

**SEEDLING TREES.**

Prices of forest-tree seedlings are such as to place them within reach of the very poorest. In fact, as the great bulk planted are of spontaneous origin, they are to be had for mere gathering, in regions where found. When trafficked in, prices range, owing to variety and size, from six inches to four feet, all along from 50 cents to \$3 per thousand. Nursery-grown grades range higher. Many millions are now planted annually. The cost of planting depends much on circumstances, price of land, labor, varieties planted, skill in planting and many other minor details. Cottonwood seedling can be furnished in quantity, from 50 cents to a \$1 per thousand; box elder and soft maple from \$1 to \$2, and oaks, ash, walnut, hickory, catalpa and chestnut from \$5 to \$10. The usual distance apart are by multiples 4-8 12-16, etc., that intermediate ground may be utilized by being cultivated in other crops until trees are sufficient size to protect themselves, when, in farm parlance, they are permitted to "take the ground."

Most experimenters at first planted tree seeds where they were to remain permanently. Experience has shown this a mistake, for numerous reasons. Principally by this mode uneven stand, growth, grade, size and vigor are to contend with. By planting seeds first in beds and, say at one year's growth, assorting, grading and transplanting permanently, each grade to itself, better results are secured. Same grades as to size and vigor do better together; grow more evenly; the weak are not crowded out or overshadowed by the stronger,—a practical illustration of "survival of the fittest."

By this plan small plants, if healthy, do about as well in the end as large. No variety is known not readily transplanting at one year old. Even varieties of top root characteristics, oaks, walnuts, hickories and chestnuts are really better, I am convinced, for tap root pruning. By it laterals or fibrous feeding roots are induced. Or if larger sizes are desired before transplanting, root-pruning, by running a tree-digger under the rows and allowing them to remain a year or two longer, good results are obtained. As a rule, however, better success is had by transplanting young trees, when near as possible all the roots are preserved. Small trees cost less to purchase, transport, handle and transplant. Alternating—especially certain varieties—has not given satisfaction. Trees in some respects are not unlike mankind—will not fraternize. For instance, oaks, walnuts and hickories will not fraternize with maples, cottonwoods and elms. When planted near each other, the latter will invariably lean away from the former, assuming a crooked, gnarly appearance, and in the end virtually die out.—*Lumber Trade Journal*.

**INTERESTING CASE.**

The Assize Court at Ottawa has to-day been occupied with a case having a close interest for shippers, that of the Canadian Pacific Railway vs. Allen Grant, to recover \$2,700 for carrying lumber from Mattawa to Quebec. The defendant refused to pay on the ground that he contracted for the delivery of the timber last fall in time to sell in the fall market, and that through the scarcity of rolling stock the timber was not delivered for several months after the contract time had expired. He therefore puts in an offset of \$60,000 damages. Judge Armour, in giving judgment, declared that the claim for freight should only have been \$2,100, and allowed defendant an offset of \$1,400 for losses sustained by defendant's men having to remain idle through scarcity of cars. The question of losses sustained in the sale of timber was reserved for the consideration of the Court of Appeal.

**TIMBER LAND FRAUD.**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—The commissioner of the general land office said to-day, in reply to enquiries with regard to timber land frauds discovered in California: "I have had a knowledge of these operations for some time, and have had agents out there making investigations. In consequence of reports received from them, I have suspended action upon all timber land cases in California, Oregon and Washington territory, and persons interested are not getting any patents and

they will not get any until I am fully satisfied of the honesty of their entries. In explanation of the nature of the illegal operations, Commissioner McFarland said Congress by special act provided for the sale to individuals of separate tracts of timber land in California, Oregon and Washington Territory at \$3.50 per acre. Fraud in those cases consisted in the procurement by one person of a large number of such lands, through the co-operation of others who purchased them, only to transfer them to him in clear violation of the spirit of the law. Commissioner McFarland also says that frauds of a similar character have been discovered in connection with entries of coal lands in Colorado; that he now had a force of special agents at work there, and he intended to examine carefully every entry of such land. Land officers in Colorado have been directed to suspend action in coal land entries, until the results of the examination becomes known.

