

OTTAWA LETTER.

[Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

Mr. Alfred Cross, of Liverpool, Eng., was in the city a fortnight ago. He represents some wealthy English firms who are large importers of hardwood for furniture manufacture, the object of his visit being to become acquainted with the timber resources of Canada. Formerly most of the lumber required has been obtained from the United States, but after viewing some of our hardwood forests, Mr. Cross decided to secure sections of maple and silver birch, as these are the woods that he most desires. Mr. Cross's backers in England also think it desirable that a mill should be established here for sawing up the lumber, and the probability is that it will be somewhere in this locality.

The death of Mr. James W. Agret, of this city, has removed one who formerly took an important part in the lumber trade of the Ottawa valley. He was in his day considered to be the best bushman and raftsmen of these sections, being endowed with great energy of mind and bodily strength. At one time he owned one of the most valuable timber limits on the Ottawa, and was also one of the contractors of the C. P. R. line.

Mr. Peter Colter, well known as a lumber agent and explorer, returned early in May from a three months trip through the different lumbering districts.

Mr. McLeod Stewart has had printed and distributed in pamphlet form the paper upon the physical features and geology of the route of the proposed Ottawa canal, between the St. Lawrence river and Lake Huron, by Dr. R. W. Ellis and Professor Barlow, read at the last meeting of the Royal Society of Canada.

OTTAWA, Ont., May 22, 1896.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

[Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

ANOTHER association of lumbermen has recently been organized in this province, to be known as the "Associated Lumbermen of British Columbia." It is intended to include dealers who ship their lumber into the eastern market, and who are not connected with the Central Lumber Company. At an early date I hope to be able to give some further particulars of the organization, of which, I learn, Mr. F. H. Moore is the efficient secretary.

A recent issue of the British Columbia Commercial Journal contains the following with respect to lumber matters: "A Vancouver gentleman, Mr. C. M. Beecher, has interviewed several members of the government with a view to securing protection to the lumber industries on this coast. We are not aware what shape it is desired that this protection should assume; but it was supposed by many people that, under the operation of the lumber combine which recently went into operation, all that was desired in the way of protection was in that way to be obtained. If the combine is supreme on both the United States and Canadian sides of the line, it is hard to see where protection comes in, unless the effort is being made by some who happen to be outside of the combination. On the other hand, if it be better forest protection that is being sought, we would suppose that the provincial authorities are those who ought to be approached. In any case it would be of interest and possibly of general benefit to know what is desired. Meantime, we have not yet learned that the combine has proved to be a failure."

At present there are eight vessels loading lumber at British Columbia ports for foreign markets, which is below the average number since the opening of spring. Their destinations are: Melbourne, Delagoa Bay, Cork, Antwerp, Tientsin, Shanghai, Santa Rosalia and San Francisco.

The Brunette Saw Mills Co. shipped some of the longest lengths of sawn timber yet shipped per rail from their mills. These were 94 feet long, and 7 x 18. Other timbers in the shipment were thicker though not so long. They will be used in the construction of some hopper scows for the Dominion government.

COAST CHIPS.

The Sutton Lumber Co., of Uxet, have removed their head office to Victoria.

The Royal City Mills recently filled an order for 80,000 feet of spruce for the English market.

Lloyd's saw mill at Westholme, B. C., was recently damaged by fire to the extent of \$500.

The Nelson Saw Mill Company has taken over the business of John Bell at Trail and Rossland.

Mr. J. H. Ramsdell, for several years superintendent of the Moodyville mill, has resigned his position.

The British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading Co., of Vancouver, propose opening a branch in Rossland.

Grant & Monnee, saw millers, Union, have lately put in a new band saw, adapted for both light and heavy work.

Mr. A. E. Griffiths is manager of the Turkish Harbor Timber Co., of Vancouver, who propose erecting a mill this summer.

Mr. J. G. Woods, for many years manager of Leamy & Kyle's mill at Vancouver, has been appointed superintendent of the Moodyville mills.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., May 19, 1896.

NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

[Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

INTEREST for the past two weeks has been centred upon lumber drives. The season thus far has been an unusually dry one, while the snow melted so gradually that the streams were not benefitted much thereby. The result is that difficulty has been experienced with driving, particularly on the smaller streams, and at the time of writing grave fears are held lest much lumber will be hung up. In some cases larger crews have been put on, who have pushed the drive along at full speed, but even then some have been unable to get to their destination. A few days' rain would be welcomed by lumbermen, who, in view of the strong demand in Europe for deals, are feeling no little anxiety in the matter.

The purchase of the Rourke mill and property at St. Martins by Maine capitalists has not taken place, and in all probability Messrs. Rourke will carry on operations themselves this season.

Messrs. Currie & Co., of Eel River, have completed their new mill and commenced sawing. The dimensions of the mill are as follows: Main building 70 x 30 ft., with an extension on the south side 50 x 30 ft. The power is furnished by a 120 h.p. T. M. Nagle engine and boiler, both furnished by the Robb Engineering Co., of Amherst. The mill will contain four shingle machines, rotary double edger, lath machine, planer and matcher.

