

## MIRAMICHI, N. B.

Mr. J. B. Snowball's wood trade circular issued from Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., for the year 1883, says:—

As forecasted in my last annual report, the winter of 1882-83 proved most favorable for logging operations, and a much larger cut was procured than usual for the force employed. The Spring, however, proved excessively hard for getting the logs to the booms and, on that account, the stock arrived in the market at a cost equal to that of previous years.

Several bank agencies were opened last year in the lumber districts, which, being anxious to procure business, made heavy advances to operators who had previously looked solely to the shippers and mill owners for support, and the latter lost control of the production. The business being a new one to these institutions they appeared not to have considered the amount of capital required to carry it through the long time necessary to realize on such stock. Becoming alarmed they closed most of the accounts and forced their clients to sell, and many thousands of standards of this stock were thus forced on the European markets that did not bring, in many cases, half of first cost.

On account of the heavy losses sustained and general depression existing in business, operators were a month later than usual going to work this season, and their operations are on a small scale compared with previous years. The total cut is estimated at 70,000,000 super. feet, against 145,000,000 super. feet last year, and against an average of 133,000,000 super. feet for the past five years. This reduction in the season's output will apply generally to the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Freights from this port were comparatively steady during the season, ranging from 60s. to 70s., the latter rate being obtained towards its close.

I have again added the export of the Province of Nova Scotia to my annual circular, finding it necessary for a correct estimate of the Lower Ports business.

The stock of round and sawn woods being wintered is estimated at 40 million super. feet, against 45 millions last year and 70 millions in 1879.

The shipments for the past four years were as follows:—

1880.....	155 Millions superficial feet.
1881.....	123 " " "
1882.....	117 " " "
1883.....	140 " " "

The total lumber shipments of New Brunswick in 1883, as compared with 1882, were as follows:—

## ENGLISH YARDED STOCKS.

The *Timber Trade Journal* says:—With regard to the yarded stocks for the respective years 1882 and 1883, we have the dock list before us, made up to the last day of the old year, to study, and find it yielding just such a result as we had led our readers to anticipate; showing on deals a shortage of only some 83,000 pieces or so, and battens about 500,000 pieces, stocks of oads being about balanced. Altogether there is a shortage on Baltic stocks of the descriptions mentioned of something like 6,000 standards, which is, after all, a trifle to a great port like London.

Yellow pine stocks show very little difference between those of the past and the previous year, the preponderance being met, on batten sizes and ends. The comparison runs thus:—Deals, more in stock by 63,000 pieces; battens 44,133 pieces ditto, and oads, some 500 pieces altogether there are a thousand standards or so, more of those goods now in the docks than there were a year ago. This is a mere bagatelle, recollecting that in 1882 there was a very light importation in pine. Spruce stocks this year are now some 143,000 pieces more than they were last year, but even this is not much to influence values, if the demand is anything like an improving scale. It must not be forgotten that in American goods London supplies a large outlying district in addition to its own consumption, so that the stocks with anything like a fair demand are likely to work off before the fresh goods arrive in the summer.

Flooring stocks show a difference in favor of 1883 of some 400,000 pieces, equal to about 1,200 standards. Whether values can recover in the face of these large stocks depends on the turn of activity the demand will take when the season has thoroughly begun. According to those best able to judge, a very quiet time is anticipated, though if the reports as to the stocks at the shipping places being moderate are correct, some improvement in the prices of this description is more than probable.

Of pitch pine planks there are nearly three times the quantity now in stock than there was this time twelve months, which does not look encouraging for holders, for the reason that timber of this description in the ponds is also considerably heavier in stock than it was at the end of 1882.

Against this we have the prognosticated shortage at the Gulf of Florida ports to comfort us, with the growing demand for the article both here and on the American side to prevent prices sinking to any alarming extent.

While treating of floated timber we may

mention that east country timber (Danzig, Memel, Stettin, &c.) is some 3,000 to 4,000 loads in excess of that of 1882; present stocks of yellow pine timber are, however, about equal to those of the year named.

On the whole, however, of the soft woods in log, the stocks now in hand are heavier than they were a year since, which seems to point to a stationary market, and some stimulus to the demand will have to arise to advance prices.

