

held in Yorkhill Yards here, when a cargo of Minatitlan mahogany was sold, prices as undernoted; also 75 logs American walnut exsundry steamers, a portion of this wood being culls.

For hardwoods there is at present a decidedly healthy demand, especially for mahogany, of which there has been but a sparing supply to this market. Shipbuilding orders continue to come to Clyde. We note that at Greenock two more steamships of 5,000 tons each are to be built for the P. & O. Steamship Company.

A request for an advance of wages was lately made by the operative house builders, but the masters have unanimously agreed that no advance is to be given meantime, as the labour market is well supplied, and it was also resolved to adhere to the system of fortnightly "pays," as at present.

AUCTION SALES.

Several parcels American black walnut were sold by Messrs. Edmiston & Mitchell, viz:—33 logs (av. sq. 10½ in.) at an avg. of 5s. 4½d. per c. ft.

18 logs (do) at an avg. of 5s. 0½d. per c. ft.
24 " (do, 14 in., inferior) at an avg. of 3s. 9½d. per c. ft.

Following the above Messrs. Allison, Coulson & Hamilton sold—
3 logs whitewood, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 8d. per c. ft.

LONDON.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of May 12, says: The importation appears to have experienced a considerable falling off during the month of April as compared with last year, and it would seem as if some recovery in prices of wood was not far off, were it not for the continuation of the dullness, still so marked, in the commercial world.

There is apparently nothing of moment stirring in the timber trade, which but reflects the state of affairs in other branches of commerce throughout the country generally, and it is high time an alteration took place. We are all waiting, Micawber-like, for something to turn up, for with the least revival of activity a general improvement of prices all around is confidently anticipated; but when will this revival come?

OTTAWA NOTES.

The *Monetary Times* says:—The lumber trade of the Ottawa is opening rather quietly, this season being a backward one and the mills being some two weeks later in starting. However several pretty large sales have been made to outside parties, at prices on the whole a shade lower than a year ago. This is an unfortunate, and indeed an unexpected feature of the trade, especially in view of the alleged fact that each successive year the quality of the lumber got out is not quite equal to that of previous years, and of the future fact that the expense of procuring the logs and getting them down the streams is increasing. The larger concerns such as J. R. Booth & Co., Bronson Weston & Co., Eddy & Co., etc., expended last year, we are told, from \$60,000 to \$80,000 more in getting out the same quality of lumber, than they did in the years 1879 or 1880. It is quite true that there has been a considerable advance in prices when compared with these years, but this advance is not at all in proportion to the increase in the cost of production. Manufacturers of lumber are consequently obliged to be satisfied with less profit.

OUR FOREST PRODUCTS.

It appears by the census returns that the development or destruction, as one may happen to regard it, of the forest wealth of Canada has gone on apace during the last decade. In the four old provinces the comparative figures of production are as follows:—

| | 1871. | 1881. |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Square white pine, cubic feet..... | 24,236,821 | 17,358,245 |
| Square red pine, cubic feet..... | 1,954,372 | 2,571,373 |
| Square oak, cubic feet..... | 3,302,043 | 5,734,042 |
| Tamarac, cubic feet..... | 5,095,963 | 4,685,563 |
| Birch and maple, cubic feet..... | 1,039,557 | 4,294,926 |
| Elm, cubic feet..... | 1,832,654 | 3,092,224 |
| Walnut, cubic feet..... | 220,870 | 808,250 |
| Hickory, cubic feet..... | 197,827 | 336,439 |
| All other timber, cubic feet..... | 23,230,964 | 47,045,650 |

The only classes of wood of which the production has decreased are white pine and tamarac, and in each case the falling off occurs

in the Province of Quebec, where the output of pine has decreased from 8,870,000 feet in 1871 to 4,840,462 feet in 1881, and of tamarac from 3,094,678 feet in 1871 to 2,707,745 feet in 1881. The chief lumber producing province is Ontario in which the output of all woods except white pine has considerably enlarged during the decade. How large a proportion of the whole production in the four old provinces is made in Ontario may be learned from the fact that in 1881 the cut of white pine there was 12,262,570 feet, of square oak 5,448,263 feet, of elm 2,925,382 feet, of walnut 741,431 feet, and of other timber 26,200,038 feet. Quebec holds the leading position in respect to the production of tamarac and birch and maple only. Taking the new provinces we find British Columbia far in the van with an output of 23,348,500 feet of white pine, while of unenumerated woods Prince Edward Island is credited with 797,851 feet, Manitoba 622,039 feet, British Columbia 436,792 feet, and the Territories 54,806 feet. In the four old provinces the output of logs, &c., was as follows:—

| | 1871. | 1881. |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Pine logs..... | 12,416,408 | 21,501,128 |
| Other logs..... | 9,314,657 | 23,055,706 |
| Masts, spars, &c..... | 121,685 | 191,078 |
| Tanbark, cords..... | 162,521 | 398,239 |
| Firewood, cords..... | 8,713,083 | 10,493,165 |