The Point Wolfe property on the Bay Shore is one of finest in New Brunswick, and contains a large growth of lumber. It is estimated that 175,000,000 feet have been cut there in the past 26 years.

The Dominion government will likely subsidize two or more lines of steamers from this port to Europe next winter. This will enable lumbermen to place their product regularly upon the English market, as was done during the past winter.

BITS OF LUMBER.

C. & I. Prescott's mill at Albert has begun sawing.

R. C. Tait is having a new rotary put in his mill at Shediac, which will largely increase its capacity.

Jas. E. Porter, M.P.P., has commenced re-building his mill at Andover, which was consumed by fire last autumn.

The new saw mill of Messrs. Purvis at Carleton has commenced sawing. This will provide employment for a large number of men.

J. C. Wright and Chesley Smith, of Hopewell Hill, have purchased the steam rotary mill belonging to Dowling & Fletcher at Alma.

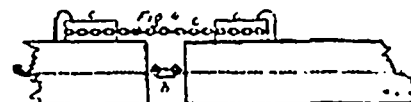
Frank and Henry Swim, of Doaktown, are building a new mill there with rotary, planer, clapboard machine, etc., to be ready by June 1. The old mill will be used for cutting board stuff.

ST. JOHN, N.B., May 20, 1896.

A recent issue of the Montreal Herald says: An agent of Howry & Sons, the well-known lumber agents of Fenelon Falls, Ont., and Saginaw, Mich., called on Mr. J. Prescott, head of the Montreal Municipal Labor Bureau, on Saturday, and enquired whether he could provide two hundred skilled lumbermen to go to South Africa to work in the bush there, and teach the natives how to fell trees and trim logs for market. Mr. Prescott replied that he could fill the contract, and he is now awaiting final arrangements before he picks his men. According to the agent it is intended that the men after teaching the natives the practical work will become bosses.

CANADIAN PATENTS.

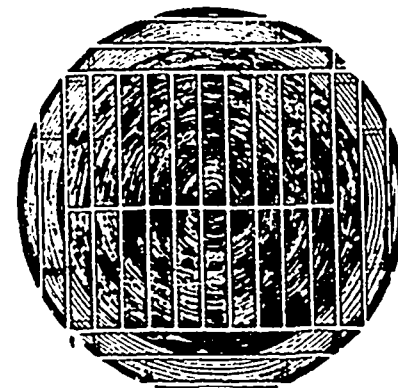
DENIS GAHERTY, of Montreal, was granted a patent on March 9th for a log boom, as shown by the accompanying illustration. It is comprised of any number of lengths or panels, each of which are formed of 2, 4, 6 or more pieces of timber bolted together, between which are laid



LOG BOOM.

longitudinally in grooves one or more wire cables, a, figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, and all the lengths or panels held together by means of the wire or cables, a, and wrought iron couplings, b, and the ordinary coupling C, C, C, substantially for the purpose set forth.

A patent has been granted in Canada to Annie S. Dees, of Moss Point, and George H. Howard, of Washington, U. S., for a device for sawing logs, as shown herewith. It consists in a saw mill, the combination of two carriages on opposite sides of the saw and rigidly secured together gauges on both carriages, stops to regulate the inward movement of the gauges, and means for operating the



DEVICE FOR CUTTING LOGS.

gauges, tracks on the under side of the carriage, rollers journaled to the floor for supporting the carriage, and bearings on the opposite side of the carriages. In the combination of a gauge one part capable of a predetermined movement toward the saw and an indefinite movement from the saw, with similar gauge on the other part, the two like parts being firmly united together with a saw, and means for moving them in either direction, whereby the material to be cut supported on one part is measured by the gauge on the other part.

ELECTRIC TREE FELLER.

AN apparatus has been brought out for felling trees by electricity. There is no saw proper, its place being taken by a drill, which, according to the nature of the wood may be used to perforate the base of the tree with a number of holes, placed so close together that nearly all the fibres have been cut, or it may be used to make a sweeping cut, as the cutting edges are on the side of the tool. This is the usual method. The machine is fastened to the tree and a cut of suitable depth is taken across its surface; the drill is then advanced an inch or two, and another cut is taken across its surface; the drill is then advanced an inch or two, and another cut is taken until about half the thickness of the tree has been gone through. Wedges are then forced in to keep the cut from closing up, and the operation is continued until it would not be safe to cut away more wood. The fastening chains are then loosened and the machine is removed, after which the final separation of the tree is accomplished by a hand saw or axe.

Cassier's Magazine for June contains interesting articles from the pen of well-known writers, among which are "Peat Fuel in Germany," by Louis Stem, "Steam Superheating," by W. H. Patchell, and "Economic Workshop Output," by W. E. Hall.

A valuable publication has been issued by the Century Company, of New York, covering a study of the white pine, with tables and volume of yield. It is edited by Gifford Pinchot and Henry S. Graves, and includes 102 pages, in cloth binding.