## LIST OF PATENTS.

The following list of patents upon improvements in wood-working machinery, granted by the United States Patent Office, Jan. 23, 1884, is specially reported to the CANADA LUMBERMAN by Franklin H. Hough, solicitor of American and foreign patents, No. 617 Seventh St., N. W., Washington, D. C.:

Barrel finishing machine.—R. O. Dubbin, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.  
Barrel-making machine.—S. Wright, Egmont, County of Chester, England.  
Bit and drill brace.—J. D. Richardson, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Chuck for holding fittings.—S. P. M. Tasker, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Felly planing machine.—S. T. Kennan, Monasha, Wis.  
Match-making machine.—C. J. & J. M. Donnelly, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Polishing machine.—J. Pierron, Elizabethport, N. J.  
Saw-frame rod.—J. M. Koerberle, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Saw-set.—J. S. Long, Murphysborough, Ill.  
Saw-tooth.—A. Kriegen, Columbus, Ohio.  
Saws, (hanging circular).—W. D. Sherman, Grand Haven, Mich.  
Sawers-gaguo.—G. S. Black, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Tool-handle.—C. L. Bellamy, Arlington, N. J.  
Wood-splitting machine.—A. Fuchs, Canstadt, Wurtemberg, Germany.

## A Gigantic Building.

Some facts concerning the Produce Exchange building, now being erected in New York, will be of interest, says a contemporary. The foundation is built upon 15,034 piles; there are 109,796 feet of yellow pine capping timber, 17,530 square feet of base stone, and 64,732 square feet of building stone. The building fronts 307 feet on Broadway and Whitehall street, 159 feet on Stone street, 150 feet on Beaver street, and 300 feet on New street. The tower at the southeast corner of the building is 48 feet square; the height of main building from side walk to base of tower 120 feet; height from side walk to top of tower, 225 feet; and height from side walk to top of flag-pole, 396 feet. The size of the main room of the building is 220 by 145 feet, and the height 47½ feet. The number of square feet of foundation of the main building is 44,764. of the tower 2,725 feet, and terrace 4,128 feet, making a total of 51,607 square feet. The building and land will have cost \$3,000,000 when completed.

## Free Lumber.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—There is little doubt that the House will abolish the duty on lumber. Representative Stocklayer, of Indiana, said to a reporter last night; "I am very much interested in it myself and have found that there is a strong feeling in favor of free lumber in every State but Michigan and Wisconsin and they are not solid against it by any means. The farmers of the central States where there is much timber wish free lumber. They want their forests protected by admitting Canadian lumber free of duty."

THE Canadian Manufacturer says:—Various kinds of timber that used to be considered of no value except for burning now find a ready market for various manufacturing purposes. The *Dutton Enterprise* says that there is such a demand there for elm and basswood cut into posts and delivered there by the railway track. An immense quantity of such timber is still standing in the counties of Lambton, Kent, and Essex, in the western part of the Ontario peninsula.

## Just So.

The *Wood-Worker* aptly remarks:—"In this day the manufacturer who persistently sticks to old business ways, and older tools and machinery, need expect little sympathy if he finds himself forced to the wall through unsuccessful competition with more enterprising neighbors. This is decidedly the age of improvements, and the man who does not keep up with the procession, like the woman who hesitates, is lost. There are some tools and some machines that will always be standard, but they are not usually the ones that make or lose the money. The model manufacturer of to-day has the latest improved and very best machinery, has good workmen to operate it, and looks closely after the minor details of his business. The 'little foxes spoil the vines,' and the little leaks spoil the balance sheet. All this does not imply that a man is to buy every machine that is brought out; but it does not mean that old-styled, poor-working and badly constructed tools are very liable to bring about a financial catastrophe."

## Woodmen in the States.

Woodmen from Canada have met with much disappointment in the states this season. Formerly all they had to do to obtain higher wages than they could get at home was to cross the line. Now it is different. The low wages paid by the operators this winter would be a magnificent argument for the tariff men had the duty on lumber been removed before the decline. Tariff or no tariff the managers of logging jobs, as well as others, will hire men for as little money as they can. Men this winter are plentiful—the supply exceeds the demand—which accounts for the difference in the price of labor this year and last. There are some men in the woods who are working for their board; many others receive from \$14 to \$15 per month. We hear of several Canadians who failed to obtain work and returned home. The rush to the woods shows that more men are out of employment this winter than usually at this time of the year.—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

## Sumac Leaves.

According to a Baltimore paper the sumac business at Petersburg, Va., which but a few years ago was in its infancy, has reached large proportions, and become an important industry. The receipts of leaves this year will aggregate over 7,000,000 pounds. Three large factories are kept in constant operation, and their products find ready sale. The Virginia sumac is said to be the best in the market, and has latterly largely superseded the foreign article. Hundreds of people make their living in the summer and early fall seasons by gathering leaves for hundreds of miles around the country contributing to the Petersburg market.

