

## MICHIGAN LUMBER.

MARQUETTE, MICH., February 27.—Since my last report we had several falls of snow. On Sunday and Monday over one foot of snow fell, and the drifts were so bad trains were not run on the Detroit, Mackinaw & Marquette railroad. Skidding is almost out of the question. It costs about all logs are worth to get them on the skids. It is impossible now to get the quantity anticipated last fall. I think the shortage will be fully 20 per cent., and probably 5 per cent. of this deficiency will be put in by summer logging. The Vulcan furnace is finished at Nowberry. It is a very large establishment, and said to have cost \$250,000. The charcoal will be made by a new process in retorts, instead of the old-fashioned way. This company has built a saw-mill in connection with the furnace, and intends manufacturing all the best maple and birch into lumber, putting the refuse and poor logs into charcoal. Two miles further west, at Dollarville, the American Lumber Company has built a first-class mill for pine, which will be ready for sawing in a month. Quite a large business village has been built up since last fall. Business is being pushed lively, and this point promises to be of some importance at an early day. The mill will cut about 14,000,000 feet, and a full stock is being got out. Seney is another lumber village of importance. The Chicago Lumber Company, Ayer, Smith & Co., Perry & Pearson, and Hewet all have offices and warehouses here. This will be the centre of an output of about 40,000,000 feet of lumber this year. The outlet is by Fox and Monistique rivers to Lake Michigan. Perry & Pearson have four camps 30 miles up the line, the product of which is railroaded and dumped here into the Fox river. In the vicinity of Marquette the mills of Fraser, Gillett and the Eagle Mills are all running this winter, principally on bills for the mines. Men's wages still keep high—about \$30 a month.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

## THE SWEDISH TRADE.

The Stockholm correspondent of the *Timber Trades Journal* says:—The languor which has been observable in the f.o.b. trade from the north of Sweden has only very partially disappeared, and unusually few sales have been made up to date. Fair-sized lines of best redwood goods have been disposed of to Hull and Grimsby, as well as to north French ports, while considerable quantities of goods have been sold to Channel ports, notably Poole. Notwithstanding all this, however, importers are acting with an amount of caution, and showing a disinclination to purchase, that was scarcely expected two or three months ago. Unless stocks abroad are much greater and the prospects of trade considerably worse than anticipated, this state of matters cannot be expected to continue much longer.

The weather has lately been favourable for getting logs out of the woods, and, in spite of the quantity of snow that has fallen, appearances would seem to indicate that an average "get" will be obtained, although at a somewhat enhanced cost. Sawing has commenced for the season at many of the principal mills, with an ample log supply for the early part of the year.

## NORTH CAROLINA FORESTS.

An enthusiastic writer says:—"The white pine is confined to the mountain and Piedmont, or western part of the state, in great abundance in some counties, and of enormous size—more than three feet in diameter, and 100 to 150 feet high. The oaks excel in variety and species, in extent of distribution, and predominate in two-thirds of the state, middle and western. The white oak, a species called post oak, is much valued on account of its strength and durability. Large exports are made to England in the form of staves and ship timber. Red, black and willow oak are very abundant in the middle and western districts, and grow to an immense size, while live oak is confined to the eastern section. Seven species of hickory abound, and are distributed over nearly every section of the state, and are of great size. Being one of the most dense, rigid, heavy and durable of timber, it is said to have become recently in great demand, and shipped for manufacturing purposes to

Europe, California, Australia and other mining sections. Black walnut is abundant in the middle and western sections. The chestnut is one of the largest and oldest trees, sometimes 10 feet in diameter and 80 feet high, found mostly and abundant in the Piedmont and mountain sections. Poplar is one of the largest and handsomest of trees, attaining the greatest size in the mountain counties. It is largely used for building and other domestic purposes as a substitute for pine. Cypress abounds in the lowlands of the east, and it grows to a great size. The ship-yards of New York and Philadelphia attest the use of 20 kinds of timber, all of which, and more, grow in North Carolina, for the most part easy of access, and facilities of transportation becoming more convenient, in proportion as these vast, valuable resources are largely developed."

