoia?"

"No," was the reply. "Uncle Sam has done pretty well with trees, but when it comes to height the British lion takes the belt, as the loftiest trees are found in the Australian dominion. This picture is a photograph of one found by a traveller in the Black range of Berwick, and it is estimated at 500ft. from the ground to the topmost branch. Think of it a moment," continued the speaker. "Five hundred feet means a good deal. It would dwarf the Bartholdi statue; Trinity would look like a telegraph pole compared to it; the Brooklyn bridge would be nowhere; Strasburg Cathedral would be 54ft. below the birds' nests on the top branches, and,

if the giant was placed by the side of the pyramid of Cheops, the leaves of the eucalyptus would be still 25ft. above it. That's the kind of trees they have in Australia, and they are undoubtedly the largest on the globe, though it is claimed that the California specimens are more impressive from their greater bulk. The gum trees, as the Australian giants are called, are a comparatively modern discovery, and for a long time it was impossible to approach them, but now roads are broken, and travellers can ride directly to the foot of several. One of the first known, a Kanni eucalyptus (Eucalyptus colasea) of botanists, was discovered in a glen of the Warren River, Western Australia. When found by a party of riders, it was prostrate upon the ground, and four riders abreast entered the trunk, that was estimated at 400ft. in length. Another species, E. Amzgdalina, measured by Boyle in the gloomy forest of Dandenong, was found to be 420ft long, while another, now growing on the Black Spur, ten miles from Healeville, is 480 feet high. These measurements, you see, are far ahead of the California trees, one of the largest, that I think is known as "The Father of the Forest," only measuring 435 feet, and being 110 feet in circumference at the base. The one called "The Mother of the Forest" measures 320 feet in height, with a circumference at the base of 90 feet. When they felled the famous "Traveller" in 1853, and, by the way, every man that had a hand in it ought to have been sent to Dry Tortugas, it took five or six men nearly a month to bring it to the ground, and they had all kinds of tools to work with, pump-augers, wedges, and everything you could think of."—Timber.

QUEBEC CULLERS' OFFICE.

The following is a comparative statement of Timber, Masts, Bowsprits, Spars, Staves, &c measured and culled to date:—

	1883.	1884.	1885.
Waney White Pine.....	3,027,559	2,135,207	2,090,439
White Pine.....	6,292,583	3,680,604	2,010,462
Red Pine.....	443,074	309,940	69,673
Oak.....	1,718,036	700,033	1,460,413
Elm.....	309,201	651,722	931,126
Ash.....	256,004	410,206	257,675
Basswood.....	2,244	4,544	95
Butternut.....	1,023	1,160	3,083
Tamarac.....	5,283	10,113	3,622
Birch & Maple.....	138,803	201,141	350,383
Masts & Bowsprits..	— pcs	— pcs	— pcs
Spars.....	— pcs	41 pcs	17 pcs
Std. Staves.....	627,012	60,920	70,000
W. I. Staves.....	510,235	170,320	185,932
Brl. Staves.....	87,219	2,429	105,932

JAMES PATTON,
Supervisor of Cullers.

Quebec, Oct. 9.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE GOOD TIMBER.

It may be interesting to your readers to know that the microscope is of great value in testing the qualities of wood. It is stated that if the microscope condemns the sample, further delay in testing is not necessary. The larger the specimens to be tested the greater will be the gain the microscope will effect in avoiding the cost of further proof. Samples and microphotographs of bridge timbers which have proved faulty, but which a preliminary examination with the microscope would have thrown out, have been exhibited in America. The timber from which these specimens were taken was a fragment from a railway bridge wrecked in 1879. The timber was so excessively poor, that on mounting a specimen on the plate of the microscope, its weak and porous nature was at once apparent. The annular rings appeared about three times as far apart as they would be in good wood of similar kind. The medullary rays were few in number and short in length, whilst in good wood, they are of considerable length, and so numerous that tangential sections present the appearance of a series of tubes seen endwise on a number of parallel chains. After one seeing and comparing samples of good and bad wood, it is easy to recognize the difference with a pocket magnifying glass. The trunks and limbs of exogenous trees, as it is well known, are built up of concentric rings or layers of woody fibre, which are held together by radial plates acting like tree-nails in a boat's side. The rings, representing successive years' growth are composed of tubes, the interstices of which are filled with cellulose. The slower the growth of the tree, the thinner these yearly rings and the