

THE NORTHWEST CUT.

We learn that during the year there was an increase of 78 in the number of establishments, and an increase of 103 in the number of saws in use. We also learn that this increase has been in the upper peninsula of Michigan, and in the States of Wisconsin and Minnesota, in which regions the census reports locate 63 of 82 billion feet accredited to the Northwest, and that the other or older sections of the pine regions show an actual decrease in the number of establishments and in the number of saws.

In regard to the cut of the various districts, if we take what is known as the west of Chicago district, and add to it the Green Bay district, which belongs to the three pine regions enumerated above, we will have for a series of years a total output as follows: 2,678 million feet in 1880, against 2,987 million, an increase of 409 million in 1881; against 3,519 million, an increase of 662 million in 1882, and 3,821 million, an increase of 272 million in 1883. Deducting the Green Bay district from the cut of the lower peninsula of Michigan, the portion of the state shows a decline in the amount cut in 1883 of 25 million feet as compared with 1882, against an increase of 122 million feet in 1882 over the cut of 1881. The returns from the lower peninsula are not all reported, but will probably show a heavier decline.

The increase may be attributed to the extension of the railway lines and feeders into the pine forests, as three railroads in Wisconsin, alone, show an increased cut of over 200 million feet, or 80 million feet more than the entire increase shown by the reports which, in 1882, covered 90 per cent of the entire cut.

The conclusion to be deduced from these reports is that the milling interest of the Northwest is gradually shifting its ground from lower Michigan into the newer forests of the upper peninsula, Wisconsin and Minnesota, which sections will furnish over one-half of the cut of 1883—considerably more than the entire cut of the Northwest for any year previous to 1879, and twice as much as cut in the same section in 1879.—*American Lumberman*.

AUSTRALIA.

We take the following from the monthly circular of Lord & Hughes, timber brokers, of Melbourne, dated 15th February, 1884:

Since our last on 16th ultimo, we have to report large arrivals of every description of lumber, timber and large offerings at auction, sales being fully up to expectations, and prices are not materially altered from those prevailing last month, although at last sales a marked improvement was visible in Baltic deals and flooring, whilst American white pine shelving was weaker in consequence of heavy arrivals, other descriptions of American lumber remaining about the same. Slates also show an improvement on last sales.

Trade from the yards continue active, there being no falling off for building purposes.

The arrivals have been—Zola, from Christiana, with flooring; Gurli, from Umea, Topdahl, from Skutskar, Storken, from Gothenburg, with deals; Highlands and Hallgerder, from Canada, with spruce deals, boards, laths and pickets; Fleetwing, from Humberboldt bay, with Oregon timber, laths and pickets; Henry S. Sanford and Paramita, from New York, Black Adder, from Boston, with clear pine, white pine shelving, doors, slates, laths and plaster; Drumblair, Sherwood, Kent, Star of Russia, Antiope, Sussex, Lock Katrine, Duke of Sutherland, Port Phillip, and Roman Empire, from Great Britain, with flooring, plates, and galvanized iron; Sydney, from Marseilles, with galvanized iron; Cheviot, Buninyong, Gabo, Nemesis, Letra, and Konoowarra, from Sydney, with cedar; Mercury, from Launceston, with slates; Victorian and South Australian, from Adelaide, with plaster and slates.

RED DEALS.—Imports: 680 standard, from Baltic; 436 pieces, from Great Britain. The arrivals have been Gurli, from Umea; Topdahl, from Skutskar; Storken, from Gothenburg; and Lock Katrine, from Glasgow. On 8th inst., the cargo ex Topdahl was sold by auction:—A Crown S brand 9x4, realising 6d.; 11x3, 6jd. to 6 3/4d.; 9x3, 5jd. to 5 3/4d.; A + 3, 9x4, 5jd. to 5 7/8d.; 11x3, 5 3/4d. to 5 3/4d. to 5 3/4d. Sales have also been made during

the month, ex Vanadis, Helene, Leto, and Concordia.

SPRUCE DEALS.—Imports: 38,703 pieces. The arrivals since our last have been—Highlands, from St. John's; Hallgerder, from Quebec; Black Adder from Boston. Sales by auction have been confined to the cargoes ex Geraldine and Augusta, on 29th ult.; 11x3 realising 3 1/4d. to 2 3/4d., and 9x3, 3 1/4d. to 3 3/4d.

OREGON TIMBER.—Imports: 650,000 feet super. This parcel arrived in the Fleetwing, and has been sold privately. Sales by auction have been made of the cargoes ex Hesper and Martha, at prices ranging from £6 15s. 6d. to £6 2s. 6d., showing a still further decline on previous rates.

LUMBER.—Imports: Clear pine, 847,668 feet super; white pine, 858,430 feet super; T. and G. Ceiling, 36,416 feet super. The arrivals have been Henry S. Sanford, and Paramita, from New York; Hallgerder, from Quebec, and Black Adder, from Boston. The parcels ex H. S. Sanford were all sold at auction on the 29th ult., and on the 5th instant the shipment ex Paramita was offered, the clear pine being all sold, but only a portion of the shelving.

