

Trade Notes.

Canadian.

RAILWAY ties and cedar posts are being shipped in great quantities from Kemptville to the United States.

MEMPHIS.—Twenty-nine years ago Mr. Geo. Wright planted a spruce about six inches in circumference. Last season, it measured five feet nine inches in circumference.

THE Halifax *New Era* says: Of inward freight we note 41 cars deals and timber for the loading ships at the depot, and 213 cars coal. Three large ships of from 600 to 1,000 tons each, are at present loading deals and timber at our railway depot.

THE Collingwood *Messenger* says: From Byng Inlet we learn that lumbering operations are over for the season, all the logs required being in. It has been a very favorable winter for lumbering purposes, and there are more logs cut for Byng Inlet mills than in any past year.

THE value of buildings already projected in Toronto, exclusive of the Parliament buildings and Court House reaches to nearly half a million dollars. On the whole the outlook for building operations in Toronto during the present season, and therefore for the local demand for lumber, is brighter than in any preceding year.

TWENTY-FIVE cars of lumber are being shipped at Ottawa city daily, by the St. Lawrence & Ottawa Railway, to the United States. Last week Bronson & Weston shipped ten car loads of timber by the Canada Central Railway to New York. Col. Robbins also shipped ten car loads of iron ore to the same place.

A RAFT of wood belonging to Mr. Alexander Russell, of Levis, went adrift the other day opposite Beaumont, with three men on board, who were several hours afloat and suffered very severely from the cold. Mr. Russell sent the steamer *Prince Edward* to their assistance, but it failed to find them owing to the darkness of the night; meantime they managed to land at Beaumont.

A COMPARATIVELY new industry is the getting out of hop-poles for the American market. For this purpose small cedar is greatly in demand, owing to its lasting character. Large quantities have been shipped from the stations of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway, and other local lines. Within four weeks from fifty to sixty car loads have been shipped from Buckingham station alone.

A GENTLEMAN just arrived from the Upper Ottawa states that at Fort Eddy, which is 117 miles from Pembroke and 236 from Ottawa, there is plenty of snow for good sleighing. The cut of logs in that region has been in excess of any previous year. It is thought that owing to the large quantity of snow there will be no difficulty in floating out the timber and logs. Shantymen and teams are on their way down the river in large numbers.

ORILLIA.—Last week, Mr. Wm. Ramsay, of the Orillia Carriage Works, shipped to Emerson and Winnipeg, by the Midland railway via Whitby, one hundred and ten vehicles—wagons, buggies, and buckboards, all manufactured since the 1st day of February. Mr. Ramsay expects to follow up this shipment with another equally as large in the course of a few weeks. He has about forty men employed, and has enough orders ahead to keep them hard at work for some time.

WASHINGTON.—A correspondent writes: Saw-logging has been a boom in this part of the country, the weather and roads being all that could be desired. Thompson, Smith & Sons, of Bradford, and Andrew Tait, of Orillia, have a large quantity of logs on this end of Lake Couchiching. Mr. A. Marshall and others are getting out considerable, and the three shingle mills are running steadily. Messrs. Tobey & Co., of Collingwood, are doing a large business in tanbark; the station yard is nearly filled with it.

FOLLOWING the example of Ontario, an effort is being made in Quebec to interest British capital in the lumbering interests of that Province. Mr. H. Atkinson, of Messrs. H. Atkinson & Co., is at present in Britain forming a joint stock company to work lands in which his firm and La Banque Nationale are interested. He has met with good encouragement and it is

reported that upon the strength of his favorable reports, supplies are being sent into the bush so as to be ready for an early start next fall. Messrs. Girouard & Beaudet, who have extensive limits in the Saguenay district, and a fine steam mill at Betsiamis, will also likely put their business into the shape of a joint stock company, and Mr. Girouard is at present in England negotiating to this end.

American.

ONE hundred and fifteen ship builders from Scotland arrived, recently, to work in the ship yards of Detroit, Mich.

IN Boston, the stock of hardwoods has been somewhat enlarged by late arrivals, but prices are firm and unchanged.

PARCHMENT made from the palmetto of Florida is likely to come into quite general use for conveyances, land office receipts, etc.

ONE of the institutions of Beaumont, Texas, is a cistern-factory. The cisterns are made of cypress, and shipped in pieces, to various parts of the state.