The comparatively small increase in the production of firewood is somewhat remarkable, showing very plainly that the consumption of wood has about reached its limit, and that coal is becoming generally a substitute by reason of its economy in cities and towns.—*Montreal Gazette*.

Sale of Timber.

The Kingston *Whip* says:—W. C. Caldwell, who is to become a citizen of Kingston, has sold all his timber to Messrs. Calvin & Son, to be delivered as soon as possible. It is now on Clyde river. Mr. Caldwell is at present taking out a large amount of cedar, which has been contracted for by Chilion Jones, of Brockville, to be used in the breakwater in connection with the new island works at Toronto.

Mr. Caldwell's steam saw mills at Carleton Place may possibly open for a few weeks, beginning next month. It will not take long to put the Clyde cut through the caws. Some thousands of logs are on the brink of the High Falls detained only by a single boom. The Carleton Canadian says if loosened they would every one sweep over and come down in fine swift style, so great is the rush of water. They are held there as if by a small cord which a penknife could free, but Mr. Caldwell is bound that the Supreme Court enactment shall be observed, and will not move a jot to bring them on.

RATHBON & SONS, of Deseronto, have secured the contract to supply 250,000 ties to the Canada Southern. The steam barge Tecumseh has landed at Courtright dock with 17,000 ties, being the first consignment, which were nearly all loaded, and partly distributed along the line Tuesday. The schooner Peerless also arrived with a cargo of the same description, but during the terrible storm coming down Lake Huron she lost most of her deck-load, which is estimated at 200 ties. A large posse of men are engaged unloading the boats and loading cars for distribution. The contract price for ties, which are cedar and come from St. Joseph's, Cove Island, Georgian Bay, was four cents apiece, and loaded at Courtright, representing a total outlay of \$10,000.

MANY years ago Sir Henry Stewart made a plantation of large trees in the moist climate of Scotland, but they made little growth and had a sickly appearance. It was then that London, with his long and extensive experience as a landscape gardener, offered to make a public test with any one who would try large trees, he himself planting small and thrifty ones with full roots, in rich, deeply-trenched and well-cultivated ground, with the confident assurance that in a given number of years he would show trees not only larger but immeasurably finer in appearance. The above is but a corroboration of the experiments made by all tree planters. With the smaller trees more roots can be transplanted, they require no staking and will grow more rapidly than larger ones.

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RAFTS ARRIVED AT QUEBEC.

The Quebec *Chronicle* gives the following list of rafts, &c., that have arrived:—

May 17—H. E. Hall, deals, Hall's booms.
Ritchie Bros., deals, New Liverpool.
Ross & Co., (Gordon & Lot,) white pine, &c., Dalhousie cove.
P. H. Grandbois, deals, St. Casimir.
Geo. Baptist, Son & Co., deals, Three Rivers.
May 21—D. D. Calvin & Co., (2), oak, etc., sundry coves.

Rafting Timber.

R. & G. Strickland are now rafting at Port Hope a quantity of timber, 150,000 cubic feet, brought from the Township of Oakley, via Black River and Longford. It is five weeks to-day (May 26) since they commenced driving. It is a splendid lot of timber, averaging 65 feet.

A TOOTH-PICK factory at Seboc, Me., consumes annually 1,000 cords of poplar and birch, turning out a two-cord load of splinters per day. The factory is owned by Charles Foster, the same gentleman having a similar establishment at Buckfield.

THE *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—J. H. Chapman, Oxford, Me., turns out 1,000 dozen shovel handles per month, consuming annually from 250,000 to 300,000 feet of ash. The entire product has for nearly 20 years been taken by a Gananoque, Ont., gentleman. This season 400,000 shingles and a lot of basswood clapboards will be manufactured.

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