



DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

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PETERBOROUGH, Ont., MAR. 1, 1884.

The Flint & Pere Marquette railroad hauled in January 24,246,182 feet of logs, the largest record yet made by the road.

The Merchants Bank of Montreal has instituted an action for nearly \$1,500,000 against Castle & Schoulenberg, a lumber firm. The suit represents a claim written off the books of the bank seven years ago, and every effort will be made to collect it now.

A RETURN was laid before parliament the other day, as to Manitoba's imports of lumber. It was shown that the total value of lumber brought into the Province of Manitoba during 1880 was \$50,250, the duty thereon being \$9,263, and for 1882, \$482,672, duty \$66,592. In the year last mentioned there was imported dressed timber alone to the value of \$332,997.

It has been said above a whisper that officials in Arkansas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, as well as in some of the other states have winked at, and abetted timber frauds, and now it is learned that an official in California who should have his eye on timber land grabbers, had it in another direction, while grabbing was going on. It is claimed that 88,000 acres in Humboldt county have been fraudulently obtained through the collusion of public officials.

The *Montreal Times* says:—The movement of lumber in Ontario is not lively, but there is considerable demand from the United States for good lumber, which is not in heavy supply at any Canadian points. The prospects are that all the dry, choice lumber will be picked up in the spring at prices nearly as good as those of last year. The price of the new cut will depend largely on the current of general trade. The quantity, it is expected, will be at least one third less. Outside of the Ottawa district, the impression is that there is no more lumber at present cut in Ontario than will be required for our own purposes or for the usual export demand. As to coarser grades, some reduction in price is not unlikely.

Logging in Manitoba has been very dull this season, but enough was left over to ensure a fairly active summer. Bulmer & Co. are the only ones at work in the woods. The Rainy Lake Company has quite a quantity of logs on hand but it is doubtful if their mill will be rebuilt in time for the season's work. The Kewatin Lumber Company did not cut any this winter, satisfied that the 5,000,000 or 6,000,000 feet on hand would be sufficient.

A SALE of timber was held on the 25th inst., at Callington, when some 420 oak, 150 ash, 113 sycamore, and a quantity of lino, elm, beech, chestnut, fir, and other trees, grown on the Whiteford Estate, the property of the Duchy of Cornwall, were offered by Mr. W. J. May, auctioneer, Liskeard. The total sum realized by the sale was £832 12s. 6d., the attendance and competition being very satisfactory. The whole was divided into about seventy-two lots, the highest price being obtained for lot 59, nine oak trees, £38 10s.

The *Ottawa Citizen* of Feb. 21, says:—Yesterday Mr. Allen Gilmour, one of our great lumber kings, whose mills on the Hull side were destroyed by fire last season, visited the site of the old mill and to the great disappointment of all said that for the present idea of rebuilding had been abandoned. This is much to be regretted, for this mill furnished work and bread to many a household. It is much to be regretted that the Messrs. Gilmour at the present moment do not see their way clear so as to guarantee them in putting up a new mill. It is earnestly hoped that ere long a revival in our great lumber trade will put this substantial old firm in such a position as to guarantee them in once more launching out in a new mill.

OREGON CEDAR.

The *Lumberman's Gazette* says:—A San Francisco paper notes the departure from that port of a ship destined for Europe loaded with redwood and other finishing timbers of California growth. The shipment is in the nature of an experiment, but it is stated that the conditions of cost, transport and market have been carefully studied, and that there is no doubt of the success of the enterprise; and it is predicted that other ships, and many of them, will follow. It is a fact well known that Oregon produces a greater variety and much finer woods than California. The Port Orford cedar is of the same general character, but in every practical respect a better timber than the redwood. Its color is better for panel and other fine work, and its grain is more distinct. We have a dozen or a score of other fine woods, but the best and most plentiful of all is the myrtle, which grows along the streams of the southern coast. The beauty of this wood is beyond comparison. It is nearly as dark as the black walnut, mottled with mahogany colored streaks, is hard and susceptible of a perfect polish, and retains its toughness when sawed into the thinnest veneering. There is no ornamental timber except rosewood equal to it. Even the curly and bird's-eye maple, so much admired, is dingy and cheap looking beside it, and the famous redwood is as inferior as ordinary cedar is to mahogany. If this beautiful timber were once introduced in the east or in Europe, we believe that it would soon be in great demand. It grows in forests in the counties of Coos, Curry and Douglas, easily accessible to the ocean. Who will introduce it?

INTUITIVE FOREST PRESERVATION.

"We notice in a northern New York exchange," says the *Northwestern Lumberman*, "the statement that coal stoves are becoming a common means of heating houses in the rural districts of that part of the State. This suggests two facts. That in that once timbered country wood is becoming so valuable that coal is a cheaper fuel, and that a stop is being put to the destruction of forests for fuel purposes. The latter condition corroborates what has before been asserted in the *Lumberman*, that the owners of woodlands in northern New York are economizing the second growth groves that everywhere abound, which are largely maple, and are reserved for sugar making. The

prospect is that in New York, as in England, there will be more timber ten or fifteen years from now than there was ten or fifteen years ago, and that not the effect of legislative interference, but through the law of personal interest, which is stronger than legislative enactments. All this leads to the conclusion that the best way to promote the cause of forestry is by the dissemination of an influence in favor of tree preservation, the value of the woods, and the economy of saving or making the most of all that are standing."

A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR US.

The evil from which France suffered in the seventeenth century our country is enduring today, and it will require prompt measures to correct it. Our apparently limitless territory, studded over with forests, has made us profligate, even to wastefulness, and we have been in danger of entirely destroying the greatest of our heritages.

