

BELLEVILLE.

The *Intelligencer* says:—If the predictions of those who are engaged in lumbering operations in this locality are fulfilled the prospects are the coming season will be unusually active. Thus early the advance parties of several firms have established quarters for operations during the winter and locations for work are now being sought after by others. Gilmour & Co. expect to perform some very lively work in the woods this winter and the force of operators they will send out will astonish the remnant of the aborigines who dwell in the woods. They will establish four shanties and give a show for nine live jobbers to make a substantial living by their work on Beaver Creek, north of Millridge, in the township of Tudor. Deer River will be more than lively, as three shanties and six jobbers will make it the scene of their labors. (Each of these parties will number 400 men.) Six shanties and eight jobbing gangs will operate on the "Scot"; there will be one shanty in the township of Harvey, one in the township of Lake, near Clear River; one in Tudor, near the Moira River; one on the North River, in Methuen; and each will give employment to fifteen men. The cut will come to the front by the Trent and Moira Rivers, and will embrace 300,000 logs, besides ash, cedar, tamarack, spruce, and firs. The product, it is confidently expected, will be as large as that of 1881.

FORESTS REPRODUCED.

Many people entertain the idea that remuneration for forest culture during the lifetime of the persons engaging therein is an impossibility, but facts are frequently furnished which demonstrate that this idea is incorrect. In illustration the following from a Virginia correspondent is quite pertinent: "We would like to have some of the forestwise people—wise from a European, but not from an American standpoint—who are croaking about the destruction of our forests, and predicting that we will have a treeless country in a short time, see how rapidly and how beautiful Culpapper and other counties along the Virginia Midland, that were almost deforested during the late war by the great armies that camped and wintered there, are now becoming afforested in the lifetime of half a generation. We noticed a few days ago fuel and fencing being cut where Mead's army burned up every tree in the winter of 1863-4."

GOVERNMENT PROTECTION.

The commissioner of the general land office at Washington has issued a circular to the timber agents throughout the country, instructing them to protect public timber from waste and destruction by fire, by every means in their power. It refers especially to the danger arising from leaving tree tops and branches to dry upon the ground after the timber has been removed, and closes with the following significant sentence:—"A failure on the part of woodsmen to utilize all of the tree that can profitably be used, and to take reasonable precaution to prevent the spread of fires, will be regarded by this office as wanton waste, and subject them to prosecution for wanton waste and destruction of public timber." If the instructions be complied with, much good will result and forest fires on government land at least, will decrease both in number and destructiveness.—*The Lumber World*.

NORTHERN LIMIT OF THE HEMLOCK.

The Abbe Provanché, in his *Flore Canadienne*, corrects an error in the statement of Michaux, and copied by the Abbe Brunet, concerning the northern limit of the hemlock tree. In the pamphlet entitled "Voyage d'André Michaux en Canada," p. 16, it is remarked, that this tree begins near the Hudson Bay, and that around Lake St. John it forms whole forests. The writer cited affirms that he has never met the "Pruche" in those regions, and that it is wholly unknown both on Lake St. John, and on the Saguenay. He assigns its northern limit at Cape Tourment, north of Quebec, although a few specimens may occur in Charlevoix county.

According to Dr. Bell, (*Geographical Distribution of the forest trees of Canada*), the eastward and northern limit of this species is at the Bay of Chaleur. It is scarce near the eastern coast of New Brunswick, but very abundant in the

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northern part of Nova Scotia. It crosses the St. Lawrence a little below Quebec, extending further down on the north than on the south side. Thence it reaches the north end of Lake Temiscaming, and the eastern extremity of Lake Superior at Agawa, south of the Michipicoten River. On the south shore of Lake Superior it does not reach the western extremity but turns southward in the neighborhood of Ashland. An outlying grove is mentioned at Thompson, about 25 miles west of Duluth. The hemlock maintains a good size, to the verge of its range, and always appears to terminate abruptly.—*American Journal of Forestry*.

A TIMBER SUIT.

The following case was decided at the recent assizes at Barrie, according to the report of the *Midland Free Press*:—*Prentiss v. McGirr*. The Ontario Government sold some land to the Dominion Government on to which the Oka Indians were removed from the Province of Quebec. Prior to this sale the Ontario Government had sold the right to cut all the timber to the Georgian Bay Lumber Company, who, in turn, sold their right to Mr. Prentiss, the plaintiff in the present action. Mr. Prentiss, not thinking that anything was wrong, put in a gang of men last winter, who cut a considerable quantity of timber. As the men were about to draw it away the defendant, who is one of the officials connected with the Indian Department, forbade the removal of the timber, which was seized by the Dominion Government as belonging to the Indians. The plaintiff failing to get redress from the Dominion Government, brought this action against their official, who prevented the timber being taken away. His Lordship, at the conclusion of the plaintiff's case, nonsuited, holding that the defendant only acted as ordered by the Department, and could not therefore be held responsible personally. Plaintiff's remedy, if any, would be in a petition of right or in the justice of the Government. Strathy for plaintiff; Martin Q. C., for defendant. This case seems to be a hard one, as the plaintiff expended a large sum in the manufacture of the timber which is now lost to him.

Increased Use of Sawdust.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—A large amount of sawdust is being used in a profitable industry, which, it is grown in the future as it has in the past, may solve the Minneapolis problem, and cause the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce to eternally hold its peace. Boxes, of all sorts of sizes, containing sawdust, are daily sent out all over the country, and sometimes there is talk kicking on the part of the recipients, who paid their money for something else. The secret of the transaction is that the sawdust crowd answered a counterfeit money advertisement, and got sold, and, considering their design, they have little to kick about. If the fools continue to increase, an immense amount of sawdust will be required for this one line of enterprise.

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