

various classes of lumber above mentioned, the company are in a position to supply telegraph poles, railroad ties, cedar posts, British Columbia fir, Southern pine, and car and boat timber, and are always pleased to furnish quotations on bills. Mr. James Shearer, president of the James Shearer Company, is also president of



MR. JAMES SHEARER.

this company, and is an energetic business man. Mr. Jonathan Brown, the vice-president, who is also a native of Scotland, is thoroughly experienced in the business. Mr. James T. Shearer is manager and director. He is vice-president of the James Shearer Company, president of the Canadian Construction Company, director of the Philipsburg Junction Railway and Quarry Company, and director of the Jacques



MR. JAMES T. SHEARER.

Cartier Pulp and Paper Company. Mr. Bert H. Wills is secretary and treasurer of this company, as well as of the James Shearer Company. He is a man of tried and sterling personal worth.

Mr. H. R. McLellan, of St. John, N.B., has recently returned from England.

Messrs. G. B. Housser & Co., of Portage la Prairie, Man., intend erecting large lumber sheds.

## THE FILER.

BY "MECHANIC."

Saw fitting is considered one of the most important jobs in the saw mill. The quantity and quality of lumber cut and the steady hum of the saws depend largely upon how the saws are fitted up, and the filer is therefore a profitable or profitless man for his employer, according as he fits his saws in condition to operate. As a rule, the filer should have some knowledge of millwright work, at least to the extent that he may ascertain when faults lie in the saw, in the mill, the carriage, the track, or any portion of the plant directly under his personal supervision or operation.

Defects may lie in any of these places, which, if not ascertained and remedied, will render only partially effectual the best of efforts tending to improvements in the care of saws. The service of a saw filer may be invaluable at from three to eight dollars per day, or expensive at two dollars per day. One fitter may increase the cut of well manufactured lumber from two to five thousand feet per day; another may not only lessen the average cut, but also impair the quality of the output, a double loss.

The actual results in the running of saws depend largely on the skill of the filer, and upon his having good saw fitting machinery to work with. If the filer has not the proper saw fitting tools he is not in a position to do fine work.

Every filing room should be equipped with the best saw fitting tools procurable, and saw filers should be interested in any method, or machines, or tools that are well calculated to improve or facilitate saw fitting. Their services are mental and mechanical rather than physical. Hence, intelligence and skill in a filer are better recommendations than physical strength or a disposition to hammer and file from morning till night. It is not a question of quantity altogether, but of quality of work.

(To be Continued.)

## PUBLICATIONS.

An attractive feature of the January Ladies Home Journal is the collection of photographs of "Some Remarkable Old Ladies" artistically grouped on a single page. Of the fourteen ladies all are above four score, and five are centenarians. The photograph of each one reflects the beauty of a happy life of well-doing—a beauty that time cannot obliterate.

An illustrated anecdotal character sketch of the late General Garcia, the Cuban patriot, is contributed to the January Review of Reviews by George Reno, who was closely associated with General Garcia for two years. The frontispiece of the Review is a portrait of General Garcia from a photograph taken by Chinedinst, of Washington, only a few days before the general's death.

Messrs. John Hadden & Co., Bouverie House, London, Eng., have published an attractively printed brochure entitled "A New Field for British Manufacturers," in which are concisely set forth many important facts concerning the nature and extent of Canada's trade requirements. Suggestions are made as to advertising and other methods by which British manufacturers might develop their business in the Dominion. This little book is well calculated to promote closer trade relations between Great Britain and this country, a subject of much present importance.

Readers of THE LUMBERMAN who contemplate enlarging their mill, or purchasing new machinery of any kind, are asked to advise us of their requirements. Such information is greatly appreciated.

## 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.

## MILL AND FACTORY SITES.

MASSEY, Dec. 19th, 1896.

Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.

DEAR SIR,—If you will allow me space in your valuable paper, I would like to call the attention of the public to our immense water powers on the Sauble river at Massey. Massey is situated 58 miles west of Sudbury, on the Soo branch of the C. P. R., at a point near the Spanish river where the Sauble river intersects it. There are three water falls within a little over half a mile from the town, excellent sites for erecting pulp mills or factories, and great shipping facilities either by the C.P.R. or by boat down the Spanish river.

Massey is a lumbering town, and the lumbermen have foot roads cut out and graded for over fifty miles north of the town parallel with the Sauble river, and camps are erected here and there through a dense tract of spruce. We have over twenty townships of spruce in this part of the district, besides an endless quantity lying along the Spanish river which is of easy access to the water powers on the Sauble. Our town is willing to assist in every way possible to induce capitalists to invest in mills of any kind. I might say also that we have an endless quantity of good maple, birch and oak for furniture purposes, plenty of room for two or three factories or mills, and an excellent site for a good large town. For any information regarding the above apply to Newton H. Bowers, J.P., and the same will be cheerfully given.

Yours respectfully,  
"READER."

## HARDWOOD LUMBER RATES.

OWEN SOUND, ONT., Dec. 24th, 1896.

Editor CANADA LUMBERMAN:

Now that a demand for hardwood stock, in rough, for export, is springing up, the question of rates is of vital importance to the hardwood lumber manufacturer. For a number of years, for some unaccountable reason, the railway companies of Canada have made a discrimination against hardwood lumber, charging from one cent to two and one half cents per 100 lbs. more than for pine or basswood lumber. This discrimination has caused thousands of acres of beech and maple to be cut into cordwood in the counties of Grey and Bruce alone that would have gone largely into lumber if the railway people would only take a more just view of the equalization of rates. When cut into cordwood it is carried in the same cars and largely to the same markets and over the same roads for just about one-half the rates they would get were the same trees made into lumber and carried on the same rates as pine. Then, again, in the manufacture of hardwood lumber, there is, on an average, 30 per cent. that runs to common and mill culls that it is difficult to sell for anything but firewood; but you can't ship it as such unless you cut it four feet or shorter in length. Neither can you load it up as cull lumber and ship it with pine or hemlock, without paying the additional charge made against hardwood lumber.

If the hardwood manufacturers were to take this matter up unitedly with the Canadian railway companies, I am sure they would ultimately succeed in getting this discrimination removed. There are no roads in the United States which make this most unjust discrimination. The writer would be pleased to hear from others of your readers who are interested in hardwood manufacture. Lack of time prevents me from pursuing this subject further, but I will at a later date take up the matter again. In the meantime, I will be glad to hear from other interested manufacturers on the subject.

Yours respectfully,  
"HARDWOOD."

A well-known logger, in the person of Robert Law, died at Vancouver, B.C., last month. He had been hand-logging on Thurlow island and had a boom ready. He went to Vancouver about December 1st, and stopped at the Terminus hotel, waiting for the arrival of the tug with the boom, but took ill and expired suddenly. He had been connected with logging operations for ten years, and was a native of London, Ont.