

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.

PROSPECTS FOR CANADIAN LUMBER IN SOUTH AFRICA.

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, July 1st, 1896.

To the Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

SIR:—I have received from your office the February and April numbers of your valuable journal, which have afforded me very interesting reading. I can assure you it would be in the interest of the Canadian lumber trade in particular and commerce in general if your journal were more widely circulated in Great Britain and the colonies. I have often wondered why it is that Canada, with its boundless resources, is content to remain so poorly advertised—in fact not advertised at all, for although I have done all that lay in my power since I took up my residence in South Africa to let it be known that the great Dominion is in existence, the fact is that in matters of commerce I found her almost unknown apart from the United States.

I have now succeeded to some extent by writing to the press and otherwise in letting it be known that similar lumber as that heretofore brought from the United States can be brought from Canada, and so also in regard to the hundreds of different manufactures which find their way here almost weekly from New York.

It may interest some of your readers and advertisers to be informed that three steamers arrive here monthly from New York direct. It would benefit us, however, and Canadian trade as well would be advanced if there was a direct line of transportation between Montreal and Cape Town.

In regard to the extension of the Canadian lumber trade, I have read with pleasure and approval the observations of your journal and its correspondents, and I have no hesitation in saying that the lumbermen, or the Dominion or Ontario Governments, or all combined for that matter, should appoint a suitable person in each market to look into and report to them on the conditions of trade. Samples of all woods should be supplied such persons and an effort put forth toward the extension of foreign relations.

I can in this letter only write generally as to the trade in this colony, and in order to get an insight into the trade of the Transvaal Republic, the Orange Free State and Natal, which take large quantities of lumber, it would be necessary to visit those sections of South Africa and East London and Delagoa Bay in particular. The total imports of unmanufactured and planed and grooved wood into this colony during the year 1895 amounted to \$1,475,369.64, and of this amount pine is represented by the sum of \$721,258.02, staves by \$48,322.98, and hardwoods grown in Canada by the sum of \$28,625.40. The consumption of hardwoods in this colony for this and succeeding years will largely increase, as the furniture and other industries requiring them are fast developing.

By a return which I have before me I notice that the total exports of lumber of all kinds from Canada to British South Africa during the fiscal year 1894-'95 amounted to the sum of \$29,263, so that there appears to be room for extension of trade in this direction. No mention is made of a single stave having found its way here direct from Canada. I might also state that during the fiscal year mentioned, doors, sashes and blinds to the value of \$6,050, came here from Canada, which is a very small fractional part of the value of those items brought from the United States.

There is always a good market here for spruce deals and scantling of good quality, and pine, and the conditions keep getting better. Good stock is essential and good prices are paid, and occasional cargoes could be supplemented by quantities of red pine and elm logs, ash and oak logs and planks, cheap pine boards for roofing, and clear—strictly clear and planed pine, qualities guaranteed, and to be shipped on the certificate of one of the supervisors of cullers that the cargo is in good order, with draft against documents.

Our customers here will take consignments of Canadian lumber (and other products and manufactures either by steamer from New York or sailing vessel from Canadian ports) and will send along letters of credit and directions as to how to draw, and I take this opportunity of bringing

the matter to the attention of the Canadian mill-owner and dealer. Intending exporters are invited to correspond and send form of invoice of goods which they are able to supply. I might add that in deals 16 feet is the average length for this market.

The CANADA LUMBERMAN is much appreciated by the trade here.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, in anticipation of being allowed so much space in which only partially to express my views on a subject of so great importance.

Yours truly,

THOMAS MOFFAT.

TWO COLLINGWOOD PLANING MILLS.

AMONG the industries of the town of Collingwood, Ont., are two of the best equipped and most prosperous planing mills to be found in Ontario. With its two railroads and two lines of palatial steamers, that town possesses the best of facilities for reaching distant markets, affording means for quick transportation, which accounts to some extent for the success of many of its industries. The two planing mills referred to are those of the Bryan Mfg. Co. and Wilson Bros., both of which manufacture builders' supplies, sashes, doors, mouldings, dressed lumber, mantels, counters, etc., besides carrying on a general contracting business. Their goods are shipped to all parts of Canada, although the chief trade, of course, is done in Ontario. By the two industries about 100 men are given constant employment.

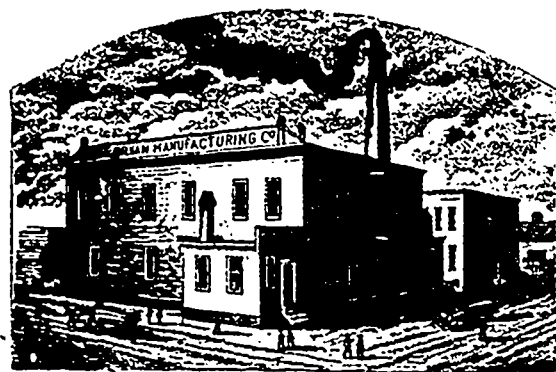
THE BRYAN MFG. COMPANY

is composed of young men of energy and progressiveness. These qualities have enabled them to build up an extensive trade, and many of the best residences in the town have been supplied by this company. They make a specialty of office, school and church work and bank fixtures, and also manufacture boxes. Their present factory was erected in 1892, is 56x80 feet in size, and two storeys high, with boiler and engine rooms of 18x34 ft. and 16x36 ft. respectively. The office is in front and is nicely finished in hardwood.