**Prospects in the States.**

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—A glance at some salient points in existing circumstances will make this assumption appear plain. At Saginaw there is a stagnation in sales and shipment that is unwonted for that great source of supply. This is attributed to a lack of choice lumber and an accumulation of coarse stock. Probably this is the correct conclusion to some extent, for we find that the Lake Superior country is sending a great deal of lumber to the East, while more than the usual amount is going from northern Lake Michigan ports and some from Green Bay. Yet the condition of affairs at Albany, New York, Connecticut points and other New England places of consumption must be taken into account as an index of the dullness at Saginaw Valley, as well as the situation in Ohio. At the East trade has been very cautious all the season, and the discretion of handlers seems to increase this fall rather than diminish. Albany reports indicate nothing like a brisk demand. Steadiness, and an ordinary attendance of buyers is the best report that can be given. At great points of consumption, like New York, there is little urgency to business, dealers having only to meet a steady call, and buying simply for that purpose. The demand can almost be termed moderate.

**Mill Refuse.**

The Wausau, Wis., correspondent of the *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—The disposal of refuse is becoming something of a question. There is so much timber that the slabs, edgings and trimmings are of little account. They are used to fill in and make piling ground, and can be had to burn for the asking. The mill men have gone to no special pains about burning the refuse. It has been dumped from tramways on to the ground, or against the sides of brick walls, and burned without ceremony. The first burner to be put in was that of the Michigan Lumber Company, rather recently built. It is of iron, 35 feet in diameter and 78 feet high. The first glance would lead to the impression that it was entirely safe, for the smoke floats through the dome of netting that surmounts the burner, entirely free from sparks. The secret of this is that in order to be safe the company placed a second spark arrester directly across the top of the burner, which cannot be seen from the ground. The dome is of one-half-inch mesh, and the inside netting has a quarter-inch mesh. It has worked entirely satisfactorily.

**Setting out Fires.**

There is a law in Washington Territory against the careless or malicious setting of fires in field, on prairie or in forest, either on one's own land or the land of another. If anybody sets a fire on any land not his own, and it spreads and does damage, the penalty is a fine of \$5 to \$500. If maliciously any one kindles a fire on his own land with the object of having it spread to the land of another and do damage, the penalty is a fine of \$20 to \$1,000 and imprisonment for from 3 to 12 months. When a person wishes to kindle a fire on his own land, for the purpose of clearing it of logs, brush, or otherwise, he "shall do so at such time and in such manner, and shall take such care of it to prevent it from spreading and doing damage to

other persons' property, as a prudent and careful man would do, and if he fall so to do he shall be liable in action to any person suffering damage thereby to full extent of such damage." Hunters and fishers are liable to the penalties inflicted on others for carelessness with fire. Is it possible that the citizens of a territory are wiser regarding the protection of their timber from fire than the "old heads" of the three great pine states of the Northwest?—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

**QUEBEC CULLERS' OFFICE.**

The following is a comparative statement of Timber, Mast, Bowspits, Spars, Staves, &c. measured and culled to Sept. 31:—

	1881.	1882.	1883.
Waney White Pine.....	1,007,810	2,135,250	2,270,002
White Pine.....	4,827,905	7,023,350	4,097,208
Red Pine.....	1,702,604	1,323,803	352,007
Oak.....	2,400,731	1,015,625	1,423,630
Elm.....	935,013	570,470	302,620
Ash.....	377,615	213,518	222,108
Basewood.....	3,510	1,273	2,244
Butternut.....	2,030	2,635	1,028
Tamarac.....	24,237	8,234	5,036
Birch & Maple.....	140,828	203,812	133,760
Masts.....	25 pcs	33 pcs	— pcs
Spars.....	— pcs	51 pcs	— pcs
Std. Staves.....	\$177.0.7	\$16.0.3.25	\$69.5.2.10
W. I. Staves.....	\$32.1.3.2	\$104.0.0.10	\$49.1.2.0
Bri. Staves.....	—	\$2.8.1.17	\$7.1.1.27

JAMES PATTON,  
Supervisor of Cullers.  
Quebec, Sept. 21.

**Rat Portage.**

A correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* says:—Rat Portage is the seat of an extensive lumber trade. The splendid mill of the Rainy Lake Lumber Company was unfortunately burned down a few weeks ago. Jarvis & Burrige have a large saw mill, not yet ready to begin cutting. There are three other large saw mills in the immediate vicinity of Rat Portage. Only about a mile west of the town is the steam mill of Bulmer, Bailey & Co., with a cutting capacity of 80,000 feet per day. A little farther on is Hunter & Co's mill, rated at 100,000 feet per day; Dick & Banning's mill, with a capacity of 50,000 feet per day; and the Keowatin mills, under the managing directorship of D. L. Mather, having a cutting capacity of 75,000 feet per day.

