

## OTTAWA LETTER.

(Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

THE lumbermen in the Ottawa valley view the operations of the past year as satisfactory, compared with those of other parts of the Dominion. The total cut was slightly in excess of that of 1894.

The trade and navigation returns for 1895 have been distributed, showing the total exports of forest products to be valued at \$24,129,199, against \$26,504,736 for the previous year.

For the quarter ending December 31st, the following items of export are reported: Lumber, \$481,775.60; sulphite, pulp, \$19,309.10; lath, \$17,351.56; shingles, \$5,678.58; ties, \$4,838.40; pickets, \$4,372.04.

Mr. W. C. Edwards, the well-known lumberman, is interested in the manufacture of acetylene gas. Ottawa is said to afford exceptional facilities for its manufacture, and many excellent sites and water powers are available.

## INDIFFERENT LENGTHS.

Mr. J. R. Booth, the well-known lumberman, has recently returned from a holiday trip in the Adirondacks.

The quantity of logs, ties and pulp wood being taken out on the Gatineau this winter is much less than usual.

It is the intention of Mr. J. R. Booth to erect a lath mill on the site of the mill burned last year. Machinery will be put in for cutting slabs and waste material into laths.

A project has been mooted for the establishment of a coffin manufactory here, which would result in the employment of a large number of men, and the consumption of considerable lumber.

OTTAWA, Can., Jan. 27, 1896.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

THE ports of this province have recently presented a scene of activity, many lumber vessels being loaded for foreign countries. It is satisfactory to British Columbians to know that the lumber of the province is shortly to find a market along the borders of the Baltic sea. A shipment to Volgaster has recently been made from the Hastings mill.

The Burrard Inlet Red Cedar Mill Co. are refitting the mill at Port Moody, putting in new machinery, and making improvements throughout the buildings. They commence operations again the 1st of February, when they will employ about forty white men in the mill, besides those employed in the woods. They expect to cut 60,000 ft. of lumber and 200,000 shingles per day. They have sufficient orders ahead to keep the mill running constantly for a year.

As a result of the formation of the recent combine, British Columbia lumbermen are strong in the hope of a profitable year in 1896. The combine is said to be growing stronger every day, the latest acquisition being thirty-one redwood mills in California, with a capitalization of \$10,000,000. Mining operations are also likely to help the lumber business in this province.

The Brunette Saw Mill Co. have received a new edger from the Wm. Hamilton Mfg. Co., Peterboro.

The Pacific Coast Lumber Co. are equipping a new planing mill. The machinery is from McGregor, Gourlay & Co., of Galt, Ont.

The largest cargo of lumber ever carried out of Burrard Inlet was taken by the Norwegian steamer Florida, recently. It consisted of 2,453,158 feet, and was loaded at the Hastings saw mill for Australia.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., Jan. 20, 1896.

## NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

(Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

A SCHEME in which New Brunswick lumbermen are interested is being promoted by Messrs. H. C. Secord and F. R. Bossely, of Toronto, who propose constructing a colonization railway from Campbellton, on the I. C. R., across the counties of Restigouche, Victoria and Madawaska, and eventually giving a through line from Bay Chaleur to Bangor, Boston, etc. The road will be about 106 miles in length, and will result in stimulating the lumber industry.

Regular shipments of lumber are being made by the Beaver Line Steamship Company to Liverpool, England.

The steamers of this line will carry a certain portion of deals, not to exceed 25 per cent. of their cargo. This will affect the full cargo business to some extent. The Furness Line steamers running fortnightly to London also carry a part cargo of deals.

The season has been somewhat unfavorable for lumbering operations so far this winter, the lack of snow having prevented lumbermen from getting their logs out of the woods. At St. John, the quantity of logs in hand for winter sawing is much lighter than usual. The firm of Stetson, Cutler & Co. have by far the largest percentage of logs available for winter sawing. On the Tobique river about 24,000,000 feet will be taken out.

Since he went to the Nashwaak thirty odd years ago, Alex. Gibson has cut fully a thousand million feet of logs there and at Blackville. The cutting has been done judiciously, and all necessary waste avoided. This is a great record for one operator.

The news of the death of Mr. Edward Jack was received with profound regret throughout the province. His name was the first to suggest itself to lumbermen in search of information bearing on the lumber resources of the country.

## SELECTS.

Alex. Gibson has 5,000,000 feet of logs now in the booms at Marysville for sawing.

A new saw mill, with a capacity of 30,000 feet, is being erected at New Mills by Crandall Prescott.

Mr. Upham, of Woodstock, is erecting a large saw mill on the bank of the river opposite Andover.

The value of export from Fredericton during December was \$19,388, principal of which were shingles, hemlock and bark.

The Masterman pulp mill on the Miramichi, near Chatham, is almost completed. It will have a capacity of 80 cords of wood per day, and will turn out 30 tons of dry pulp.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Jan. 24, 1896.

