

*From Thomas Quелlette, Gordon, Ont.*

There is a large quantity of logs cut in the bush, all skidded and ready to be moved as soon as snow comes, being chiefly ash, oak, balsam, maple and elm. The mill men are getting a little discouraged on account of the openness of the winter, but should we have three or four weeks of snow all the logs cut would be put out. Prospects for this year's business is very fair with prices moderately good.

*From Macpherson & Schell, Alexandria, Ont.*

Our sawmill cut is basswood, ash and hardwoods, principally maple. Expect to saw about 2,000,000 feet for sale. In cheese boxes we make more than any firm in America. Our "Allan Grove Combination" under Mr. D. M. Macpherson makes more cheese than any three concerns combined in the world. We cut more cheese box veneers and heading than any firm in Canada, and manufacture the best cheese box machinery and factory furnishings in America.

*From Jos. S. Wallis, Port Carling, Ont.*

The winter logging operations in this vicinity are limited. Snow at the present date is very limited, what there is being of little use for bush work. The prospects for the coming season promises to be brisk so far as stocks are concerned. Have just extended my mill twenty feet and put in a new lumber edger. Mr. R. C. Massey of this neighborhood had a narrow escape a few days ago while chopping in the woods. He went up to a small tree and hit it with his axe to jar the snow off, and stepping back to get clear of the falling snow was struck on the head by a falling limb, rendering him insensible for some time. Strange to say he did not lose his balance, and when he came to himself he was standing on his feet leaning on his axe handle. As he expresses it himself; "The next thing I knew I woke up and found myself leaning on my axe."

*From Burton & Bro., Barrie, Ont.*

Our cut this season will be 12,000,000 feet of logs on the Maganettawan and Beaverton Rivers. The season so far has been very favorable for getting out our cut. We have had plenty of snow to get around comfortably with, but how this last thaw will effect the snow in our locality we do not know just at present; we have been more fortunate than most of our neighbors in this respect. We think that the want of snow will lessen the cut all around considerably, and should have a good effect in the end in advancing the price of lumber, which we think every manufacturer will admit we should have in order to make any money. At the present time we are of the opinion that only middlemen are making money and that the manufacturers are doing all the work for the glory of it and only getting back the value of their standing pine. Our mills are at Byng Inlet, Georgian Bay.

*From Kingsbury, P. Q.*

Want of more snow has greatly retarded lumbering operations here. The Pierreville Mills Co. have four camps, and will get out 60,000 spruce and hemlock logs. Williamson & Crombie have also four camps, and will cut 30,000 spruce and hemlock logs. They are also getting out 400 cords of bark and 10,000 railway ties.

*From Apple River, N. S.*

The cut of lumber in this district this winter will probably be about eight million. C. J. White has about 200 men in the woods and will put in about 400 or 500 thousand feet, and about four schooner loads of piling. There will be about 25 cargoes of piling to be shipped out of this port during the months of May, June and July to New York. We have no snow yet, and if it don't come soon it is going to be a great drawback to the lumber trade.

*From Little Bras, d'Or, Cape Breton.*

The timber in this part of the country is pretty nearly exhausted. All the principal towns in Cape Breton import large quantities of lumber annually, especially pine lumber, cedar, shingles and laths. The winter of 1887-8 was a remarkably good one for logging. The ice on the lakes could not be better and just enough snow to make good roads, consequently the mills did more than an average season's work, still none of the mills could do more than supply the local demand. The prospects for lumbering the ensuing season does not promise well. No snow as yet.

*From the McKellar District.*

The Midland & North Shore Lumber Co. are taking out 12,000,000 feet in McKellar and Spence. The Georgian Bay Lumber Co. are taking out in Carling and Christie, 10,000,000 feet, Burton Bros., 6,000,000 feet, C. Beck, 6,000,000 feet, Moore Lumber Co., 6,000,000 feet, Ontario Lumber Co., 8,000,000, Chew Bros., 3,000,000, Conger Lumber Co., 10,000,000. S. & J. Armstrong, of McKellar, have contracts from Midland & North Shore Lumber Co. for 2,000,000 feet in the township of McKellar, and 2,000,000 feet in Parry Island, for Powers. They have also contracts for small local lots upwards of 10,000,000 feet. The winter so far has been unfavorable for most of the camps, but has not affected the workings of S. & J. Armstrong's in the least.

## THE NEWS.

## ONTARIO.

—Chew Bros., of Midland, are putting up their new mill on the site of the old Wyllie mill.

—Mr. Daniel Campbell, formerly of Orr Lake, has erected a new shingle mill near Vasey.

—The Wroxeter planing mill has been purchased by Messrs. Smith & Malcolm, of Brussels.

—Wages to axemen on the North Shore are reported twenty-five per cent. higher than last year.

—The value of exports to the United States, from Prince Edward County during 1888 was \$435,731.59.

—The machinery for the new mill of Ross, Hall & Brown, at the west end of Norman, Rat Portage, has arrived.

—Messrs. Hay Bros., of Listowel, Ont., have sold the machinery of their saw mill at Henfryn, Ont., to a party in Muskoka, for \$1,300.

—The Messrs. Barnes & Co.'s shook factory on the Chaudiere have doubled the number of their employees, having started to work by night.

—Messrs. Pierce & Co., of Ottawa, have completed some extensive repairs to their mills, and are now in good shape for opening operations in the spring.

—The Sabaskong Mining and Lumber Company has been chartered by the Dominion Government to develop the mining and lumber industries of the Rat Portage district.

—Messrs. Gilmour & Co., of Trenton, have about 500,000 feet of logs cut in the woods and have only about 50,000 drawn out. The absence of snow and the soft bottom has been the cause.

