

CORRESPONDENCE.

HARDWOOD CULLS.

To the Editor of the *Lumberman*.

DEAR SIR.—I was pleased to notice Messrs. McKechnie Bros' letter in your last issue on the above subject. I trust you will take the matter up, and endeavor to give us some information as to what disposition we can make of the lower grades of hardwood. This place (Hepworth) is surrounded by a lot of fine hardwood, but every year our mill yards are so encumbered with hardwood culls and common for which we can find no sale, that there is neither pleasure nor profit in the manufacture of hardwood. What we want here is some wood-working industry that will use hardwood in the manufacture of small wares, such as chair stock, shoe lasts or something of that kind.

We also have a serious grievance in the matter of freights. Under the present system of weighing lumber, and charging so much per 100 lbs., the lumberman or consignee, can never tell how much his lumber is going to cost at destination till he pays his freight, which, by the way, varies on green hemlock all the way from three and a half pounds to six pounds per foot, according to the condition (I judge of the scales, or whether the lumber has encountered a rainstorm after loading). The cordwood dealer, can ship his wood at so much per cord, and why not the lumberman ship his lumber at so much per M? What would the Grand Trunk Co. think if they were asked to buy their lumber at so much per pound instead of by the M. ft. I have repeatedly brought the matter before the notice of the traffic department of the Grand Trunk Co., but so far I have received no satisfaction, and I do not expect to until united action is decided upon and energetically carried out by the lumber manufacturers and dealers.

Trusting that you will in future endeavor to give your readers an occasional pointer as to the marketing of hardwood lumber and hardwood culls.

I am, yours truly

J. E. MURPHY.

SAWDUST.

PORT CARLING, Ont., Dec. 2nd, 1889.

Editor *Canada Lumberman*.

Having noticed several articles in your paper hinting at the discrimination of the Minister of Marine & Fisheries in dealing with parties who put sawdust in the rivers, I would like to ask you, who I should think would be well informed in the matter, if the said minister deals with parties of all shades of politics alike in this matter—if he shields his friends and punishes his foes?

The reason I ask the above question is because some time ago I received a very sharp notice respecting the depositing of mill refuse in the river on which my mill is situated, and my neighbor, a very rank Dominion ministerial man, with a null on the same river, informed me, on inquiry, that he had not received any notice to the same effect from that quarter.

The tory miller, who says he received no notice re deposits, has been in the habit of putting refuse in the water for years, without booming, to keep floating stuff from going about the river, while I, *only a gent*, who puts nothing in the river, except on my own decided property, (and that well boomed to keep any floating material secure), am singled out and frowned upon by his Honor as though I committed an offence against the law.

I wish to state that in my opinion the Minister is not well informed in this matter, and that he apparently does not take the pains to get possession of the facts as they are, or else he would not make such errors in pouncing upon parties who are not in the least guilty of his insinuations.

I wish to state further that I enquired of another miller a few miles from my place on the lake, who for years has put refuse, more or less, in the water, and with the same result, he had received no notice. I do not know what this latter party's politics are for the Dominion, but he votes for the opposition in the Local House.

I would be very much pleased if the Minister would inform me through your paper where he gets his information, if he gets any, and why he is so ready to act without inquiring into the truth of reports.

I know there are a certain class of "cranks" who are always ready to strain a point to air their official knowledge, or in other words their knowledge of officials, and perhaps the Minister in question is bored with such; be this as it may I trust I shall hear no more re refuse until I start to deposit it in the river, which, according to present conveniences, will not be for years to come.

I trust that you will not be led by the above to think that it is my opinion that the Minister really deals with different shades

of political parties with favor, that is not my opinion, but it looks very strange and I ask the question to get right on the matter and to have the "mist" cleared away.

I wish, in conclusion, to refer to another matter. It is advisable that you give *sizes and lengths* into which to cut red and black oak, black ash, basswood, maple, hard and soft birch, with prices for same in the different markets.

Information of the above would be very beneficial to quite a number of millers in Ontario who are located where pine is getting scarce and the above timbers are in a measure plentiful. It may not be possible to give all the sizes and lengths required but you could give the standards, and might include birch and hemlock in the same. I notice you quote hard woods but give no sizes for our markets.

The CANADA LUMBERMAN in my opinion is well worth the name and in many points very interesting; in many points very valuable for the information it furnishes in regard to markets, &c. It is well worth the subscription price.

JOSEPH S. WALLIS.

MADAWASKA, N.B., Dec. 1889.

Editor *Canada Lumberman*.

Our logging operations are being pushed to their fullest extent, and in back settlements some small families have moved into the logging shanties; but owing to the fact that our spruce is becoming scarcer every year, I am inclined to the belief that there will be a falling off in our output of fully 20%. It will have to be a very favorable winter if the output comes up to last winter's operations.

The Dominion Government is doing very wrong in allowing our small growth of spruce to be slaughtered for piling, and then exempt it from export duty, as it offers a premium to denude our forests and damn their future growth and the lumber trade. Generally, men who are appointed to look after the interest of the public domain, are so filled up with self-esteem that they imagine it is their infallibility which placed them in the position which they occupy.

The Ward steam mill, above Grand Falls railroad bridge, is likely to be idle, which is quite a drawback to the county.

The Vanburn Shingle Company are preparing to do a heavy business, and only for the lumber taken from our side yearly, to be manufactured on the other side of the line, they would have to stand still.

P. O. BYRAM.

THE LATE HENRY F. BRONSON.

