

## TIMBER AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The Paris correspondent of the London Timber Trades Journal reviews the exhibits of wood at the Paris Fair. He has this to say of Canada:

Of all the governmental exhibits in the Pavilion of Forests, there is none which has attracted greater attention, both from the general public and expert visitors, than that of the Dominion Government, and the way in which it has been organized and arranged reflects the greatest credit on Mr. J. M. Macoun, Assistant Dominion Naturalist, of Ottawa. In contradistinction to some of the other exhibits, which have been organized to illustrate the theoretical and scientific operations of forest growth rather than the practical employment of the various woods, the Canadian exhibit is to all intents and purposes a "timber trade" one, and the commercial side of the question has been kept well to the fore. Of course, we find the usual display of big trunks, notably the giant Douglas fir, the sample of which is 7 ft. in diameter, but the bulk of the specimens are in the form in which they are known to commerce, and there is also a large display of manufactured articles.

The space devoted to this exhibit, which is almost at the end of the Palais des Fortes, on the left-hand-side, is about 1,000 ft., and many specimens are also to be found in the Canadian Pavilion at the Trocadero. To relieve the monotony of the wood specimens, there are a number of interesting photographs illustrating lumbering operations, and a few natural history specimens and plants of various firs and pines. There are some fine samples of Canadian white pine, and in addition to the Douglas log we have referred to, we noticed a magnificent plank of the same wood 25 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, and 4 inches thick. Amongst the manufactured goods are elm hubs, maple skewers (which were the subject of much curiosity to French visitors, they not being used in France), staves, hickory and red oak spokes, oak and hickory handles, etc., etc.

In order to give our readers a better insight into the great and comparatively unknown forest wealth of Canada, we propose, in describing this remarkable exhibit in detail, to refer with the aid of an interesting little pamphlet prepared by Mr. Macoun for the Exhibition, to the leading varieties of timber with a few remarks on their growth and uses, and to mention the exhibits of each. Let us commence with the best known and most valuable of Canadian woods—the white pine, or the yellow pine, as it is commonly known in the British markets.

Here the correspondent gives a resume respecting our white pine, red pine, white spruce, hemlock, Douglas fir (or Oregon pine), balsam, tamarac, basswood, hard maple and sugar maple. In succeeding issues of the Timber Trades Journal these resumes, and the accompanying lists of exhibits of each at Paris, will be continued.

## HARD WOODS.

The hard wood business in Chicago has increased to mammoth proportions in the past decade. The receipts so far this year indicate that by January there will have been placed in the forty different yards fully 1,200,000 feet, valued at upwards of \$30,000,000. The largest consumers of this vast amount of hard wood are furniture factories, piano and organ makers, agricultural machine manufacturers, the palace car works and the building interests. An inventory completed a week ago showed 30,000,000 feet in stock at the Pullman yards. European demand for black walnut takes nearly all of the

limited supply of that wood, leaving only enough to meet the piano and organ requirements. Indiana and Ohio, the best forest States in the country, wasted more of this valuable wood in rail fences and in fires than the value of the remainder of their trees, and those States are now being scoured for the rails, which can be made into table legs and similar pieces. One tree near Goshen, Ind., recently sold for \$5,000, and eighty trees brought \$20,000. Four trees shipped to Europe sold for \$10,000. The Indiana sycamore is valuable, finishing in bright red with bird's eye dots. It is used mostly for small fancy boxes. White walnut is used mostly for carvings for churches and finishing for expensive residences. Butternut and chestnut form most of the coffins.

The United States has already learned what we in Canada will also, unless we are careful, the folly of using wastefully valuable forest woods, without an eye to the future.