IN New York, extreme rates are obtained for everything desirable. Seasoned oak and ash are scarce, and, owing to the limited supply of walnut, the extra demand for mahogany continues.

A CLEVELAND, Ohio, paper says that the present season promises to tax the vessel capacity on the lakes to the utmost and that a marked advance in the freight rates may be looked for.

HENRY & BALDWIN, of Wells River, Vt., have sold their Granby mill land of 13,000 acres, to T. G. Beattie, of Brunswick, and A. M. Beattie, of Lancaster, for \$4 per acre. The late owners bought the land, in 1871, for something less than \$1 per acre.

THERE are no changes to note in Detroit prices; in fact, the question of price is not put first. Now, the first inquiry is, Can you furnish the bill? Next, Can you deliver at once? If the dealer can furnish and deliver at once he can make a price to suit himself, particularly on dry stock and large or long dimension stuff.

THE Saginaw lumber market has developed no noteworthy changes. Appearances begin to indicate the approach of spring, and some buyers from eastern points have arrived to look over the market. I have heard of no sales, and, so far as learned, no desirable lumber is offering; in fact, that class of stock is not on the market. Prices are steady and firm, with prospects of a very active season.

HON. ALEX. STEWART furnishes the Wausau *Wisconsin* with figures on the season's log crop on the Wisconsin and its tributaries as follows: Upper Wisconsin, 52,750,000; Somo river, 9,600,000; Tomahawk river, 5,500,000; Willow river, 5,900,000; Spirit river, 6,600,000; Devil creek, 1,100,000; Copper river, 3,160,000; New Wood creek, 8,500,000; Prairie river, 10,000,000; Trapp river, 5,700,000; Pine river, 16,700,000. Total, 124,475,000 feet.

AT Milwaukee trade has been very near at a stand still, owing to the big snow storm, as no lumber can be shipped at present on account of our railroad companies refusing to let dealers have cars before they have got their road cleared from snow so they can again move freight. If this snow storm had not set in they would now be enjoying a good trade. Stocks are getting badly broken on just, scantling and timber; we also hear of a number of dealers being short on 16-foot fencing.

A establishment has recently been started near Mobile, Ala., for the manufacture of furniture from gum. The enterprise will be watched with much interest, and should it prove successful, others are sure to spring up in various parts of the country, as it will be a solution to one of the vexed problems of the day. Since walnut has become so scarce and high, furniture manufacturers have been anxiously hunting for something to supersede it, and if it be found in gum it will be a wood at once cheap and abundant.

THE large tract of pine timber land on the upper waters of the Pere Marquette river in Lake and Newaygo counties, Michigan, known as the Waters tract, changed hands recently. It was owned by H. D. Waters, and contains 4,000 acres, from which it is estimated that from 50,000,000 to 100,000,000 feet of pine will be cut. The purchasers are Messrs. Thompson & Patter-

son, of New York, and Messrs. Walkup, Fisher & Co., of Chicago, who intend making arrangements with some party to build a mill near Crooked Lake, for the purpose of turning the timber into lumber and putting it on the market.

THE cedar tie trade at Cheboygan this season promises to be the most profitable one for several seasons past. One of the most extensive dealers says he is constantly in receipt of letters making inquiries as to whether they can be had in that section. These inquiries come from all sections of the country and show that railroad matters are booming. Several hundred thousand ties are being got out in that vicinity and the indications are that sale could be had for as many more. The most of those being got out are already contracted for.

THE contracts made by Chicago dealers for maple aggregate millions of feet. The demand for maple flooring has not been met for some time past, but there is no probability that it will be scarce for some time to come, although the dry kiln will be for a while called into use. That the sales of this kind of flooring for the present year will exceed those of any two years past, there is no doubt. At the same price many prefer it to ash, and the high price of the latter will cause it to be looked upon with still less favor.

A GENTLEMAN, who has recently been traveling through the lumber regions of Georgia and Florida, writes to the *Lumberman* that he never saw so many vessels on demurrage at the principal shipping points before. They are prevented from loading through the inability of the mills to supply them with cargoes, the long continued rains having made it impossible for the manufacturers to get the logs to saw. In many cases, the mules work in water up to their haunches hauling logs, and after they are hauled, many of the streams are so full it is dangerous to raft them.