—At Goderich, a lumber schooner is being built by William Marlon and Joseph Williams. The craft is to be a three masted schooner, 144 feet long, 27 feet beam and 16 feet depth of hold. She will have a capacity of 320,000 feet.

—J. E. Gemill, of Ottawa, will apply for an act to incorporate the Ontario, Manitoba and Western Railway Company, with power to construct a railway from Port Arthur to Winnipeg, crossing the narrows of the Lake of the Woods, with branch lines westerly from Winnipeg.

—When the Madawaska Improvement Co. complete the present season's improvements on the Madawaska river, lumber firms will be enabled to bring timber and logs from limits which were inaccessible. The new works consist of a series of dams, peers and slides. A line of steamers have been placed on the lake near the head waters of the Madawaska.

—The mild weather has practically suspended operations in the lumber districts of North Hastings. The *Ontario* says that a gentleman who came in from the back townships said nearly all the men and teams were leaving the woods. He saw over fifty teams and several loads of choppers who had been paid off. There is no snow and it is impossible to get through the marshy places. The Carcallen camp in Marmora has been closed entirely.

—There is at present somewhat of a lull in the lumber trade at Toronto, many of the dealers are complaining of the scarcity of orders, although prices remain almost unchanged. The United States demand seems to have fallen off somewhat lately, but it is not thought that this will continue any length of time. The city demand continues fair, but retailers are buying cautiously to avoid over-stocking. A noticeable feature of the city trade is a steadily increasing demand for hemlock joists and scantling instead of pine, chiefly because the former sells for \$2 a thousand less.

## QUEBEC.

—The new car shops at Montreal, are intended to give employment to 1000 men.

—Messrs. J. McLaurin & Son have sold their East Templeton mills, and Mr. A. McLaurin goes into the Charlemagne Lumber Co.'s mills at Charlemagne.

Messrs. R. Hurstman & Co.'s new saw is about ready for launching. She will navigate the waters of the Ottawa between the provinces of Ontario and Quebec forming an inter provincial line.

Mr. D. Chevier forest ranger for the Quebec government, who recently returned from a tour of inspection to the different limits on the Lievre, reports a great scarcity of snow in the woods. He says that owing to the lakes still being open that it is impossible to communicate with the shanties. Unless a considerable quantity of snow comes the majority of the men will have to return.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

—Messrs. J. B. Chipmen & Co., a lumber firm of Kentville, have dissolved.

—The Halifax, N. S., *Chronicle*, estimates the output of E. D. Davison & Sons' mill on the La Have River, for the past year, at 10,500,000 feet, and 500,000 feet cut in Queen's county.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

—Mr. Malcolm Mackay, of St. John, shipped during the past year 2,271,388 superficial feet of deals from Halifax, 1,145,538 feet from Pugwash, 1,418,599 feet from Spencer's Island, and 136,693 feet of deals and 198 tons of birch from Yarmouth. His shipments for the year were 162 cargoes, 101,323,062 feet deals, 4,404 tons birch and 489 tons pine.

—The shipping returns of New Brunswick for the year just ended, which we find in the *St. John Globe*, show that there has been another falling off in tonnage, greater than that of last year, but the outlook being now better than it was at the corresponding date in 1888, on account of the great improvement in freights, the shipping interest may be said to be again assuming a hopeful aspect, notwithstanding that it is all in the future.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

—The exports of lumber from Victoria to the United States during the past year amounted to \$57,437.33.

—Reports from Eastern Michigan mills show a generally increased cut this season as compared with last, nearly every mill increasing its output.

—The Royal City Planing Mills Company, of Westminster, B. C., will construct a large tug suitable for towing sea-going vessels. The tug will be one of the largest and strongest in British Columbia waters.

—A Wisconsin lumber firm is applying to the provincial Government of this province for extensive lumber leases. They are also purchasing large tracts of timber land. It is understood extensive mills will soon be erected on the island about 50 miles north of Victoria.

—The total cut of the Vancouver mills last year is placed at 70,000,000 feet. The number of men directly and indirectly employed was in the neighborhood of 1500. The total tonnage of foreign vessels arriving at this port during the year 1888 was 134,450. There were 32 coasting vessels taking lumber from this port, the total tonnage equaling 116,185.

The Chemanius saw mills, Vancouver Island, owned by Croft & Angus, have been sold to a syndicate composed of Wisconsin and British Columbia, lumbermen. The price paid for the mills and a large acreage of timber land is said to be in the neighborhood of \$700,000. It is stated that the new proprietors will rebuild the mills and add largely to their capacity.

## MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST.

Lumber operations have been much retarded for the want of snow.

—It is probable that the saw mill recently destroyed by fire at New Sweden, Manitoba, will be re-built.

—It is expected that a saw mill will soon be erected in the Lake Dauphin district, where good spruce timber is plenty.

—At Tait's camp on the Bird Tail there are now upwards of 40,000 saw logs cut and skidded. The total cut for this winter will be between ninety and one hundred thousand saw logs.

The following are the prices charged for lumber at Edmonton, northern Alberta. Rough lumber per M, \$20; stock boards, per M, \$25. Dimensions—Up to 16 feet, \$20; for each additional foot, \$1; plank, rough, \$20; dressed on one side, \$30; dressed on both sides, \$35; flooring per M, \$40; siding, per M, \$40; rough battens, per M, \$25; fence pickets, rough, per bundle, \$3; dressed and pointed, \$4; shingles, per M, \$4; lath per bundle, \$7; base, per M, \$40; panel, per M, \$35; shelving, 1x10, per M, dressed sides, \$32.50; inch lumber, dressed on one side, per M, \$30; wainscoting, 1x3, dressed one side and beaded, per M, \$40.