## MONETARY AFFAIRS IN NEW YORK.

The weekly letter of Henry Clews & Co., dated 1st inst., says:

"Money market conditions favor firmer rates. Bank reserves in New York are low, and as soon as the usual fall demands set in lenders will undoubtedly be able to get more satisfactory rates. The interior banks, however, are well supplied with funds, and as the refunding operations of the Government have largely increased the supply of funds there is no reason to anticipate stringency. Speculation will undoubtedly be more active a few weeks hence, and this will help swell the loan account. Apart from the uncertainties mentioned, the outlook for the market is favorable. Railroad earnings are excellent. Trade is less active and less profitable than a year ago; but is settling down to more normal conditions. In the iron trade the process of readjustment seems almost complete, and new orders are coming in freely at the reduced prices; insuring a continued demand for both products and labor. The textile trades are slow in regaining their balance, but progress is being made and the outlook is not discouraging. Nobody expects a repetition of the boom of 1899, and the indications are that we are entering upon a period of moderate and more stable activity. Should the market go lower, as is quite possible, good stocks will be a purchase when the uncertainties of the election, the Chinese question and foreign money markets have been safely passed."

## A SHIRT FOR A BRIDLE.

South Africa is above all a country of make shifts. The old campaigner will use a pair of boots as a pillow, a blanket for a tent, a tent sail for a roof, a pail for a cooking pot, a pot for a basin, an ant-heap for a stove, a bit of string for a button, a maelie leaf for a cigarette paper, and extend the utility of other articles to apparently incongruous purposes. But of all strange uses made of ordinary every-day articles, the case as reported at Lobatsi is the strangest. A Boer who had felt the weight of the relieving force at Mafeking was seen rushing wildly across the veldt with his shirt stuffed in the pony's mouth, and using the two sleeves as reins.—Rhodesia.

—Work has been started on the new Theatre Francais, Montreal, which is to have the largest seating capacity of any theatre in Canada, namely, 2,300 persons. According to contract, the building is to be completed by February 1st.

## IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.

"I hear your husband is very sick, Aunt Dinah."

"Yes'm."

"Nothing serious, I hope; his condition is not critical?"

"Critical! I should say he wuz! He ain't satisfied with nuffin."—The Church Register.

—We learn from Halifax sources that a new weekly newspaper enterprise is to be started in that city, under the name of "The Bluenose."

—Another new vessel is being built for the Battle line of steamships. She is to be 340 feet keel, 47.6 feet beam, and 26 feet hold, and will have a capacity of 5,700 tons.

—According to an Ottawa letter to the Toronto Star, Canadian firms last week shipped to Vancouver 12,000 great coats, 22,000 pairs of moccasins, 1,300 fur caps, and 11,000 pairs of long stockings, and they will be shipped to Shanghai and Wei Hai Wei. They were ordered by the Indian Government for the use of the British troops now in China. A further order from the London War Office for 30,000 great coats, and 50,000 khaki suits will be completed shortly. Hay to the extent of 3,000 tons leaves St. John this week for the use of the British Government.

—An elderly stock-broker was coming up to town the other day by an early train, and was intensely annoyed to find that a yokel had taken his favorite corner seat. He sat down by the usurper's side and instantly fell into conversation with him. "Where are you going to, my man?" he asked. "Lunnon, zur," replied the yokel. "London!" cried the broker, in tones of well stimulated surprise; "but you mustn't sit there if you're going to London; this is your proper seat." "Thankee, zur, thankee to be zure," said the other, and the broker got his seat.—London Globes.

—Red tape at the War Office is matched, it seems, by tape of a similar hue at Scotland Yard. "Commercial Intelligence" gives an instance: A hawkewer was summoned last week for obstructing the traffic in Holborn. "I have been there twenty-six years," said the woman, in defence. The inspector explained. The boundary of the city was just at this spot, and when the "lady of the barrow" saw a city policeman coming, she just wheeled her barrow into the metropolitan area. When the representative of law and order in the metropolis appeared, she resumed her original position in the city, and so on. Caught at last, she owned to having kept this game up for 26 years.

—A Ninth street second-hand book store was the scene of an amusing little comedy recently. A ragged urchin, who had crept in unnoticed, pulled a dog-eared book with a gilded title of love and adventure from a rack, and after fingering it for a moment, became immediately absorbed in the thrilling tale. When the bookseller caught sight of his impecunious visitor, his first impulse was to chase the boy away. On second thought, however, he left the youthful reader to his pleasure. At length the time for closing came 'round, and the old man set about bolting the shutters. The noise awoke the urchin from his dream. He lingeringly closed the book, and, sliding up to the proprietor, asked with all the assurance of his gutter training: "Say, mister, what time d'yer open tomorrow?"—Philadelphia Record.