## Maine Lumber Industry

On the various waters of this state, last winter, there were cut 532,607,107 feet of lumber. The Penobscot is the greatest source of supply, there having been cut on that river and its branches 140,285,000 feet, or more than one-fourth of the whole. The next greatest cut was made upon the Kennebec—128,572,000 feet. On the other rivers as follows:—St. John, in Maine, 68,365,000; Saint Croix, in Maine, 40,500,197; Androscoggin, in Maine, 29,000,000; Saco, 20,000,000; Narragansett, 11,085,000; Machias, 27,000,000; Union, 25,300,000; Dennys, 2,500,000; other waters, 26,000,000.—*Bangor Whip*.

## Devastation in England.

Accounts of the severe gales that swept over the British Isles during the last week in January tell a tale of great destruction. It is said that in the neighborhood of Ayr, within a radius of some 10 miles, 200,000 trees were blown down.

## On Thirty Days Trial.

The Volta Belt Co., Marshall, Mich., will send Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belts and Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days to men (young or old) who are afflicted with nervous debility, lost vitality and kindred troubles, guaranteeing speedy and complete restoration of health and mental vigor. Address as above.—N. B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

## NEW BRUNSWICK SHIPMENTS, 1883.

Ports.	1882				1883			
	No. Vls.	Tons.	Sup. feet	Tons timber.	No. Vls.	Tons.	Sup. feet	Tons timber.
Miramichi.....	235	135,123	117,000,035	2,714	279	172,393	143,994,300	3,810
St. John.....	208	210,537	193,769,100	10,700	270	205,311	181,617,932	15,661
Halifax.....	33	20,242	17,816,784	.....	53	27,483	24,414,055	120
Halifax.....	38	20,867	18,652,568	4,011	44	20,538	18,720,737	7,831
Chatham.....	35	16,455	13,829,050	.....	49	23,425	21,090,150	.....
Chatham.....	31	13,149	11,878,000	5	21	10,255	9,040,000	.....
Chatham.....	7	3,557	3,312,804	230	11	5,180	4,241,363	40
Chatham.....	10	3,932	3,108,559	.....	26	6,400	3,445,000	.....
Totals.....	658	422,912	376,824,593	17,668	753	477,290	411,470,448	27,018

## NOVA SCOTIA SHIPMENTS, 1883.

Ports.	No. of Vls.	Tonnage.	Sf. deals, etc.	Birch Timber.	Process Palings.	Miscellaneous.
Annapolis.....	2	1,597	680,000	.....	3,000	.....
Amherst, including Pugwash, Tignish and Northport.....	34	18,121	13,024,000	.....	.....	600 masts and spars.
Guyborough.....	20	8,100	0,171,000	.....	2,737	9,000
Halifax, including Margaret Bay, Sheet Harbor and Ship Harbor.....	75	41,380	33,549,000	1,769	23,000	.....
Liscomb.....	17	6,461	5,244,000	.....	.....	.....
Paraboro.....	22	10,386	17,822,000	.....	.....	.....
Pictou including Tetamagouche.....	6	2,994	543,000	1,630	.....	.....
Port Mowbray.....	1	601	489,000	.....	.....	.....
Yarmouth.....	2	816	820,000	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	179	99,422	77,918,000	6,176	32,000	.....

Against 85,762,900 sup. ft. from Nova Scotia in 1882.

## BOSTON LUMBER INSPECTION.

The figures given by the Surveyor-General of the amount of lumber imported in 1882 and 1883 are as follows:—

White pine boards and plank, Eastern and Canada.....	18,013,224	11,834,520
White pine timber and joist, Canada.....	600,000	10,062,183
Yellow pine boards.....	7,490,222	7,277,239
Yellow pine timber.....	16,133,437	24,635,939
Spruce boards and timber.....	44,621,824	4,633,374
Timber boards.....	6,397,656	8,094,053
Whitewood (poplar).....	5,044,640	12,394,710
Walnut, ash, oak and cherry.....	20,161,463	67,172,532
Total.....	119,007,121	.....