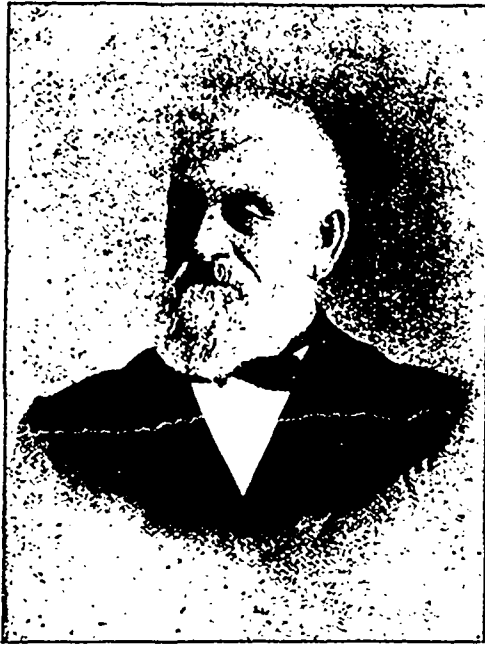


MR. ALEXANDER GIBSON.

In the issue of the CANADA LUMBERMAN of September, 1894, we gave a biographical sketch of the renowned lumber king of New Brunswick, Mr. Alex. Gibson, accompanied by a bird's eye view of the village of Marysville, the home of Mr. Gibson. By the accompanying portrait our readers may observe the countenance of Mr. Gibson, who enjoys the distinction of being prob-



MR. ALEXANDER GIBSON.

ably the best known man in the Maritime provinces.

Mr. Gibson is the owner of thousands of acres of timber lands, five saw mills, a large cotton mill and the Canada Eastern railway. He is the shipper annually of upwards of one hundred million feet of lumber to different markets, chiefly to Great Britain. Over a thousand persons are directly in his employ in summer, and upwards of two thousand in winter, in connection with his lumbering operations. About six hundred men are employed steam driving in the spring, and about the same number in the cotton mill constantly.

At Marysville he owns three saw mills, one cutting long lumber, another shingles and another lath. This winter 35,000,000 feet of logs will be cut to be sawn at the mills. The spruce is cut into deals for the English market, being towed down the St. John river to the harbor of St. John for loading on steamers. The cedar logs are cut into shingles, the clears and extras for the United States market, and the other grades for the provincial market. The laths and hemlock also go to the United States market.

He has two mills at Blackville, one cutting hemlock and the other spruce. Last year the cut was 5,000,000 feet each of spruce and hemlock, and about 3,000,000 feet of cedar.

Besides the cut of his own mill Mr. Gibson buys large quantities of lumber for shipment to the British market. His cut averages about 40,000,000 feet annually, while the amount of his shipments to the British market alone exceed 80,000,000 feet per year. Since he began operations on the Nashwaak he is said to have marketed fully a thousand million feet of lumber from his own mills there and at Blackville.

In the management of his extensive business, Mr. Gibson is ably assisted by his two sons, Mr. Alex. Gibson, junior, and Mr. James Gibson.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters are invited from our readers on matters of practical and timely interest to the lumber trades. To secure insertion all communications must be accompanied with name and address of writer, not necessarily for publication. The publisher will not hold himself responsible for opinions of correspondents.

NEW MARKETS FOR CANADIAN HARDWOODS.

TORONTO, Jan. 25th, 1896.

To the Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

DEAR SIR, I notice with pleasure that Mr. J. T. Schell, Alexandria, sets the ball rolling re. our export trade of hardwood lumber to Great Britain. He is quite right in his contention that the most of our hardwood goes as American, and is sold as such in the English market. Canada is not enough known in Europe, and the resources it has are known still less, and I think it the duty of either the Dominion or the Provincial governments to see that the buyers in that market are informed of the resources of Canada, and what can be got in this country.

If the government would appoint some practical man for a couple of years, and send him over there to point out to the consumers and buyers in the motherland what can be got here, and if necessary let him look after the interest of the shippers from here for the time being, you will find that it will make a marked difference in our export trade to England.

The Canadians have a very good reputation as to their straightforward and honest business methods, and the Americans are always looked upon as being too sharp. The preference will therefore be given to Canadians in nine cases out of ten.

I cannot see why we should allow the Americans to make a profit by exporting our lumber; surely we can attend to that ourselves, and keep the money in the country. I say Canada first in every instance.

Should any of our friends think of sending lumber over direct, let them beware of "sharks;" there are lots of them, especially in London. They will promise lots of things, but as a rule will end with the promise. I have proof of one instance where a lumberman sent over a carload of maple; the price realized was a good one, but the bill for expenses was still better. The amount received was \$593.61, the expenses \$578.95, which left the magnificent sum of \$14.66 for the shipper. Anyone desiring to get information about the items of this bill of expense can have them by applying to the editor.

If there was a representative of the government to look after the interests of our lumbermen, such glaring frauds could not occur.

Respectfully yours,
KAROLUS.

It is stated that in Cuba, on an area of some 50 square miles, there are in round numbers 2½ million banana trees. No less than \$3,500 persons and 26 steamers are engaged on the crop, which is said to pay better than cane.

OWEN SOUND STEAM SAW AND PLANING MILLS.

ONE of the most enterprising men of Owen Sound is Mr. John Harrison, the proprietor of the Owen Sound Steam Saw and Planing Mills, a view of which is presented on this page. There are manufactured at his mills all kinds of dressed and undressed lumber, sash, doors, frames, blinds, laths, mouldings, shingles, pickets and hollow battens, besides other special manufactures.

The premises comprise three buildings, one being a two-story brick, 83 x 53 ft., with engine room and drying kiln attached; one two-story brick store room, 60 x 33 ft.; one frame building 80 x 20 ft., and a frame saw mill 108 x 40 ft. The yard covers about fifteen acres, but the whole premises cover an area of thirty acres. The business has been in existence for forty-five years, and gives employment to thirty hands. The trade extends all over Canada, and considerable exporting is done as well. Mr. Harrison cuts about two million feet of lumber annually, but handles, all told, something like four times this amount. He has recently overhauled his dry kiln, and claims to have one of the best kilns in the country. Recently he took out twenty thousand feet of three inch pine that had been put in the kiln eight days previous, grim from the saw and partially covered with ice, and the plank was found to be dry and checked very little.

During this winter an addition to the mill has been erected, in which has been placed patented machinery for the manufacture of butchers' skewers, for which a ready market is being found. These skewers are made of hard maple, the machine being capable of turning out 20,000 per hour and of making six different sizes.

Mr. Harrison is an Englishman by birth, but has resided in Owen Sound for over forty-five years. He served in the council for several years,



OWEN SOUND STEAM SAW AND PLANING MILLS.

but of late has withdrawn from public life, devoting his spare time to his several large stock farms. He has done much towards the building up of Owen Sound, and is honored by all its inhabitants.

British Columbia logs go to New Whatcom, a tow of 300 miles, while logs cut there are hauled to Tacoma, 150 miles away. Strange condition of affairs!