

WOODS FOR FURNITURE.

There are many crazes in the furniture business in respect to the different woods and their imitations, which are extensively used. For many years walnut was a wood that held absolute predominance over all other woods for furniture. But while other woods have become very popular, and walnut is apparently on the decline, yet, really, walnut will be always a fashionable wood. The price will gradually increase, for the large demand is fast consuming the supply. In many states fifteen years ago the farms were enclosed with walnut rails, as the wood was not so valuable in those days. But in these where walnut grows, the lumber that would formerly have been cast aside with the "culls" is to-day sold for high prices. Even the small limbs of walnut trees are now sawed up into materials for rungs and posts of parlor chairs. The old snarled limbs and knots of walnut trees are sought after with avidity by buyers through the country districts, who sell them to firms that manufacture them into ornaments for antique shelves, fancy hassocks and other similar furniture. Rail fences in these districts are now a rarity in the extreme.

But as to the various woods that are used in the manufacture of furniture, maple, ash, poplar, gum and cherry comprise the list. What is known as quarter oak is the latest craze. Quarter oak is first made by sawing a log from end to end through the middle. Then each half is sawed from end to end through the middle, thus leaving four quarters. Each quarter has only three sides, one the bulge part of the log, and the other two being flat and coming to a sharp edge. The boards are sawed off the sharp edge, and each sawing, therefore, throws off a board wider than the one before it. Sawing the quarters of the log in this manner the lumber is beautifully cross-grained. The cross-grained lumber is "worked" into the finest parlor furniture at present. The wood is susceptible of a very fine polish, and the cross grain produces an effect made by both nature and the saw, that is far superior to the art of the most experienced grainer.

But one of the prominent features still in the furniture business is the staining of wood. There are tricks in all trades, and this is the greatest one in the furniture manufactories. A very simple preparation, composed of crude oil and lampblack, is rubbed on the highly polished surface of oak, and when it soaks into the pores of the wood the wood then takes on a dark hue. The varnish is then applied, which gives a neat finish

to the wood, and this is then a fair imitation of antique oak. The common gum is often stained to represent cherry. Cherry itself is very valuable, and is left in its own natural color, although it is sometimes stained to represent rosewood. Soft maple, poplar and gum are stained with preparations of burnt umber, crude oil and lampblack, to produce an imitation of mahogany. Ash has a very pretty grain that stands out prominently under color, and it can be stained to imitate red cherry. Sycamore is a wood largely used for bed posts, and it stains nicely in imitation of walnut.—W. L. Mitchell in *Globe-Democrat*.

EXCHANGE ECHOES.

Mississippi Valley Lumberman

The Canadians are unmistakably in favor of free lumber, whatever may be the diverse opinion of their American competitors.

Chicago Timberman.

It may be said that it is a mistake to suppose that by taking the duty off Canadian lumber, the United States government is only contributing to the wealth of the foreign holders of timber. In the first place, much of the Canadian timber is owned in this country; secondly, while the new market opened to Canada may result to its behoof in giving it more independence as to where it shall sell lumber, the rule will work both ways.

Canadian Trade Review.

The manufacture of pianos has been a declining trade in Great Britain for years past, owing to the number of cheap instruments imported from foreign countries, duty free. The quantity of Ash, Spruce, Whitewood, Rosewood, Mahogany, Cedar, Bird's-eye Maple, Walnut, etc., used in this particular industry is becoming less, but their use is extended to many new purposes. Every piano calls for 500 feet of unprepared lumber, besides which, almost every instrument must be furnished with a packing case. These figures include the waste. *The Lumber World*.

Reports from important lumber-trade centres do not indicate hilariously profitable trade at this season of the year. Prices, which have for some months been strong and steady, with an upward tendency, now show signs of dropping. Most of the reports tacitly admit that the present is a dull season, and most of them show that better things are hoped

for the autumn. It is to be hoped that all the bright anticipation will be realized. It is unpleasant to see market quotations drop and to hear that general trade is dull. The one encouraging feature of the situation is the absence of complaint about collections. These are generally reported good. This is a healthful sign, showing that the lumber and and work-working business is sound and that the trouble at present is in outside influences, such as the free-trade agitation operating to the damage of all business.

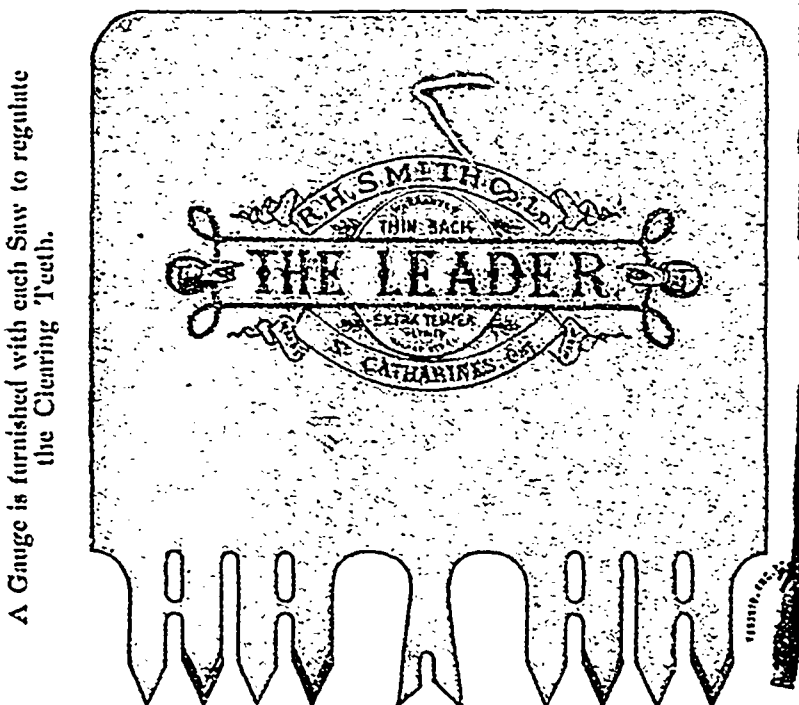
The St. Catharines Saw Works.