**Trees for Prairies.**

Mr. Eggleston gives the following as the order of preference as to successful growth of trees grown in Minnesota: First, cottonwood; 2nd, white willow; 3rd, soft maple; 4th, box elder; 5th, white ash; 6th, poplar; 7th, black walnut; 8th, white elm; 9th, butternut; 10th, white oak; 11th, black ash; 12th, hard maple; 13th, Norway pine; 14th, red oak and grey willow; 15th, basswood; 16th, red elm. For value for different purposes the order is as follows: For fuel in the near future, or wind breaks—willows, cottonwood and poplar; for fuel for next generation—maples and ash; for lumber—white oak, walnut, catalpa, ash, elm; for shade—box elder, white elm, ash, walnut, maple.

**"Deal."**

Readers of technical journals are often puzzled by the use made of the word "deal" by nearly all foreign publications, and some home ones. As generally used it means simply a piece of softwood lumber; but the strict definition of the word, as understood by the English timber merchant, is, softwood timber, imported and sawn to the section of 9x3 inches, or 8x4 inches, or 10x4 inches. Similarly "planks" are 12x3 inches or 12x4 inches, and "battens" 7x2½ inches, or 7x3 inches, all irrespective of length, which varies considerably, and of the country port they come from.—*Wood-Worker*.

**Mills Burned.**

NEW YORK, 21.—A fire early this morning in the planing mill of Robert Ellis swept through the building with such speed that the workmen were compelled to flee, leaving their coats behind. In less than five minutes the entire mill was in flames. Fifty lumber piles were burned or damaged. G. L. Schuyler & Co. estimate their loss on the lumber at \$70,000; Ellis' loss on the planing mill is \$15,000.  
ROCHESTER, 21.—Crouch's sawmill was burned to-night. Loss \$30,000.

**OTTAWA NOTES.**

There are at present a gang of men busily engaged in fishing oak out of the canal in the vicinity of the Deep Cut. The foreman told a reporter that the oak which they got was worth from sixty to seventy dollars per thousand feet, which is quite an inducement for those fishers of oak.

McLaren's New Edinburgh saw mill is about to be demolished and a new mill erected on the site at a cost of \$35,000. The new structure will not, it is thought, be commenced until after the sawing season has closed.

Mr. H. McLean on Sept. 23rd sent a gang of 200 men to the Coulongo to work in the shanties. Another gang of shanty hands left on the same day for Michigan.

The last raft of square timber of the season has passed through the Calumet slides.

**Gigantic Land Fraud.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 12.—A proposed gigantic land steal, involving several million dollars worth of United States redeemed timber lands, has been discovered. The lands are situated in the northern part of California, and comprised the most valuable redwood timber on the coast. Applications for possession were signed by dummies. Several hundred applications of this kind have been filed with the Government officials here, and it is alleged Government officials are in collusion with the parties engineering the scheme.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—A proposed gigantic land steal, involving several million dollars worth of United States redeemed timber lands, has just been brought to light. The lands which are situated in the northern part of California, comprise the most valuable timber lands on the coast. Applications for possession have been prepared and signed by dummies. Hundreds of these have been filed with Government authorities, and it is believed that the Government officials are acting in collusion with the parties engineering the scheme. If these schemes should succeed they will control one-sixth of the lumber supply of the state.

**Advice to Mothers.**

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. I cure dysentery and diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle.

**\$72** A week made at home by the industrious. Best business now before the public. Capital not needed. We will start you. Men, women, boys and girls wanted everywhere to work for us. Now is the time. You can work in spare time, or give your whole time to the business. No other business will pay you nearly as well. No one can fail to make enormous pay, by engaging at once. Costly outfit and terms free. Money made fast, easily and honorably. Address TRUX & Co., Augusta, Maine.

THE GREAT CANADIAN PAPER WEEKLY MAIL. It has the Largest Circulation; the Latest News, both Local and Foreign. A Splendid Story Page. First-class Agricultural Page. Reliable Market Reports. Legal Column Household Department, Children's Department, etc.

THE MAIL is the great medium for advertisements of ARMS FOR SALE.

Agents Wanted ADDRESS THE MAIL Toronto, - Canada.

ONE DOLLAR YEAR THE MAIL TORONTO CANADA