PITCH PINE.—Imports: Nil. Auction sales. Nil.

REDWOOD.—Imports: 330,938 feet super. This parcel arrived in the Remijio, from San Francisco, and was offered at auction on 29th ult., resulting in the purchase of about 200,000 feet, at £10 per 1,000 feet super.

FLOORING AND WEATHERBOARDS.—Imports: 2,674,701 feet lineal. The arrivals have been Zola, from Christiania; Drumblair, Loch Katrine, and Roman Empire, from Great Britain. Sales by auction have been cargoes of Baltic flooring, ex Concordia and Juno and small parcels of spruce flooring, ex Augusta and Geraldine, from Canada. The following are prices realized:—Red, 6x1 1/2, 11s. 4d. to 11s. 3d.; 6x3, 8s. 9d. to 8s. 6d.; 6x3 1/2, 6s. to 5s. 6d.; 6x3 1/2, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 8d.; 4-out weatherboards, 7s. 3d.; white, 6x1 1/2, 9s., 6x3, 7s. 9d. to 7s. 6d.; 6x3 1/2, 10d. to 5s. 6d.; 6x3 1/2, 7d. to 4s. 4d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 9d. to 6s.

KACH PINE.—Imports: Nil. Sales by auction comprise the cargo of flooring boards and slitches, ex Peerless; and slitches, ex Robbin Hood and Palace, the following being prices realized:—6x1 1/2, 10s. 6d.; 6x1 1/2, 10s.; 6x1, 8s. 9d. to 8s. 6d.; 6x3, 8s. 3d.; 4x1 1/2, 9s. 6d.; 4x1 1/2, 9s. 3d.; 4x1 1/2, 9s.; sawn slitches, 14s. to 14s. 3d.; heavy logs, at 11s. 9d.

CEDAR.—Imports: 232,873 feet super. The arrivals have been various coasting steamers from Sydney. Sales by auction have been made of the cargo ex Lady Franklin, and parcels ex coasting steamers, prices ranging from 49s. to 21s. according to size and quality.

RED AND WHITE PINE (Colonial).—Imports: Nil. Auction sales. Nil.

DOORS.—Imports: 300. Auction sales.—Nil.

LATHS AND PICKETS.—Imports: Laths, 4, 528 bundles; pickets, 7,414 bundles.

PALINGS.—Auction sales.—18th January.—ex Camilla, 5,000 5-feet palings, at 10s. per 100 8th February.—ex Xema, 4,000 5-feet Palings, at 8s. 6d. per 100.

THE CULTURE OF WALNUT.

Mr. D. B. Wiser, of Lacon, Ill., gives in the *Prairie Farmer* his views on walnut planting as follows:

"The black walnut is, without doubt, the most valuable tree we have for rich lands of the corn belt West, and one which is very easily grown everywhere if the farmer will only learn how to get it started. How few we see growing on our prairies. Why? Simply because to have it we must grow it from the nuts. It is nearly impossible to plant black walnut trees of any size and have them live; although it is a fact that whenever a non-professional attempts to grow them from the nuts he is almost sure to fail, it is also a fact that there is no tree that is more easily grown from the seed than this, if we only know how to do it. It is my purpose in this article to tell how to do it, and also how not to do it.

"In the first instance we will suppose a man lives where he can gather the nuts in the woods. When the nuts begin to fall let him plough

deeply the plat of ground he wishes to plant, and furrow it off three or four inches deep, the distance apart he wishes the rows to be. He will then go to the woods and gather what nuts he wishes to plant, and plant them at once, just as they come from the tree, covering them just out of sight in the furrows. This is all there is of it; simple, is it not? But it will not do to gather a great wagon box full, and let them stand in it until they heat, or to throw them in a great heap and let them lay there until they heat. It will not do, either, to hull them and let them lay in the sun a week or two, or hull them, dry them and keep them until spring, and then plant them; none of these plans will do if you want trees. Of course if the nuts are hulled and planted at once they will grow; but this hulling is entirely unnecessary. Besides, the hulls seem to act as a special manure for the young seedlings, causing them to grow more vigorously.

"Next, we will suppose one wishes to plant walnuts where they cannot be had from the woods, but must be shipped in. There seems to be only one plan by which this can be done safely every time which is as follows: Gather the nuts as they fall from the trees—of course when they begin to fall naturally all may be shaken down at once—and spread them not over a foot deep, on the bare ground under the shade of trees. Cover out of sight with straw or leaves, with some sticks to hold in place, called a rot heap; then after they are frozen and will stay so, they may be shipped in bags, boxes, barrels, or in bulk by the car load, and then, again, placed in rot heaps, as above, until so early in the spring as the soil is in workable condition. Then plant as directed in the fall, except the soil should be finally packed around the nuts. Keep free from weeds by good cultivation, and in due time you will have a splendid grove.

