

### THE PATENT CLOTHBOARD COMPANY.

The organization of the Patent Clothboard Company was recently referred to in this journal. This company is now located at Parry Sound, on the Georgian Bay, at the terminus of the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound railway, which gives them excellent facilities for direct shipments and export trade.

The manufacture of cloth boards (which are used for rolling cloth and other fabrics) is the object of the company. These are exported to European and American markets, and are made of basswood, which, from its lightness and freedom from knots and resin, is much in demand. The process of manufacturing is a new one, and turns out a smooth, clean board, much superior to those made from pine and other heavy woods which are subject to knots, resin and sap. The company will also export hardwood veneers to the European market.

The mill proper has been planned and built for its special purpose, and is so arranged as to save labor at every possible point. The main building is 50 x 100 feet, with addition 65 x 35 feet containing steaming vats, etc. The boiler and engine house, 32 feet square, is erected of stone and brick, and is entirely separated from the main structure. The company have also erected a wharf, with tramway, to facilitate the loading and unloading by water transport.

The factory is unique in many respects, and is thoroughly equipped with modern machinery, many of the

contractor, and the machinery was all put in under the supervision of Mr. E. T. Henry, foreman of the works, late of Honox, Michigan, and an expert in his line, assisted by Mr. Thomas Yates, of Parry Sound. The capacity of the factory is 20,000 pieces in a day of 10 hours.

Trial shipments of cloth-boards in car load lots have been made to American and English cloth makers. The company expect to work up a large trade and intend running day and night.

The concern is a limited joint stock company, the capital being held by Canadian and American gentlemen. Mr. W. H. Marcon, late of Steele, Briggs & Marcon, Toronto, is president, and Mr. W. W. Keighley, late of Smith & Keighley, Toronto, secretary-treasurer. The company have given contracts for large quantities of basswood timber and expect to manufacture largely. At a later date we hope to give a more complete description of this new enterprise.

### LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLS.

To a representative of the Commercial, Mr. D. C. Cameron, of Rat Portage, said that business had been very good this season with the Lake of the Woods mills. Sales had been larger and payments better. Another favorable feature was the large reduction in stocks. This winter the mills were carrying over much lighter stocks than have been carried for many years, and this meant more money in hand and reduced interest and insurance

think there was anything in it. The party who had given out these reports, and whose name, with others, had been mentioned in the proposed enterprise, had, understood, since taken an interest in a mill at Rat river, in connection with the former proprietors.

### NEW PULP MILL IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

Wood Pulp, of London, Eng., in a recent issue, contains particulars of a Scottish-Canadian company, formed to erect pulp mill at Mispec, N. B. This journal says:

The St. John Sulphite Pulp Company, Limited, has been registered, with a capital of £60,000. The directors are: John Galloway, of Seggie, Managing Director of the Guard Bridge Paper Co.; Charles Anderson, of Fettykil, Leslie, and Thame Paper Mills, Purfleet, London; William Denison Dickson, Markinch; Forbes T. Wallace, Banker, Director of the Guard Bridge Paper Company, and Phillip Grosset, Leven, the latter being Managing Director.

The prospectus states that the company has been formed for the manufacture in Canada of sulphite pulp for the European market. Within the last few years the manufacture of paper has been completely revolutionized by the substitution of wood pulp for esparto and rags as a paper making material, and it is probable that at the present time there is no other industry offering such certain and lucrative results as the production of wood pulp, for which a great demand exists.

A site for the works has been secured at Mispec, extending to 24 acres or thereby, with valuable water power equal to 800 horse power, taken at a minimum flow. Mispec is in the parish of Simonds, in the county of St. John, N. B., and situated on the Bay of Fundy, about 7 miles to the eastward of St. John. The site, including water rights, was recently acquired by Mr. M. F. Mooney, of St. John, a practical pulp-maker, who has had a long experience in the manufacture of sulphite pulp both in Canada and the United States, and has been sold by him to the company at the price of £2,000, which sum he is to invest in shares of the company. The Mispec river receives its supply of water from four lakes, one of which, Loch Lomond, is about 12 miles long and one mile broad, and the quality of the water, which has been analyzed, is pronounced as most suitable for the manufacture of pulp. These lakes are surrounded by spruce forests, which are mostly in the hands of small farmers, from whom the wood can be purchased as cheaply as anywhere else in Canada. The principal supply of timber will be drawn from the St. John river, which is 450 miles long and runs through a woodland the whole length of New Brunswick, part of the province of Quebec, and part of the state of Maine. There are, moreover, numerous tributaries flowing through woodlands into the St. John. The supply of timber is thus practically unlimited.

