

WOODS FOR SPECIAL USES.

The following list of woods and purposes for which used will be found interesting:—Ship-building—cedar, pine, fir, larch, elm, oak, locust and deal. Wet constructions, (such as pilos, foundations, fumes, etc.) elm, alder, beech, oak, plane tree, white cedar and palmetto. House carpentry—pine, oak, whitewood, chestnut, ash, spruce and sycamore. Machinery and mill-work, frames—ash, beech, birch, pine, elm, mahogany and oak. Rollers, etc., box, lignum vitae, mahogany and service tree. Teeth of wheels—drab tree, horn beam, locust and service wheel. Foundation patterns—alder, pine, poplar, walnut and mahogany. Furniture, common—beech, birch, cedar, cherry, pine and whitewood. The best amboyna black ebony, cherry, mahogany, maple, oak, rosewood, satinwood, sandalwood, chestnut, cedar, tulip, walnut, zebra wood, ebony and ash. The elastic woods are ash, hazel, hickory, lancewood, chestnut, yew and snake wood. The tough woods are beech, elm, lignum vitae, oak, walnut and horn beam. Carving woods—pear, box, lime tree, dogwood and ebony. Scented woods—camphor cedar, rosewood, sandalwood, sassafras and tinwood.—Wood-Worker.

AN IMPORTANT CHANGE.

The saw-mills recently stationed at Bradford have been removed to Orillia. Bradford's loss is a great gain to Orillia. "It means," says the Bradford Witness, "the diverting of the immense traffic to result from the development of eighty miles of the extensive timber lands of Black river from the Northern Railway and Toronto to the Midland Railway and Leithborough. If the canal to connect Lake St. John with the Couchiching is built, and there is little doubt—the distance being only 400 yards and the cost only \$30,000—the product of the Messrs. Strickland's sawmills and their timber making operations (their timber on the Black river amounts to 150 million feet) will be sent over the Midland Railway via the Missing Link, and will pass through Peterborough. Last year the firm sent 250 thousand cubic feet of timber over the Northern Railway, and this year so far they have sent 125,000 cubic feet. Their timber cut, which amounted to 7,000,000 feet last year, and this year so far to 4,000,000 feet was also sent over the Northern Railroad. This is only the business of one firm, but when the operations of all the other timber and lumber business of the Black river become tributary to the Midland and Peterborough some idea may be formed of the immense traffic that will be diverted from the Northern to the Midland."

DESTRUCTION OF SPRUCE FORESTS BY WORMS.

A good deal of alarm has been created of late, especially in New Brunswick, by reports of the destruction of the spruce trees by worms or borers. As that Province largely depends upon its spruce forests for its export trade the prospect of having them destroyed was well calculated to excite apprehensions and to stimulate inquiry. We observe by the Maine papers that the same decay of the spruce trees has been noticed in that state, especially in Northern Aroostook. There has been already in that district a loss to the owners of the land of tens of thousands of dollars, and the matter has caused a great deal of anxiety. During the present season a noted entomologist is going to Aroostook to look into the cause of the decay and death of these trees, and he will probably be accompanied by Franklin B. Hough of the United States Commission of Forestry, who has lately been in the state making some investigations. A township north of New Sweden was operated upon last winter for the first time, and was supposed to have an immense quantity of spruce upon it. It was found that a large number of the trees were dead. This is true of all the other towns in which the spruce is reported fast dying only from old age—that the young trees are not affected by worms or insects, that in the old spruce the worms follow, but do not precede decay. In order to get at an intelligent conception of the matter the Boston Globe obtained the views of a number of practical lumbermen and woodmen. One old lumberman of Caribou, Aroostook county, who has had charge of a

number of townships of land for several years, and who has had great experience in the woods, says that on five ranges of townships the spruce down to eleven inches are dead or dying, and that the young spruce are unaffected. His view of the cause is that about eight years ago late in the fall there were very heavy rains, which loosened the earth, and that the rains were followed by a protracted gale and a hard winter. The root fibres were broken, which caused decay; then the worms followed. On the north-west slope, where the wind had the greatest range, the trees suffered the most. The trees at first at the top present a scorched appearance, and year by year death passes towards the roots, some times one side at a time and at other times on both. He says it would be impossible to estimate the loss in Aroostook county.

