

CANADA AND THE EXPORT TRADE.

“WE are not at all satisfied with Mr. Fielding's statement in the Dominion Parliament upon the proposed export duty on Canadian lumber.

“Our position seems clear. The first interest we have at heart is the benefit of the British paper-maker, and we think that in fostering a trade in Canadian pulps for use here, we shall be dividing with our great American colony the advantages we should gain from the exchange. The Dingley bill is not satisfied with taxing Canadian pulps, but puts a duty on Canadian lumber of two dollars per 1,000 feet, with permission to increase this to an ad valorem duty of 25 per cent. if Canada retaliates.

“Why does Mr. McKinley hesitate here? Why not cross the border and dictate the whole Canadian fiscal policy at Ottawa?

“Mr. Laurier may be wise in postponing the question until the Dingley bill passes the Senate, but we certainly do not agree with him. Canadian wood is as important to the northern New York paper-makers as the trade is to Canada as a province. Great surprise is manifested in the States that the export tax was not put on, and there is hardly a doubt but that the Dingley party would have to climb down if the Dominion Government had only put its foot down firmly. Mr. Fielding admitted that there was a strong feeling in the country in favor of the tax, but his strongest expression was that it might be dealt with later in the session.

“The report of the chief of the Forestry division to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture says distinctly that the enormous quantities of the coniferous woods, which have been annually cut since 1873, cannot continue beyond the next five or six years, even with Canada to help out. This shows both how necessary the Dominion wood is to the U.S. and the strength of the Canadian position. The estimate of standing white pine in Canada is 37,300,000,000. The present annual consumption amounts to 2,000,000,000, or about one-eighteenth, but it must be remembered that there is, or should be, a twelve years' growth for re-afforesting, and that the annual output will be an increasing factor.

“We trust, therefore, that in the interest of the Canadian pulp-maker and the British paper-maker this retaliatory tax will not be long delayed.”—Paper Making, London, Eng

WOOD FLOUR.

Wood flour is mostly made from saw dust, which is ground directly with mill-stones, a very dangerous process, as the risk of fire is great. The best method is to soak the saw dust in a solution of salt, or some such cheap solution, then dry and grind it. The salt solution makes the wood brittle, and, therefore, easily ground, and there is less danger of fire. The stuff is afterwards washed with water, and the salt recovered, which may be used for fresh wood. If wood shavings are used it is best to break the pieces on a rasping machine, and then treat it in the same manner as the saw dust. The wood flour must be dried and sorted by passing it through a gauze cylinder.

There is a very extensive use for wood flour, and there will be still more in the future. In the paper trade it can be used for blottings and cardboard (sic), and in England it is very much liked for the preparation of nitro-cellulose. It can also be used for the production of oxalic acid, which article is used largely in a great number of trades. Latterly it has been manu-

factured into a new floor covering. Mixed with magnesia it makes an elastic firm flooring. For porous stones the flour is mixed with the clay and then burned out.—Wochenblatt für Papierfabrikation.

TO DETECT MECHANICAL WOOD PULP IN PAPER.

TO ascertain if a sample of paper contains mechanical wood pulp, and the approximate quantity—by a ready means—is an operation that is very frequently required and of great service in judging the quality of a paper and its composition. To make a chemical or microscopical analysis of the fibres contained in a sample of paper will be at once admitted to be a task of some difficulty, and one which can only be performed by an experienced operator, equipped with costly and complicated appliances. To overcome this difficulty the writer offers the following simple method, which, for all practical purposes, he has found to give fairly accurate results. If a small quantity of pure nitric acid be dropped upon a sample of paper containing mechanical wood pulp it will immediately turn the paper a yellow, red or brown color, according to the percentage of mechanical pulp contained in the sample. A paper containing, say 10 to 15 per cent., will in about twenty seconds turn to a darkish yellow color. If the sample contains a larger percentage of ground wood the yellow shade will be darker, or even red, and as the percentage increases so the depth of color increases through the yellow shades, terra cotta, to a deep brown, which color is produced by papers containing 50 per cent. and upwards. The simplest method is to procure a small glass-stoppered bottle containing pure nitric acid. In making the test, turn the bottle so as to moisten the inside surface of the stopper with the acid, and then take the stopper and impress it upon the sample of paper, and note the color in say twenty seconds. It is necessary that the test should always be performed with about the same quantity of acid, and the color noted after given length of time, as the shade continues to get darker. If the paper shows no sign of turning yellow or red after thirty seconds it may be safely assumed that no mechanical pulp is present. To ascertain the approximate quantity it is necessary to have a standard set of samples of paper containing known quantities of mechanical wood pulp. To make a quantitative test of a sample of paper, first impress the nitric acid stopper upon the paper and note the color in say twenty seconds, then try with the standard samples until one is found that gives about the same shade in the same time, which standard will very approximately indicate the percentage of ground wood in the sample tested.—American Paper Trade.

GROUND SPRUCE PULP

Sault Ste. Marie Pulp & Paper Co.

Maple Card and Paper Mills

MANUFACTURERS OF

Print, Manillas, Red Brown and Meat Brown

Mills at
Portneuf, Que.

14 St. Therese St., MONTREAL.