## MIRAMICHI PINE DEALS.

A correspondent of the *London Timber Trades Journal* says:

Sir,—I was very much surprised to see in your last paper a serious charge brought against the port of Miramichi for shipping bad deals—bad in their nature: for what can be worse than a predisposition to rot, of which the production of fungi is a certain indication?

I have always esteemed Miramichi pine as second only, if second, to Quebec, and by some it is even preferred. Nor did I ever before hear of this tendency to sudden decay, which your correspondent "Lignum" ascribes to it, till I saw his letter in your *Journal*. Perhaps he will be good enough to let us know where this phenomenon, peculiar only to Miramichi pine deals, can be seen, in contrast with some other deals equally ill-piled—that is, with insufficiency of air, and standing equally long in the same state.

It is not a light matter to affix a stigma of this kind in your widely circulated paper upon a shipping port that has heretofore, as far as my experience goes, maintained an exceptionally good repute. "Lignum" boldly affirms that Miramichi deals do decay more rapidly than those from Quebec. In the name of the ship-pers of Miramichi, I challenge him to the proof. He speaks with authority, and we call on him to show whence it is derived.

Trusting that you will give this letter also a place in your columns,—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AN OLD IMPORTER.

London, 15th February 1883.

## HEMLOCK OPERATIONS.

A correspondent of the *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—In reading the *Lumberman*, I frequently see accounts of lumber operations east and west of us. It may be of some little interest to know that this section of country adds somewhat to the annual lumber production. The Sargeant Lumber Company, with mills at Sargeant Station, on the Pennsylvania & Erie railroad, saved the past year 6,000,000 feet of hemlock and about 350,000 feet of cherry; the sale for this production being found in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware. The cherry timber is being rapidly cut from our forests, and few, if any, choice orchards of it can now be found in this section. This company carries about an average stock of 1,000,000 feet of hemlock, and, owing to the heavy demand, has been saving all winter. The company has banked at the mill about 1,000,000 feet of hemlock logs and 250,000 feet of cherry logs.

Soon the woods will again resound with the woodman's axe and bark-peeling will begin. The large amount of hemlock bark peeled last year weakened the price of bark considerably, many, and, in fact, nearly all the tanners, putting in heavy stocks of bark. We do not think there will be as heavy a slaughter of bark this season. We have had an excellent winter for logging, with snow about three feet deep. The recent rains seemed to have no perceptible effect on the snow, but to-day's sunshine, with a warm wind, is making it disappear rapidly.

We are located near the summit of the Allegheny mountains, and are surrounded with heavy forests of hemlock, which is growing into a heavier demand on its merits for buildings, etc. It is noticeable that quite a quantity

of it finds a market at the summer resorts along the sea shore—Cape May, Long Branch, Atlantic City, etc.

## SPRUCE IN ENGLAND.

The *Timber Trades Journal* says:—An improved feeling is said to have ruled during the past week in the spruce markets, and the downward tendency of prices, we are told, has been slightly checked. The fall in the value of spruce was so sudden that an early recovery was, under ordinary conditions to be expected, and although for several reasons it is hardly likely that figures which ruled last autumn will be fully recovered during the spring months, yet a slight advance above present quotations may be perhaps experienced. Selling brokers are said to have had, during the last fortnight, plenty of inquiries from the west coast, and transactions in connection with spruce have, of late, been of a more lively character than with any other classes of wood goods. We believe, however, that in consequence of the heavy deliveries of spruce deals, which occurred on the arrival of the fall fleet, the inland stocks have been fully replenished, and that quite an average weight is held by consumers, and stored at the various wharves and railway depots inland.

It would seem that the spruce markets every year more and more effect the value of other kinds of whitewood, and indeed they effect in some parts of the country to a limited extent the commoner qualities of redwood also. Any improvement, therefore, which may occur during the next few weeks in connection with the value of spruce will be closely observed, and the holders of large stocks will, doubtless, read with ready satisfaction any notes indicating an existent or coming improvement.

