

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters are invited from our readers on matters of practical and timely interest to the lumber trades. To secure insertion all communications must be accompanied with name and address of writer, not necessarily for publication. The publisher will not hold himself responsible for opinions of correspondents.

A PLEA FOR ORGANIZATION.

OWEN SOUND, March 11th, 1896.

To the Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

SIR,—Owing to the depression in the hardwood lumber trade in the States, it is necessary that the lumbermen look to the English market for the disposal of their lumber. A good deal of Canadian lumber at present goes to the English market by way of New York. In order to have a direct market for our lumber, it would be to our advantage to send a representative from here with samples of our different kinds of hardwoods in the rough and smooth. To do this it would be necessary for the lumbermen of each county to send a delegate to a convention in Toronto, at which a delegate should be appointed to represent them in the Old Country.

If the mill men and dealers would take this matter up in each county, there would not be any difficulty in raising sufficient funds to defray expenses, irrespective of any government assistance.

With the assistance of the CANADA LUMBERMAN we might, next fall, during Exhibition time, have a meeting of all the lumbermen in Ontario, which would greatly assist to advance the interests of the trade.

Yours truly,
WM. FOSTER.

"CUT-OFFS."

HEPWORTH STATION, ONT., 2nd March, 1896.

To the Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

SIR,—I have read your article entitled "Cut-offs." There is a sinful waste of timber by all saw millers who are endeavoring to manufacture 1st and 2nd hardwood lumber. Unless an outlet can be found for culls and common, manufacturers will have to continue facing a deficit on the output of their hardwood saw mills. I will be pleased to obtain an order for piece stock to be cut from 4/4 and 5/4 maple, birch, beech, ash and rock and soft elm if prices can be obtained to cover labour and leave something for the stock. I am now cutting from dry maple and birch boards, pieces from 1 x 4 to 1 x 7, 4' to 6' long, and stacking them up in anticipation of an order.

In your illustration in the March LUMBERMAN you have scarcely put the rock elm matter correct. I enclose you statement as I think I presented to you recently in a letter you printed over my signature in a former issue:

To 5,000 ft. rock elm logs @ \$5.00 \$25.00
To Cost of mant'g, 5,000 ft. with interest on capital @ 12.25 per M 11.25
\$36.25
By 1,000 ft. clear stuff in U.S. \$ 18.00
By Logs to be made up from 4,000 ft. of coarse stock.. 18.25
\$36.25

Yours truly,
J. E. MURPHY.

IMPORTATION OF LUMBER IN FRANCE.

BORDEAUX, I.E., February 28th, 1896.

To the Editor of the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

DEAR SIR,—I enclose you an extract from the Bordeaux custom records of importations at this port, showing importations of spruce, pine and all construction lumber and timber from 1890 to 1895, inclusive. This will give you an idea of the importance of this market, and show the source of our supply, in which Canada has heretofore played a very small part. You will note the falling off of importations from Norway and Germany and the augmentation of the Russian and Swedish, the former having for the last three years had the major share of our business. You will also note our importations of hardwoods fell off last year; this is owing to an important stock being left over from 1894, and a general depression in the hardwood market during 1895. I hope to have in hand very soon a similar table for other ports of France; meantime I ask your attention to the enclosed.

Our market continues firm and quiet, and buyers are holding off for concessions in prices; but as English markets are paying better prices than those offered here, it makes your sellers temporarily indifferent. The uncertainty of freights has prompted shippers not to speculate. For the moment all proposed deals are in abeyance. Few

if any transactions have been consummated. One of your big shippers offered here recently a cargo of say, 400 to 500 stds., 25% 3 x 9, 75% 3 x 7 and 3 x 8, @ 160 francs, C. and F. Bordeaux. As buyers maintain their ideas at 150 to 155 francs per std. C. and F., there were no takers for this offer. Hardwood remains inactive, with a small inquiry for Canada elm in dressed logs.

IMPORTATION OF WOOD FOR CONSTRUCTION, BORDEAUX.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895
	Cubic Metres	Cubic Metres	Cubic Metres	Cubic Metres	Cubic Metres	Cubic Metres
Belgium	11	11	11	11	11	11
Russia	30,230	82,758	23,477	43,774	64,132	55,597
Norway	7,288	2,450	2,919	3,046	1,400	100
Sweden	48,370	68,812	21,594	9,114	40,119	33,705
Germany	2,051	5,728	150	170	406	
Various others, principally U.S.A. & Canada	13,209	27,280	6,845	8,000	10,460	20,905
Total	101,127	187,094	55,085	85,154	116,859	111,307
Oak & other hardwood for construction purposes prime quality oak, however, from all countries	2,396	3,783	3,418	5,756	6,205	1,781

The above figures were taken from the Bourse by myself, and are an exact extract of the official Custom House record of importations.