"There was an immense crop of walnuts in this district last fall, and thousands of bushels were put up carefully in this way, all ready for shipment before the weather became warm; many more thousands were planted to grow seedlings from, for, notwithstanding the walnut transplants poorly when of considerable size, the one year's seedlings transplant with as little loss as the average trees.

"There is no tree better adapted for planting to secure timber claims with than the black walnut, and none more valuable when the timber is grown. For this purpose the land should be plowed deeply, then harrowed to fineness and firmness, and furrowed out in rows four, six, eight or ten feet apart. The nuts may then be planted as directed. It is best to plant thickly in the rows, then if too thick they can be thinned out, transplanting the thinnings, or selling them to the neighbors. They should be thoroughly cultivated, until large enough to shade the ground, and thinned out as necessary as they grow larger. A walnut grove thoroughly cultivated, until large enough to shade the ground, and thinned out as necessary as they grow larger. A walnut grove thoroughly cultivated the first ten years will grow at least 20 feet high, while one not cultivated at all would only grow two or three feet in that time."

AMERICAN WOOD MANUFACTURE.

Perhaps in no branch of American industry has greater progress been made within the last thirty years than in the vast and varied manufacture of wood. We have not only distanced all rivals in this branch of industry, but have gained a firm foothold in foreign markets, especially for our agriculture implements, furniture, and a variety of labor-saving machines. The perfection to which our wood-working machines have been brought by unrivaled ingenuity has given American manufacturers of wood a world-wide reputation. For, as nine-tenths of the cost of articles included under the head of "woodenware" consists in the labor necessary to their manufacture, and as the wages of labor in this country are comparatively high, it could hardly have produced successfully its own woodenware without the aid of machinery. With this aid, however, the home market has not only been supplied by home dealers, but American woodenware has found its way into various foreign markets. For instance, the exports of

woodenware for the year ending June 30, 1882, were valued at nearly half a million dollars. The manufacture of furniture increased in value from \$17,633,000 in 1860, to \$75,539,000 in 1870, while the estimated increase in the last thirteen years has been very large. The growth in the manufacture of agricultural implements has been still greater. With woods of all kinds in abundance and easily accessible, with improved machinery for the purpose, there seems to be no reason why the exportation of woodenware should not yearly increase.—*Ex.*

THE EVILS OF FOREST DESTRUCTION.

The following graphic picture of the irremediable disasters following the reckless and improvident destruction of woodland, should very forcibly impress itself upon the understanding of all intelligent persons. The paragraph is from Sinclair Tousey's "Travels in Southern Europe."

"Much of France, nearly all Spain, and large portions of Italy are entirely destitute of forests. The tourist can travel day after day in these countries without seeing a standing tree, except enough to make a decent sized barn. The people in those sections are bothered to get the very little fuel they need, depending upon the trimmings of shade and fruit trees and vines for what they get; while the damage done the country by heavy rains is beyond estimate, especially in the hilly regions, where the rain, falling on the ground, finding no trees with their wide-spreading roots to check its passage off the surface, rushes with tremendous force into valleys, carrying all before it.

"So destructive are these torrents, and so suddenly do they come down the river bed, that in many places heavy stone walls are erected to keep the sweeping floods within bounds. Within a few hours after one of these torrents has swept down a valley, the bed of the river will be as dry as if water had never wet it. Another evil is the scarcity of small running streams for the use of cattle and for manufacturing purposes.

"The unchecked rain finding nothing in its way, hastily passes from the surface and gets to the sea; whereas, if the land was sprinkled with forests, much of it would be absorbed by the ground, and by gradual percolation finds its way to the streams and keep them alive to aid the work of man and give drink to animals.

"I earnestly implore the owners of forests in our favored land to be careful and waste none. We can leave our successors no better legacy."

Jarrah Timber.

The English *Timber Trades Journal* had an article recently on the wonderful enduring power of Jarrah timber, which is said to resist all kinds of insects and is impervious as well to the action of dry rot. A suggestion has been made to pile and elab the banks of the Suez Canal with this description of timber, which would enable vessels to travel at their ordinary speed without any danger of washing away the banks. This might be done with the prospect of the timber lasting for years, and one effect it would have would be that of increasing width of the canal considerably, so that two vessels could pass one another without causing any delay. When the virtues of the wood become fully realized, we shall hear more of it as a saleable commodity.

Sale of White Pine.

QUEBEC, March 31.—An important sale of white pine has just been concluded in Quebec. The transaction involves about 100,000 feet of 1 1/2 inch average, and the price obtained is 32 cents per foot measured off.

IT SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED.—If any of our readers suffer from chronic diseases of the stomach, liver, kidneys, or the bowels, they should investigate the merits of Burdock Blood Bitters. It is making the most remarkable cures on record.

A VALUABLE HINT.—Artisans, actors, sports men, mechanics and laboring men, in fact all who unduly exert muscular strength, are subject to painful contractions of the cords, stiff joints and lameness; to all such Hagar's Yellow Oil is a prompt relief and perfect cure.