Buildings will be erected to accommodate plant to produce 40 tons of dry pulp per day, but, in the meantime, machinery for 20 tons per day only will be put in. The buildings will be of stone and brick, and are estimated to cost £6,500. The machinery, plant and utensils are estimated to cost £24,500. The details have been carefully considered, and the cost fairly estimated. The cost of the machinery to double the output is estimated at £15,000. The erection of buildings and placing of machinery will be superintended by Mr. Mooney, along with Mr. Philip Grosset, of Penobscuit, Canada, who has also a thorough knowledge of the manufacture of first-class sulphite pulp. These gentlemen will manage the works after erection.

Among the many souvenirs to hand is a paper weight, in the form of a horse-shoe, bearing the inscription, "Thomas Meaney & Co., wholesale lumber, 103 Bay street, Toronto, Canada."

The author of a paper presented to an English society says that in the only case of a split steam pipe within his recollection, the accident was caused by the boiler water having been allowed to prime into it, producing, probably, sudden contraction. It is difficult to see how water of the same temperature as the pipe could produce contraction. Water hammer would be a better explanation.

By a recent concession of the French government, Canadian exports of wood pulp via New York will have the benefit of the minimum French tariff. Under the commercial treaty between France and Canada pulp from this country is entitled to admission at the minimum tariff rate, but as most of the shipments made from Canada to France must go via New York—there being no direct steamship connection—the pulp was likely to be classed as American and taxed the maximum rate of duty.



PATENT CLOTHBOARD COMPANY'S FACTORY, PARRY SOUND, ONT.

machines being the first and only ones brought into Canada, and of the best and up-to-date manufacture.

The process of manufacturing is about as follows: The logs are drawn up the ladder, cut in two, put into steam vats and thoroughly steamed. They then go through a 16-ton Keeley veneering machine, claimed to be the largest of its kind in Canada. By this machine the logs are sliced into quarter-inch or three-eighths inch boards, according to order. These boards are then passed through an automatic jointer, which cuts them the proper width, then twice through a six ton giant wringer, which squeezes out all the water absorbed in steaming; then into an automatic drier, which is a marvel of its kind, contains seventy-two steam drying chambers and works like a bellows, the automatic motion of opening and closing being regulated by electric batteries; when dry the cloth-boards are taken from the drying machine, passed through champing machines, then to the frizzing machines and finally to the sand paper machine, when they are ready for packing. The logs are pared by the veneer machine down to eight inches and the cores are run through a slab re-sawer and cut up into box shooks. There is also an automatic knife grinder, a saw table and other machinery, and the logs are handled from the steam vats to the veneer machine by pulleys and an overhead railway.

The machinery is propelled by a steam engine of 125 h. p., steam being supplied by a battery of two 60 h. p. tubular boilers. The factory was built by A. Logan,

charges. Prices obtained for lumber this season, however, were lower than ever before in the history of the lumber trade in this territory. Profits were small and the lumber trade generally was being done on a very close margin. If business continues to increase, however, they could afford to work on a closer margin. The cut of logs in the woods would be the largest, Mr. Cameron said, since away back in the "boom" days. He thought about 70,000,000 feet of logs would be taken out this winter. One year back in the "boom" period, the cut was reported to have reached about 80,000,000 feet, but it proved to be twice as much as was needed, and it broke the back of the lumber trade to carry the load, which remained a drag on the market for years. For the last couple of years the annual cut has been about 40,000,000 feet. Mr. Cameron said the mills were, of course, all closed, but they were working full force at their sash and door factory. They kept a large force of men busy all winter in the factory and they would be in good shape to handle the Manitoba and western trade in sash and doors, and supply the market with home manufactured goods equal in quality to the best imported lines. They were building up a large home industry in this branch, which would render it unnecessary to bring in imported goods. Their supplies came largely from Winnipeg and Manitoba, thus making their industry a benefit to the people here. Regarding the talk a short time ago about the proposal of certain Minnesota people to start large saw mills in Winnipeg, Mr. Cameron said he did not