

mainland of Lake Superior are rich in their growths of cedar, vast quantities of which are found in the neighbourhood of Prince Arthur's Landing, upon the Canadian side of that lake, and can be made available for use in the vast treeless region west of Winnipeg, by means of the Canadian Pacific railroad, which of itself will prove one of the most extensive consumers of it in the building of its track for many hundreds of miles, and until the timbered lands of the Rocky Mountain range can be reached. The Michigan and Wisconsin shores of Lake Michigan may be depended upon for a wealth of cedar supply for many years, while the interior railways of Wisconsin are well located for transporting the immense quantities which grow luxuriantly in the northern part of that state.

STRAW FOR FUEL.

The Mennonites are nothing if not economical. They would have to be placed in a desolate land indeed where they could not get a living. Set a Mennonite family down on a sage brush desert and they would contrive some way to keep the wolf from the door, and thrive at that. They think it is because the good Lord is with them, but it is probable that it is because a stingy economy has quickened their instincts in the direction of making something out of next to nothing. The *American Agriculturist* says: The Mennonite immigrant, when choosing a locality, is quite unconcerned at the total absence of timber, and will settle many miles from any wood or coal, with indifference as to the fuel question, in localities where an American would never think of making a farm. He sees fuel for a year in miles of grass about him; the second and succeeding years he will have the straw from his crops, and straw stacks are his favorite substitutes for the wood pile and coal bin. We first saw straw in use for fuel in the house of a Mennonite bishop, in the colony of McPherson county, Can. Dinner for four of us was prepared. A vigorous young Mennonite girl vanished with a bushel basket, and returned with it full of straw, then, placing her kettles, etc., on the top of the cooking range, opened the fire door and thrust in two large handfuls of straw, touched the match, closed the door, and the kettle commenced to sing immediately; in about two minutes the door opened, and two more handfuls of straw were thrust in and the door closed. Our dinner consisted of ham, eggs, potatoes, Russian waffles, and excellent coffee, all cooked in less time than an ordinary stove could have been made "hot for biscuits." The fire was "dead out" before the dinner was half consumed, and the house none the warmer for the fire, the surplus heat all escaping through the broad chimney.—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

Tapping a Natural Reservoir.

The Virginia City, Nevada, *Enterprise* says that the tunnel to tap Eagle Lake is being advanced at the rate of 35 feet per week. It will be about a mile and a half long, and it is expected that it will be completed next fall. It will furnish water power for running several saw mills, and finally will irrigate a great area of now barren sage-brush land in Honey Lake valley. The tapping of this lake is an experiment that is being watched with great interest everywhere on the coast. Should it prove as successful as is anticipated, it will be followed by a similar tapping of other lakes on both sides of the Sierras, for mining, lumbering and other purposes.

"The Handsomest Set He Ever Saw."

A lumbering firm for whom this office has just completed a large order for a set of office account books, writes:—"The books came to hand all right and are highly satisfactory. In which they are the handsomest set I ever saw. The rivets in the Russia bands being, in my opinion, much better than the lacing."

The experience of one logging operator on the Little Suamico, in Wisconsin, where there has been little snow, was that he got in during the winter 5,000,000 feet of logs, mostly drawn on the ground, and will put in 2,000,000 feet on trucks, which will give him a two-thirds stock.

TEADERRY whitens the teeth like chastened ears. A five cent sample settles it.

SAVE YOUR HARDWOOD.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says there is still other timber now looked upon as of little consequence, if, indeed, not as a positive nuisance, of which time will develop a great value. The black birch grows in many of the northernmost regions in great profusion, and ere many years will be as great a favorite as a furniture wood as is cherry or black-walnut today. The opening of railroads through Mexico bids fair for a few years to revive in public favor the use of mahogany, but as a cheap furniture timber the birch will ere many years successfully compete with it. It should be the duty of all public educators to impress upon the minds of the people that but few varieties of timber, even among those now but little esteemed, but will in a few years possess a market value fully compensating the care and labor of wisely preventing their destruction, and while much small timber must necessarily be destroyed in clearing up farms in wilderness sections, it will prove immensely profitable to save all the timber of reasonable size, in full assurance that before many years it will be in demand at a value greater than that of the soil on which it stands.

A Good Selection.

The *Chicago Times* says:—"It is wise and well to plant forest trees in sections of country where they do not grow naturally, but discretion should be observed in selecting varieties and appropriating land for their cultivation. If possible, trees should be selected for planting that will serve at least two useful purposes. In addition to furnishing shade, they should supply valuable timber, good fuel or edible nuts. It is often practicable to plant varieties of trees that will serve all these purposes. Ordinarily, the safest trees to plant are those that are indigenous to the vicinity. They furnish evidence of their adaptability to the soil and climate, and a supply of them can ordinarily be obtained at a small cost. Trees that nurserymen have brought into fashion and praised in horticultural conventions are not always the most desirable ones to plant."

Breaking Rollways.

Dan Crowley, of Phillips, Wis., has introduced a new method of breaking rollways in that region, and accomplishes the end by the use of dynamite or giant powder, and has found the plan to work successfully. He succeeded, by the aid of an expert in the use of explosives, in throwing the logs out of the most difficult places, just where they are wanted, and without injuring the timber in the least. There is also a saving in time and expense. This method has been adopted in Michigan for some time, with more or less success.

Reaching for Northern Lumber.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says that the Red River & Lake of the Woods Railroad Company has been incorporated for the purpose of building a line from Red River, near Grand Forks, Minn., past Red Lake River, to the mouth of Thief River, then up that river to Lake of the Woods. The route extends 150 miles, and lies through unsettled country. It would tap an extended lumber district in northern Minnesota and about the Lake of the Woods.

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