In Prussia and Germany the laws relating to forestry exhibit the wisest forethought on the part of the Government, and the people sustain it in every effort to preserve what other generations had well nigh deprived them of. These nations set us an example which it would be wise to consider. Their laws have given rise to a large system of tree planting, thinning and preserving, and also to an enormous literature regarding arboriculture and cognate subjects. Millions of trees are annually set out, examined and transplanted, and great rainfalls and droughts are obviated, while malaria from both causes is greatly diminished. The ill results of the old, denuding process are rapidly disappearing, showing that nature's capillary clothing must be respected, for utilitarian as well as sentimental reasons.

In the United States the general state of extravagance prevailing in respect to forests is largely due to ignorance. Only lately has the scientific man impressed upon him of average intelligence the necessity of tree preservation, and the desirability of using other materials than lumber for many purposes in which wood was formerly considered indispensable. The wakening anxiety in regard to forestry culminated, a little more than a year ago, in the formation of what was denominated a forestry congress, of which Professor Loring, of the Agricultural Department was elected chairman. Following their interesting sessions were the dissemination of much information in regard to arboriculture in the United States, and the inception of village and country societies for the purpose of tree-planting.—*C. Holloway in Manhattan.*

Northwest Timber.

In a speech in the House of Commons Mr. Ferguson, M. P., said:—Mention is made of people leaving there on the ground that there is neither fuel nor building material. I will confine my remarks chiefly to Alberta. As to wood, there is not much in that country, but nature, through its wisdom, has compensated that district by supplying a almost unlimited quantity of coal. The result of my observation is that I can unhesitatingly state that in the whole province of Alberta I saw no place, nor do I believe there is a locality, where a farmer with his own cart need haul fuel more than a distance of five miles, and in half the cases within that distance. As to building material as far west as Brandon—I am now coming back to Manitoba—I know good building material. American pine and our own Rat Portage pine, is sold within a few cents per thousand as cheaply as it can be purchased to-day in the lumber yards at Ottawa. I saw as good siding for buildings sold retail to hundreds of people at \$25 per thousand, as you see in Ottawa market to-day. Doors, frames and window sashes, with glass, can be bought even cheaper than in Ottawa.

Asbestos.

Asbestos in its purest form has recently been discovered in almost unlimited quantities in Canada. The fibres are described as long, white, flexible, and as fine as silk. Large amounts of asbestos have been mined in the last two years in Thetford and Lorraines, Megantic County, and it is claimed that the county has produced

more of the article than the total output of the world during the same time. Wolfe county also has several large mines, which are to be operated next year by English capitalists. All these mines referred to are situated within a short distance of the Quebec Central Railway, offering good facilities for shipping. The mineral is taken to Quebec, where it is crushed and cleaned, and thence sent to England. Among the many uses for asbestos is the manufacture of a paper which is indestructible by fire. This has been successfully accomplished in Franco, as well as the discovery of an indelible ink with which to write on the paper. The manufacture of this paper will prove of value in case of fire, as all important documents can be drawn up on it. The weaving of asbestos cloth is also likely to be extensive, as well as other textile fabrics such as gloves, table linen, etc. The article is also extensively used in fire proof paint, fire-proof roofing, for packing safes and for piston rods in steam engines.—*Portland, Me., Argus.*

An Unlucky Cargo.

A load of staves for Rondout, which had been on board of five different vessels and wrecked three times, was loaded at Ellsworth a few weeks ago for the sixth time, on board an Ellsworth vessel for its port of destination, under a most careful and skillful master. In the course of the voyage the vessel was, one morning, broad off Salem, where she had been for a harbour. The captain was on deck congratulating himself on the prospect of having a fine run, with a fair wind, over the shoals, when he was suddenly filled with consternation at the sight of a steamer only a very short distance off, heading right for them. A collision seemed inevitable, and he called all hands. The watch below started at the sound of the captain, sprang on deck for their lives; when, lo, the steamer had faded into thin air! No sound of her was heard and no trace of her was seen afterward. The captain felt certain that he saw the steamer, and concluded that he had an ill-fated cargo. So he ran back to Gloucester, and a few days later went to Boston where he hauled his vessel up for the winter, discharged his crew and came home to Ellsworth. At any rate such is the story first related by the captain and then to credulous audiences by Ellsworth skipper on the street corners.—*Ellsworth Cor. Mount Desert Herald.*

The "Running Season."

Present indications are unmistakable that the coming spring will be an excellent one for the "running of logs." The vast accumulations of snow in the woods must furnish a heavy volume of water, and unless an extremely warm spell and continued rains succeed in rushing this body of snow in a melted condition into the streams in too short a period, the probability is that the "running season" will be as favorable and successful as has been the "logging season." Reports from northern Michigan pineries, as well as from those of Wisconsin are to the effect that the snow is nearly three feet deep on the level, which is an unusual body of "the beautiful" at this season of the year, and any disappearance of the same seems to be at once replenished by a fresh supply. Lumbermen generally are jubilant at the success which has thus far attended their logging operations, and the flattering prospects which abound for successfully securing the log crop, and making it available for operations during the manufacturing season, which will soon be upon us.—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

Pine Plantation in Delaware.

A northern man bought a farm in Kent County, Delaware, a number of years ago, the land having been worn out by tobacco growing, and been without cultivation about 20 years. He planted ten acres of his purchase to yellow pine, sowing the seed broadcast. When our informant saw the plantation the trees had been growing ten years, and stood in clusters, according to the natural way pine groups itself. The trees ranged in size from four to 16 inches, and were 30 to 60 feet tall. Their bodies were smooth and straight, and free from limbs from 20 to 30 feet upwards from the ground. This was a good example of what can be done in