Other gentlemen well acquainted with the lumber districts of Maine and New Brunswick expressed substantially the same opinion. They agreed that the worm did not attack young and thrifty trees, but only those which had begun to decay. The spruce is not a long lived tree, but grows rapidly and, after it reaches maturity, which is in from sixty to ninety years, begins to decay. We do not know whether a similar state of affairs exists in this Province, but the matter is one which invites inquiry.—Montreal Herald.

The Pine a Barometer.

The *Illustrated Garden-Zeitung* says it is the easiest thing in the world to foretell the weather by observing the common American pine (*Pinus Strobus*). If we expect rain or snow within a reasonably short space of time the branches of the last two season's growth will be pendulous. If such weather be a long way off, the branches will be raised rather than drooping.

A Short Output.

The *Lumberman's Gazette* of Bay City, Michigan, says:—By the middle of July last year over 40 per cent. of the mill cut of the Saginaw river of 1882 had been put on to the docks, but an immense reduction from the figures of 1882 is shown this year. First a very late opening interfered, and then the mills have been subjected to continual and annoying delays from high water and lack of logs, and the present prospects are not of the most flattering description for anything like last year's output. Long ago we predicted the lumber cut on the river would be 250,000,000 short, and we see no reason for a change of opinion, while the *Call*, of this city estimates the shortage at 300,000,000 feet. It is safe to assert; however, that the output of lumber for 1883 will not much exceed 75 per cent. of that of 1882.

Immunity from Fire.

The freedom of the yellow pine from the blighting effects of forest fires is a problem which, as yet, has not been satisfactorily solved, and it is one which has excited the admiration of many old Michigan and Pennsylvania lumbermen. Many reasons have been given, but the latest is from a lumberman who hails from Pennsylvania. He has watched the progress and effect of many fires, and some especially hot ones, upon individual trees, around which dead limbs were piled ten and twelve feet high. The tree would be burned black, but no injurious effect was observable afterwards, as the tree grew steadily on. He has about reached the conclusion that the heat from the fires draws a superabundance of sap to the heated portions of the tree, and thus prevents the wood from burning.—*American Lumberman*.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of July 7th, says:—During the past three months the consumption of Quebec pine logs (waucy boardwood, yellow pine, and red pine) amounts to about 9,000 logs; and of oak, elm, and birch, 3,200 logs. Of pitch pine logs, hewn and sawn, the quarter's consumption has been about 15,000 logs.

It is now in season to warn our readers against the sudden attacks of Cholera, Cramp Colic, and the various Bowel Complaints incident to the season of ripe fruit, vegetables, etc. Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is the grand specific for those troubles.

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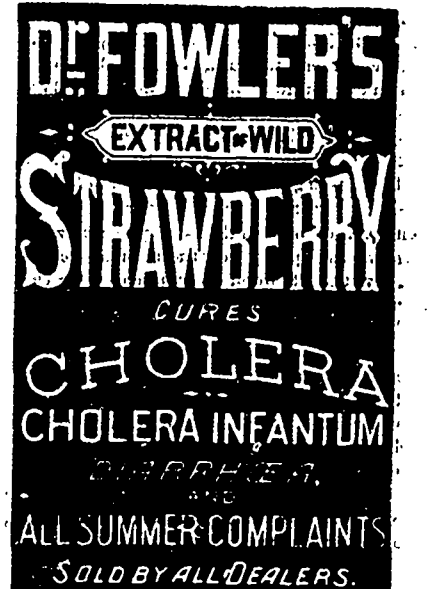
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