## WOODS AND FORESTS.

The following is the official statement of revenue collected during the year ending 31st December, 1882, as taken from the annual report of the Ontario Crown Lands Commissioner:

<i>Ottawa Timber District.</i>	
Collected at Ottawa.....	179,612.93
Collected at Quebec.....	62,563.28
	242,176.21
<i>Bellefleur Timber District.</i>	
Collected at Bellefleur & Department.....	112,773.74
Collected at Quebec.....	2,390.99
	115,364.73
<i>Western Timber District.</i>	
Collected at Department....	111,030.68
Collected at Quebec.....	13,568.92
	125,199.60
	482,740.54
Collected on sale of Limits, of	
6th December, 1881.....	411,311.65
Total.....	894,062.19

## Albany Stocks.

*Bradstreet's* is authority for the statement that the total stocks of white pine lumber on hand at Albany, Jan. 1, 1882, amounted to 96,917,829 feet, and on Jan. 1, 1883, to 101,258,685 feet. The total sales of white pine during the calendar year amounted to 252,673,700 feet. The receipts were 453,932,358 feet. The stocks of Norway pine increased from 1,077,260 feet, Jan. 1, 1882, to 2,988,072 feet on Jan. 1, 1883, the sales amounting to but 311,010 feet during the year, and the receipts to 3,269,082 feet. The total sales in 1882 "of measured and tally lumber" amounted to 440,400,227 feet, and the aggregate of stocks on hand Jan. 1 last was 112,256,933 feet against something over 106,000,000 feet on Jan. 1, 1882, a gain in stocks on the year of about 6,000,000 feet.

## Spruce Beams.

Experiments have proven that spruce beams, loaded from one-half to two-thirds their breaking strain, finally break after a long and steady deflection, which continually increases until the final rupture occurs. If substantiated by additional experiments this fact will, the *United States Miller* believes, go far towards explaining the frequent falling of mill and warehouse floors, under loads supposed by the builders to be perfectly safe. The floors of all such buildings, says the journal referred to, should be sufficiently strong to carry at least three times the weight that can by any possibility be put on them, and at least five times as strong as the

ordinary load. When there is running machinery in the building, which is likely to produce jar or tremble, these figures must be exceeded—according to the same authority—as the effect of a continuous jar or strain combined is very destructive to the building in which they are found.

## A BIG PLANNER.

A Maine paper says that in one of the Bath ship-yards is a planer, said to be the largest in the world. It is capable of working a piece of timber 66 feet long, five feet wide and two and a half feet deep. The keel comes out of the machine ready for laying on the blocks, and perfectly smooth and true on all sides. A beveling saw is another capacious machine, which turns out timber sawed at any desired angle from the horizontal, and by it curved timber and ship-knees can be worked true to a line. The steam engine which runs these machines runs also a bolt-cutting machine which will nip off round iron of any diameter up to two inches; also a large and small circular saw, a machine for making tree-nails, and, in the finishing shop, a band circular saw, a planer, moulding machine, and a plug and wedge machine. The waste steam is used in bending timber.

## North West "Pine."

The *Chicago Northwestern Lumberman* says: The *Lumberman*, in a recent issue, mentioned that Mr. Louis Sands, of Manistee, Michigan, had made a large purchase of pine in the Cypress Hills, in the Northwestern Territory, Canada. A Canadian correspondent seeks to make a correction, and states that there is not a pine tree between Winnipeg and the Rocky mountains, north of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude. He knows there is not, he writes, for he has traveled over that country. Mr. Sands calls the timber cypress pine, and says that if it is not pine it will at least sell for it, and answer the purpose. It lies between the forty-ninth and fiftieth parallels of latitude. A specimen of the wood is in this office, and while it does not have the exact appearance of white pine, it is timber of very fine quality, and undoubtedly, as Mr. Sands says, "will answer the purpose."

## A Deferred Investment.

The Stockholm correspondent of the *Timber Trades Journal* says:—A very extensive purchase has lately been effected, by a consortium here, of growing timber along the East Dal River, a few miles above the Siljan Lake. The purchase is estimated to cover over 1,000,000 mature trees, and the price is understood to be reasonable. The timber, however, will not be available until somewhere about, 1890 the Government survey of the forest, preparatory to its division amongst those entitled to the same, being yet incomplete. This purchase is a proof that capitalists have an abounding faith in the future of forest property and the products obtained therefrom, when they are prepared to wait eight or ten years before they get even a partial return on the capital.

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