Henry F. Bronson, president of the Bronson-Weston Lumber Company, the pioneer lumberman of the Ottawa Valley, and one of Ottawa's oldest and most respected citizens, died suddenly at his residence in Ottawa, on Dec. 7th. The immediate cause of his demise was apoplexy. Mr. Bronson, like many of Ottawa's leading lumbermen, was an American by birth. He was born at Glen's Falls, New York, in February 1817, and came to Canada in 1852, with Mr. John J. Harris, the original firm being Harris & Bronson. Mr. Bronson was the first to secure water power privileges and establish saw mills at the Chaudiere, where Harris & Bronson erected their first mill, and in 1855 cut their first Canadian lumber. After 1855, Mr. Bronson remained uninterruptedly engaged in the lumber business in Ottawa. The firm until recently re-organized as the Bronson-Weston Lumber Company, was known as the Bronson & Weston, and was composed of Mr. Bronson, his son, Mr. E. H. Bronson, M. P. P., and Mr. Abijah Weston, of Painted Post, N. Y., also one of the most extensive lumbermen in the United States interested in the various branches of the trade at some ten different points in the States of Wisconsin, Michigan, New York and Vermont. The Ottawa firm, in connection with Mr. W. N. Greene and Mr. H. K. Weaver of Burlington, Vermont, and Mr. I. W. Dunham, of Albany, New York, also owned and operated at Burlington the second largest, and in many respects the finest mills, for the dressing and resawing of lumber in the New England States, and established a yard at Albany for the sale of lumber in the rough. Mr. Bronson married early in life, his bride being Miss Edith Pierce, of Bolton, N. Y., near Lake George, who survives him. Three sons, E. H., F. P., and W. G., are all in the firm at Ottawa, and one daughter is married to Ald. Levi Crannell. Mr. Bronson was a pillar of St. Andrew's church, and supported all Presbyterian institutions with which he had to do liberally. He was president of the Ottawa Ladies College company until it was recently turned over to the Presbyterian church. Mr. Bronson leaves a large estate, probably over a million dollars, although as his interests are scattered it is impossible to give any accurate figure. The lumber business will not be affected at all, as it is carried on by a joint stock company, and Mr. E. H. Bronson has been the managing director since its formation.

OILING—A TRUE STORY.

Challenge Wood Workers

"Give me the ile bottle, Mike, if ye plaze; its right forninst the posht beyent, and see if there's a dhrap of ile in it, if ye plaze."

"Divil a dhrap's in it, Pat, but I'll get ye the full of the bottle from the barril in the shed beyent if ye'll wait a minnit."

Pretty soon a long-necked bottle, holding a pint, held tenderly by Mike, came in from the shed "beyent," and the oiling began.

"Be gob, I think she'll not shquake the day, Mike; I'm giving her the divil this time," said Pat, as the oiling went on. Another bottle was filled from the shed "beyent" before the oiling was finished, and the oil holes were filled and refilled from the long-necked bottle that "shtood forninst the posht." A little of nearly a quart was in the oil holes and boxes, but by far the largest part was on the floor. And Pat had "given her the divil to keep her from shquaking the day."

A writer in this journal said, not long ago, "Use plenty of oil." Aye, there's the rub! The old Indian woman said too much whisky was just enough, and no doubt Pat thought so about the oil, and gave her the "divil to kape off the shquake." Oil is like a medicine, a prescribed amount is sufficient, no more and no less, but see the amount of oil is properly administered at the right time and the right way. Giving her the "divil" out of a bottle, may be like taking quinine out of a bottle for the ague, and before you get through you have something more than the ague.

Using oil indiscriminately is like going to the bank to pay a note, with a pocket full of money, which you throw down at random, and say "there's the money to cash that note." It takes only so many dollars and cents to pay the note and interest. There is this difference, however, the cashier would hand you back the balance, while too much oil is worse than wasted, for it goes on the floor, and if the place ever gets on fire it is so much the more sure of being destroyed.

Yes, use plenty of oil, just a plenty and not a drop more. If the boxes heat, it is either the fault of construction, or want of care, and it is better to fix the machine right than to "aste oil on it.

The Dodge Wood Split Pulley.

The Dodge Wood Split Pulley Company, of Toronto, are in receipt of a letter from Mr. R. W. Leonard, chief engineer of the Engineering Department of the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company, Spring Hill, N. S., in which he says, "Your transmission has been working steadily for the past month, raising 300 tons of coal forty feet in ten hours, and turning a revolving coal screen at a distance of 870 feet from the engine. It gives entire satisfaction." Regarding this the Pulley Company say:

"This is one of the many satisfactory endorsements which we are receiving from men of high order in mechanics, after having tested the merits of our system for transmitting power. Here we have an illustration of a case where power is wanted at a distance of nearly 900 feet from the engine. Shafts are neither parallel nor in line, and to add to the difficulty four railway tracks intervene. By any other means we think it will be allowed this would appear to be a somewhat difficult as well as expensive undertaking, while as a matter of fact the drive was in operation at the colliery in twenty days from the day we received the order, and that it was highly satisfactory is proven by the unsolicited letter of approval of Engineer Leonard. We believe that there are numberless cases in the Dominion where fine power continually runs to waste for the simple reason that those who might avail themselves of it do not know how cheaply and simply such power might be conveyed to any distance where required."

THE timber trade is reported as being unusually active in Scotland. The London *Pall Mall Gazette* says that Clyde timber merchants report a very large consumption of timber. The quantity of pitch pine that is being used exceeds anything heretofore known. There is also a very extensive business in teak wood, and the great activity in the shipbuilding and other industries of the district is accepted as a guarantee that the prosperity in the timber trade will be prolonged.