The ground floor is taken up with a planer and matcher, surface planer, resaw, rip-saw, sticker, two cut-off saws, swing saw, band saw, box matcher, lathe, and an emery grinder. On the top floor is a mortiser, tenoning machine, sticker, band saw, shaper, buzz planer, pony planer, borer, cut-off saw, rip-saw, sand-paperer, door cramp, and a sash dove-tailer.

Exhaust fans, operated by a Sturtevant blower, draw the shavings from the machines to the boiler. The blower is also used for the dry kiln, 20x36 ft. Exhaust and live steam heats the building, which is lighted by electricity.

In the engine room is a 50 h.p. engine built by the A. R. Williams Machinery Co., supplied by a 65 h.p. boiler



of the same manufacture. A heater and a Northey feed pump are also in use.

Besides a large yard there are three store houses, one for mouldings, 24x50 ft.; one for boxes and box shooks, 15x40 ft.; and the other for flooring and siding, 20x40 ft., with two floors.

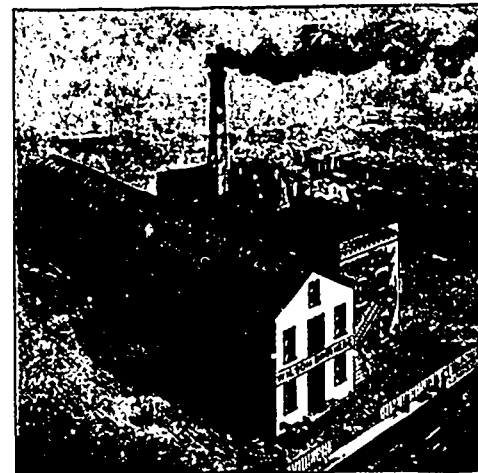
Nearly all the machinery was manufactured by McGregor, Gourlay & Co. and the Goldie & McCulloch Co., of Galt.

WILSON BROS.

have been established in business for a somewhat longer period. Starting in a small way a number of years ago, indomitable pluck and strict attention to business has secured for them an extensive connection. A specialty is made of the better class of interior hardwood finish. Their works consist of two buildings, the front one on Hurontario street being 110x30 ft., two storeys, with a side

annex, 66x14 ft., containing the boiler and engine room, with dry kiln and office above. The rear building is 40x56 ft. and three storeys high.

In the front building on the ground floor is all the heavy machinery similar to the Bryan Mfg. Co. Above is the sash, door and blind machinery in full complement. The office of this company is neatly finished, and protected by fireproof doors. The dry kiln is 12x33 ft. A first-class engine and boiler supply the power. The rear building lately erected has a drive-way on the ground floor, where the matched and planed lumber is stored. The second floor is used for the fine work, such as finishing, panels,



mantels, stair railings, etc. The top floor is taken up as a store room.

The premises are heated by exhaust steam and lighted by electricity. The machinery therein is from the Galt firms of Cowan & Co., McGregor, Gourlay & Co., and The Goldie & McCulloch Company. Complete fire protection is afforded by hydrants in the yard and hose throughout the buildings.

THE PARAGON OF EXHIBITIONS.

THE major part of the entries having now been made for Toronto's big exhibition, which is to be held from August 31st to September 12th, it is possible to state definitely that the scale of the exhibition will really be greater than ever. Never before did exhibits cover such a wide range as they will this year. It almost looks as if every province had striven to do its best to make the exhibition worthy of the country. At the forthcoming exhibition in Toronto there will be seen food products of Prince Edward Island; food products, manufactures, fruit and live stock, of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; an extensive display of horses and cattle, manufactures and minerals, from Quebec; the products of forests, waters, mines, gardens, farms, studs, workshops and art studios of Ontario; the grain, minerals and horses of Manitoba; the grain and minerals of the North-West; and cereals, fish and minerals of British Columbia. The governments of Ontario, the Dominion and British Columbia will make special exhibits of the wealth of the earth, while the Canadian Pacific Railway will supplement these displays by showing cereals, vegetables and minerals from many points on their lines, to the extent of double what the company has shown in other years. In art especially will the exhibition be strong, with the three pictures painted by F. M. Bell-Smith, illustrating incidents connected with the death of Sir John Thompson, at Windsor Castle, for one of which pictures Her Majesty the Queen, Princess Beatrice and members of the Royal household gave special sittings. There will be Edison's wonderful Eidoloscope, an electric theatre; Ontario Trotting Horse Breeders' stake races; Lockhart's performing elephants; the magnificent historical spectacle, entitled the "Feast of Nations" and commemorating the "Taking of the Bastille," and a thousand and one other things; while in consideration of the cattle being on show the first week the railways have agreed to grant one fare for the round trip for the entire exhibition from all points in Canada, and to run a special cheap excursion the first week, on Sept. 3rd, and two the second week.

It is reported that Messrs. Cant Bros. & Co. have completed arrangements for the removal of their works from Galt to Lancaster, N. Y.