

## Trade Notes.

**DUTTON.**—Mr. Daniel McKee, of Dutton, Elgin Co., Ont., has hardwood logs on hand equal to 400,000 feet for this season's cut.

**SIMCOE.**—Mr. A. McCall has two steam saw-mills in operation this season, and will cut about three million feet of pine and hardwood.

**IONA.**—Mr. Britton, Iona, County of Elgin, Ont., has leased his mill to Mr. McClaudross, who will cut about two million feet of hardwood this summer.

An exchange says:—Hall & Co's barges of Oglensburg have contracted to bring lumber to Oswego this season at 90c. a thousand, which is the same as they received last year.

**PORT DOVER.**—Mr. J. Jackson, of Simcoe, will raft about 7,500,000 of logs to Tonawanda from Port Dover. Mr. Wm. Tisdale, saw log contractor, Norrandale, will also raft 60,000 feet of pine and 60,000 feet of oak for Tonawanda.

**BUFFALO** parties have chartered three boats which will carry 1,750,000 feet of lumber each trip, and these boats will ply all the season between Pequaming, Mich., and Buffalo in the lumber trade. The charter is for \$3.87½ per 1,000 feet.

**LAKE ST. CLAIR.**—On the south side of Lake St. Clair, west of River Ruscon, and east to Stoney Point, there is now ready to be rafted for Detroit, about 3,000,000 feet of elm logs; 300,000 feet basswood logs; 100,000 feet white ash, besides a considerable quantity of square timber. The contractors are Messrs. Berry & Co., Moses W. Field, Salliot & Roup, and B. Hall.

At Saginaw lumber freights are expected to be much better than last season. There are 250,000,000 feet of lumber on the docks, a large proportion of which is sold to go forward, and should the season open late there will be a pressure for capacity to meet the requirements of the business. It is thought that freights will not open less than \$3.25 to Buffalo.—*Toledo Blade.*

**LAKE ERIE.**—Large quantities of saw logs and square timber are now in readiness at different points on Lake Erie to be rafted and shipped. Mr. S. Wigle, of Windsor, Ont., has taken out this winter, and has ready for shipment, 80,000 cubic feet of oak, about 4,000 feet of white wood, and 3,000 ties (equal to three vessel loads) from the County of Essex. In Michigan he has 50,000 feet of oak, and in Ohio 220,000 feet of oak, all to be shipped by vessel to Quebec and Europe. The Ohio oak will be shipped from Toledo.

The Montreal Gazette of April 2nd, says that Oscar Fulton, M.P., of the firm of Fulton & Wyatt, Avonmore, who is now in the city, we hear, has made sale to local manufacturers of 700,000 to 800,000 feet of basswood, black ash and soft elm on p.t. The current rates are, however, from \$10.50 to \$14.50 per thousand feet, f.o.b., at shipping point. Everything points to an extensive trade in lumber of all kinds during the coming season. Americans have been in the field making large purchases for some time past in the different lumbering regions of Canada as the requirements for the States this year it is said will largely exceed those of any former season.

The *Argus* comments as follows on the Albany market:—"We have not any change to note in the tone or the condition of the market for pine, hard, or coarse lumber. The shipments continue free, and the market is somewhat strengthened by the large quantity of lumber sold at Cambridge (Mass.) on Sunday last to the fire insurance companies. The market is more quiet than it was a week or ten days ago on account of the continued cold weather checking building operations, and thus keeping buyers out of market. The shipments of old and new sales are rapidly depleting our stocks, which will be at a very low figure before the canal will be opened for navigation; the opening this year, in consequence of the ungenial weather, will be later than usual, certainly not before May 1st, and it may be delayed to May 10th."

LUMBERMEN will be interested to learn that a new shanty cook-stove, manufactured by Adam Hall, Peterboro', is taking well wherever used.

## BUSH FIRES.

THEIR DANGER AND DESTRUCTIVENESS—A SUGGESTIVE SITUATION.

A Kingston correspondent, "Agricola," writes very sensibly to the *Globe* on the subject of bush fires. His sentiments are entertained by many others, and hence the interest which attaches to the publication of his letter. His remarks:

An examination of the files of any paper published in the Province for twenty-five years will show that except in years of extraordinary rainfall the particulars of disastrous bush fires during autumn are given with remarkable yearly regularity; that the same charges of "carelessness" and "negligence" are preferred to account for them; and that year in and year out the one opinion is expressed that something should be done to prevent them. Unless this opinion amounts to a deep-rooted conviction that the destruction of property involved is something enormous, which is really the case, and that something must be done to prevent further havoc, the regular occurrence of autumnal bush fires will but serve to illustrate the law that the direct calamities are endurable if men are accustomed to submit to them.