THE stave market is pretty well cleaned out. The dealers in Michigan are receiving orders from Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota, that they are not able to fill. They attribute the scarcity, partly, to the snow blockade that has kept them back; but, from what we learn, it is safe to say that the stave cut in Indiana has been light this winter. A firm in Minneapolis that heretofore would not use an elm stave has just ordered 100,000 from a dealer here, and other firms are necessarily looking in the same direction. Hoops are in moderate supply and without change in prices, except flat, No. 1, which are selling higher.

THE Diamond Match Company is the name of a corporation recently formed in New Haven, Conn., which, if all reports concerning it be true, starts out with the intention of becoming one of the greatest monopolies in the country. According to the statements made regarding it, it has a capital of \$2,250,000, something over one-half of which represents property already purchased, consisting of 23 match factories in different places. It is said to be the purpose of the company to buy up all the factories it can get and convert the business of making matches into a monopoly. To this end it proposes to limit the production and regulate prices.

A BEAUMONT, Texas, paper says that the demand for lumber at the present time is unprecedented in the history of Texas. The only thing which now prevents the mill men from realizing immense profits is the lack of cars to carry their lumber. This defect is being remedied in a measure; but there is another matter of intense interest to them and to that place. The long continued rain has made the hauling of timber impossible, and the consequence is that the supply of logs on hand is short in comparison, both to the cutting capacity of the mills and the demand for lumber, and the lumbermen hope that they will soon be able to ship their stuff promptly.

FROM Cadillac, Mich., it is reported that the bill stuff trade there is beyond all precedent. Prices for same are at least \$1 higher, and orders hard to place. Dry stock is very much diminished and nearly all desirable grades are out of first hands. Stocks are badly broken. Buyers are plenty. Some manufacturers are shipping stock barely half dry and putting a price upon it to cover added freight. Prices are, of course, very firm. Opinions differ as to the future. Some dealers are rushing off their stock

at quoted prices, as fast as they can get cars, in anticipation of a drop as soon as the dry stock along shore can be reached by water. No one expects a further advance, unless temporarily. There are 33 per cent. more logs in lumber yards than at the same date last year.

THE cut of hard woods this season, it is said, will be the largest in the history of the business. Everybody that can get at a log will cut it. To this rule we know of but one exception. Some of the Michigan men are holding their maple in reserve, entertaining the opinion that, on general principles in the lumber business, rarely comes to the surface, that a few years hence there may possibly be a call for maple flooring. How wise a move it is, a few years will tell. An extensive pine operator in Michigan recently said to the writer, that although his business was a good one so far as profits are concerned, if he were to sell his mill property and put the money into standing hardwoods, he would expect at the end of a few years to be the winner.

THE *Northwestern Lumberman*, under date of March 16th, says: Anyone in pursuit of information regarding the state of the lumber business throughout the country, and desirous of finding it in a flourishing condition, will not be seriously disappointed in reading the reports from the various distributing points. They uniformly speak of trade as good; in some cases it is characterized as remarkable, considering the season of the year and the fact that the atmospheric conditions are, and have been, so unfavorable for the sale of lumber. The present demand regarding it as a whole, is excellent. Orders are plenty, and inquiries, which afford an even better index of the feeling among the retailers, are received in such numbers that owners of lumber yards are beginning to talk enthusiastically of the business that is likely to be transacted this spring. The indications certainly point to a very large spring trade, and most operators are satisfied that the first of it is already reaching the points of distribution. The general report is that almost any quantity of new buildings have been projected, and their erection will be begun as soon as the season is far enough advanced. The expectation on every hand is that the business of this season will largely exceed that of last year, or any year, in fact. The *Lumberman* does not recall a time in the entire history of the trade when the confidence in the future was so great, or when the dealers, at this time in the spring, manifested such a degree of satisfaction with the business doing. There seems to be no question, anywhere, but that we are entering upon a season that will go down in the annals of the lumber trade as one of the most active and prosperous for lumbermen ever known.

IRWIN & BOYD

Commission Lumber Dealers,

FORWARDERS, Shipping & General Agents

PORT HOPE.

White Oak and Ash LUMBER WANTED.

ADDRESS

YATES AND STRATFORD, BRAINTFORD.