We would particularly call the attention of our readers to the advertisement on page 12 of R. H. Smith & Co., limited. This factory, the oldest of its kind in Ontario, has for over one-third of a century held its own in spite of active and honorable competition, and is now producing a Cross-cut Saw which they style the "Leader," and which they claim excels any saw of that description yet manufactured in style, durability, finish and rapidity of cutting, and they put it on the market as the "King of Cross-cuts." This institution has lately made a change in its management, and is now organized as a joint stock company, of which R. H. Smith, Esq., is president. Mr. John A. Cox, an old hardware man of St. Catharines, vice-president, Mr. W. A. Rawlings—who has been connected with Mr. Smith for over thirty years—secretary, and Mr. Geo. Cox, of St. Catharines, treasurer. The new company starts out under the best of auspices, having at its service the brains and experience of the old firm and a paid-up capital of \$75,000. Their determination is to leave nothing undone to retain their already well-established reputation, and to cater to the needs of the trade generally in a manner that will, no doubt, be satisfactory. Their business extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and their export trade is already a large one.

The above company manufacture Saws of every description, all of which are tempered under the "Simonds" process which insures a perfect uniformity throughout the plate. Their Circular Saws are universally acknowledged to be unequalled, while in Hand Saws they make the largest assortment of any firm in the Dominion, and keep ahead of the times by constantly adding new and improved machinery, being determined to keep pace with any other manufacturer on the continent.

"THE LEADER"**CROSS-CUT SAW.**

Manufactured only by

R. H. SMITH CO. LTD.,**ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO.**

A Gauge is furnished with each Saw to regulate the Clearing Teeth.

Full directions for Setting and Filing are enclosed on every Saw.

The above Saws are made from the best Double Refined Silver Steel, warranted four gauges thinner on back than front, and the only Saws on the market that are a perfect taper from the front of the teeth to the back.

They are tempered by the Simonds Patent Process, insuring a perfect uniform temper throughout the plate, and stand without a rival as the best, fastest and easiest-cutting Saw known. For Sale by the Trade generally.

**ST. LAWRENCE CANALS.****NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for the St. Lawrence Canals," will be received at this office until the arrival of the eastern and western mails on Friday, the 31st day of September next, for the construction of two locks and the deepening and enlargement of the upper entrance of the Galops Canal, and for the deepening and enlargement of the summit level of the Cornwall Canal. The construction of a new lock at each of the three interior lock stations on the Cornwall Canal between the Town of Cornwall and Maple Grove; the deepening and widening the channel way of the canal; construction of bridges, &c.

A map of each of the localities together with plans and specifications of the respective works can be seen on and after Tuesday, the 11th day of September next, at this office for all the works, and for the respective works at the following mentioned places:—

For the works at Galops, at the Lock-keeper's House, Galops. For deepening the summit level of the Cornwall Canal, at Dickenson's Landing; and for the new locks, &c., at Lock-stations Nos. 15, 19 and 20, at the Town of Cornwall. Printed forms of tender can be obtained for the respective works at the places mentioned.

In the case of firms, there must be attached the actual signatures of the full name, the nature of the occupation and residence of each member of the same, and further, a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$5,000 must accompany the tender for the Galops Canal works, and a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$2,000 for each section of the works on the summit level of the Cornwall Canal; and for each of the lock sections of the Cornwall Canal a bank deposit receipt for the sum of \$2,000.

The respective deposit receipts—cheques will not be accepted—must be endorsed over to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and will be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted. The deposit receipts thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted. This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest, or any tender.

By Order.

A. P. BRADLEY,

Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 8th August, 1888.

TAPER PIKE POLES**PEEVEY STOCKS AND****CANT HOOK HANDLES.**

The Pike Pole handles are twelve and thirteen feet long; made of the best Straight Rock Maple; are turned in a machine made expressly for the purpose, and are 1 1/2 inches in diameter for one-half their length, being then tapered to one inch at small end, and chucked to fit furrel. We are the only manufacturers in the world who have the system and machinery for turning out Taper Pike Poles successfully.

THEY SELL ON SIGHT AND GIVE THE BEST OF SATISFACTION.

Price of Pike Poles, Peavey Stocks and Cant Hook Handles, \$25.00 per Hundred.

Sample Pole sent for 25 cents.

The following are a few of the firms who have used these poles for several seasons: D. Ulyott, Esq., J. M. Irwin, Esq., Geo. Hilliard, Esq., Peterborough; Gilmour & Co., Trenton; M. Brennan & Sons, Hamilton; Gilmour & Co., Chelsea, Que.; M. Boyd & Co., Robygeon; Muskoka Mill & Lumber Co., Muskoka Mills, The Rathbun Co., Deseronto; Heath, Tait & Turnbull, Huntsville; Cookshire Mill Co., Cookshire, Que.

WM. FORSYTH,
PETERBOROUGH, ONT.