## MICHIGAN LETTER.

(Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

THE Saginaw Lumber Dealers' Association is evincing a deep interest in the proposal to impose an import duty on lumber. At a meeting of the Association held early in January, a resolution was passed urging Congress to impose duties as follows: "A fixed amount on sawed boards, planks, deals and other lumber rough; a fixed amount on all lumber merely surfaced on one or two sides; an ad valorem duty on lumber of any kind worked to any specified form; 20 per cent. ad valorem on shingles and lath, provided that where any country now imposes, or hereafter shall impose, an export duty on logs, on discriminating stumpage dues, the amount of such duty or dues shall be added to the duties named on articles enumerated above imported from such countries imposing such export duties or discriminating stumpage dues."

At a recent meeting of the North Michigan Hardwood Manufacturers' Association, held at Traverse City, it was decided to organize another association, to be known as the Michigan Maple Association. The object will be to handle all the maple cut by the members and fix the prices.

The trade here have received some encouragement by a reduction of freight rates on lumber to 1,500 different points in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. The reduction averages from 1 cent to 2½ cents per 100 pounds.

Wm. Rowe, of Columbus, Ohio, has been succeeded by the Michigan Lumber Co.

The two mills operated by Albert Pack, at Alpena, cut last season 24,000,000 feet of long lumber and 400,000 pieces of lath.

The Thunder Bay Boom Company, at Alpena, handled during the season of 1895, 50,678,573 feet of logs, 402,792 ties, 411,530 posts, and 22,570 poles.

The annual meeting of the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association is announced to take place at East Saginaw the first Wednesday in March.

The shipment of lumber from the Saginaw valley for the past season is shown to be the smallest for over thirty years. The figures are: Lumber, 136,120,632 feet; shingles, 8,415,000 feet; lath, 2,002,000 feet.

SAGINAW, Mich., Jan. 25, 1896.

## OBITUARY.

MR. JOHN BRYSON, M. P.

THE death of Mr. John Bryson, M. P. for Pontiac, Que., and an extensive lumberman, took place at his residence, Fort Coulonge, on the 18th inst. About a week previous Mr. Bryson visited his timber limits on the Upper Ottawa, where he was attacked by heart disease, from which he had been a sufferer for years, and which resulted in his death. He was prominently known among the lumbermen of the Ottawa Valley, and the news of his death occasioned much regret.

Deceased was born at Fort Coulonge, Que., in 1849, being therefore 47 years of age.

Personally, he was an estimable man, and leaves a family which is greatly honored in the district in which they live.

MR. EDWARD JACK.

FEW men were better and more favorably known throughout the maritime provinces than Mr. Edward Jack, whose death took place at his home at Fredericton, N. B., on the 31st of December last. After an illness of ten days he succumbed to an attack of effusion of the brain. In his death the lumbermen of those provinces lose an esteemed friend, and one who took a deep interest in the timber resources of the country.

He knew the province of New Brunswick and its resources as a student knows his book, and was always willing to give any information required of him. His knowledge of the natural wealth of the province, coupled with the circumstance that he was naturally of a sanguine temperament, gave him great faith in the future of New Brunswick, especially the northern belt. Deceased had been for many years a contributor to the pages of the CANADA LUMBERMAN. In company with our readers we shall miss his kindly aid.

Mr. Jack was born in St. Andrews nearly seventy years ago. He studied law in the office of Mr. Geo. D. Street, then a prominent lawyer in his native town, and after practising for a short time gave it up, and was appointed a deputy surveyor of Crown lands, in which work his law knowledge served him in good stead. He soon after was made chief engineer for the contractors on the then-called St. Andrews and Quebec Railway. During his surveying work he took especial interest in the forest growth, and soon came to be recognized as an expert in choosing timber lands, and was appointed to take charge of the stumpage department of the Crown lands of his native province, which position he resigned about fifteen years ago. In 1884 he went to Edinburgh as commissioner to the Forestry Exhibition held at that place, and received a medal from the management in recognition of his services while there. He was a good Latin, Greek, German and French scholar. In fact he spoke the latter language with such fluency that he has been taken for a Parisian by Frenchmen with whom he has been conversing. He visited the Southern States to choose timber lands for parties purchasing there. His knowledge of geology and mineralogy was also extensive, and one of the best-producing gold tracts in Nova Scotia was selected by him. Whatever he undertook he "did with all his might," and was a thoroughly honest and God-fearing man. No one in trouble or distress ever applied to him in vain. Latterly his attention was much taken up with studying various uses to which the spanghnum or moss litter might be put to, and had been experimenting largely in that direction.

For a number of years past he also interested himself in the endeavor to secure the establishment of several enterprises, such as a pulp mill at Fredericton.

The deceased leaves two sisters and one brother, the latter being Mr. R. Melrose Jack, of St. Andrews, N. B.

Ten years ago the logs from the Menominee River, Wis., lumber region ran four or five to the 1,000 feet of lumber; in 1890 they averaged six to 1,000 feet, and now twelve, fifteen, and even twenty logs are required to furnish as much.

The receipts of lumber at Buffalo by lake last year, fell short of the previous year about 17,000,000 feet. Besides the lumber receipts there were 5,000,000 feet of timber. Lath receipts are 3,000,000 short, shingles 15,000,000, and ties 54,000 less.

Four hundred and eighty-two million feet represents the amount of timber manufactured in the Duluth, Minn., district, exclusive of lath or shingles, during the season just closed. In 1894 the production of lumber in the district amounted to 346,000,000 feet.