I estimate the destruction, total at that, of standing timber and fuel—pine, hemlock, cedar, oak, poplar, tamarack, beech, and maple—in the county of Frontenac by bush fires during the past twenty-five years, at 50,000 acres. If now standing this would be worth at least half a million of dollars, and converted into square timber, sawn lumber, bark, ties, and cordwood, would be worth \$1,500,000. Frontenac has not been specially visited, Hastings, Addington, North Leeds, Lanark and Renfrew, and more or less the whole of the Laurentian region, so far as settlement extends, have suffered equally in Frontenac. It is within the mark to put the loss to individuals throughout the province at \$12,500,000 during the past twenty-five years. I do not take into account the loss to the public from the destruction of timber on the Crown domain.

It is utterly useless to grapple with the causes of this calamity by calling on the Government to inspect, prosecute, fine or imprison. The remedy is the obvious application of the principle that the member of a community is entitled to the protection of his goods and person by that community. Where the means of protection, owing to the defective administration of the law, are inadequate, the community should satisfy the damage done to a member. For example: The township will not hire night-watches to prevent my sheep being worried by prowling dogs, and if I must hire a night-watch I shall have no profit in sheep farming. I cannot detect the prowlers, but if I have my remedy for the destruction of my sheep against the township it will be my neighbor's interest to see that his tax bill is not made heavier by the possession of a cur. As the law now stands it is no concern of mine—that is, it is not my interest to visit a fire on my neighbor's farm for the purpose of seeing that he uses due precaution to prevent its spread, unless I have reason to apprehend danger to my property. If that danger passes me unhurt it is not within the scope of my duty to visit the fire to see that there is no chance of danger to another, else in a newly settled district I might find full occupation as a watchman for the community to the neglect of my own affairs. But if the value of the timber on a few hundred acres destroyed by fire were assessed on the township and collected from the ratepayers, there would soon be organized Vigilance Committees of the most efficient kind. There is another direction in which such a method would be useful. The fires caused by cinders from passing locomotives are known to be frequent. If my stables are burnt, and fires run into my wood lot, it will pay me better to submit to the loss than to engage in a lawsuit with a wealthy corporation, who, not content with injuring me to the extent of \$50 or \$100 by their neglect to put bonnets on the smoke stacks and to erect wire fences, would drag me to the Supreme Court before they would "give in," and probably take away my farm from me to satisfy their bill of costs. The municipalities could better take up a case of this kind than a private person.

Unless rural communities are incited to action in the way pointed out, just as the inhabitants

of the English hundreds were made to see it was their interest to raise a hue and cry against a thief rather than bear a tax for his robbery, it is idle to hope for anything else than the permanent institution of autumnal bush fires.

## Freights from Ottawa.

A recent dispatch from Ottawa says that the coming season of navigation, so far as rates are concerned, promises to be for the boat-owners the best which this section of country has seen for years, and forwarders are in correspondingly good spirit. The contracts already made are at good rates and the prospects is that the men not now employed will have all they can do at prices equally good if not better. At the present date it is not possible to tell in many cases what the opening of the season may bring, several transactions being now pending, which may change individual bargains. The carrying capacity of the various forwarders has been considerably enlarged, but the freight to be carried has increased in greater proportions, so that they virtually have matters in their own hands. If they do not become too greedy they will find all they can do as long as the season lasts. There can be no denial of the fact that boating this season promises, to those who understand the work, to be as great a bonanza as it used to be some 10 or 14 years ago. Several contracts have already been made for large shipments between this port and Quebec, New York, White Hall and Burlington. Murphy & Co. have closed for the transportation of a million and a quarter feet.

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Am also Agent for the best makes of AMERICAN COTTON DUCKS in all widths.

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THE RUSSELL HOUSE being central, almost abutting on the magnificent PARLIAMENT and DEPARTMENTAL BUILDINGS—the pride of the Country—is thus conveniently situated for those visiting the City on public business. But the location is also everything that could be desired alike for the man of business and the man of pleasure. A few minutes walk brings the guest of the Hotel within reach, not only of all the principal business resorts, but also of the most splendid Mountain and Valley Scenery that can be seen anywhere, as also of the two almost unrivalled Waterfalls, the Chaudiere and Rideau—and of the extensive Manufacturing Establishments and Depots of the leading Lumbermen. But, besides the beautiful scenery, which, it may be mentioned, includes the magnificent Ottawa and two of its grand tributaries—the Rideau and Gatineau—there are in the immediate neighborhood, beautiful lakes and apparently never-ending woods, which afford opportunities for the finest Fishing and Shooting that can be obtained on the Continent.

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