Yours truly,
GEO. ALFRED MAGIE.

THE LATE JOHN BRYSON, M.P.

We are enabled to present in this issue to the readers of the LUMBERMAN a portrait of the late



THE LATE JOHN BRYSON, M. P.

Mr. John Bryson, statesman and lumberman, whose sudden death has already been recorded in this journal. Mr. Bryson, in partnership with Mr. Alexander Fraser, carried on extensive lumbering operations on the Upper Coulogne, under the style of Bryson & Fraser, which firm were also the owners of large timber limits.

The deceased was the second son of the late Hon. George Bryson, and was born at Fort Coulogne, Que., on November 30th, 1849. He received his elementary education in his native village, afterwards attending the British American Business College, Toronto, and also taking a course in the military school at Montreal. He entered his father's office as clerk at an early age, and became a partner in his business in 1870. Two years later he started on his own account, and in 1873 formed a partnership with his brother George, which lasted twenty years. At that time the partnership was formed which existed up to the time of his death.

Mr. Bryson entered public life as Mayor of Mansfield in 1882, and in the same year was elected to the Dominion House of Parliament as the representative for Pontiac county in the Conservative interest. At the general elections of

1887 he was again successful, defeating the Liberal candidate by a large majority. In 1891 there was a three-cornered contest, and by a division of the Conservative vote Mr. Bryson was defeated, the constituency falling into the hands of Mr. Thomas Murray, Liberal. Mr. Murray, however, being unseated, Mr. Bryson defeated him at the bye-election the following year, and has since that time represented the county.

In the year 1874 Mr. Bryson married Miss Mary Bryson, daughter of the late Thomas Bryson, M. P. P., who died seven years later. About two years ago he married Miss White, of Montreal, who, with two children, survive him.

In his private life the subject of our sketch enjoyed the reputation of being an honest, upright and charitable man. The riches which he had amassed were won by personal industry and hard work, he being a business man of recognized merit and standing. In religion he was a Presbyterian, and will be much missed in the courts of that body.

The estate of Mr. Bryson is valued at half a million dollars, and includes real estate, bank stock, mortgages, etc. In his will he provides amply for his wife and children, and requests that his share of the timber limit held with Mr. George Bryson, jr., shall be sold within a reasonable time.

For a photograph of Mr. Bryson we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Geo. B. Campbell, who has been intimately connected with his lumbering interests for some time.

UNITED STATES FOREST RESOURCES.

SOME valuable statistics regarding the extent, condition and consumption of the forest resources of the United States have recently been compiled by Mr. B. E. Fernow, Chief of the Division of Forestry. The forest area of that country is placed at slightly less than 500,000,000 acres. On the Pacific Coast and in the Rocky Mountains hardwoods are rare, the growth being mainly spruce, fir and bull pine. In the Southern States are found hardwoods and pine, with spruce, fir and hemlock in small quantities. Large quantities of hardwood are found in the Northern States, while spruce is predominant in the Eastern States. A rough estimate of standing timber places the amount at 2,300,000,000,000 feet, and the total annual cut is given as 40,000,000,000 feet B. M., 12,000,000,000 feet of which is pine, 5,000,000,000 spruce and fir, 3,000,000,000 oak, and 7,000,000,000 other hardwoods. The consumption increases from decade to decade in greater proportion than the population, and new industries like the wood pulp industry, add constantly to the demand.

The imports of wood and other forest products amounts to between twenty and thirty million dollars annually, and the exports between twenty-five and thirty million dollars. The average price per thousand feet of the various woods is: White oak, \$30.70; other oaks, \$34.90; hard pine, \$24.40; white pine, \$34.70; fir, \$21.00; spruce, \$20.00; cedar, \$40.00; cypress, \$31.60. The annual loss by fire is in the neighborhood of \$25,000,000.

John Reid has the contract of cutting and hauling lumber for Penber Bros., of Hibernia, N. B., who own a portable saw mill at Summer Hill. They will cut about 100,000 feet.