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R. H. RANGER & Co., at East Wilton, Me., have a panel factory, at which they cut bass-wood panels from the circumference of the log, as it is done in the establishment at Saginaw. The log is first steamed, and comes out of the machine a board, flat ribbon, which is then sawed into the sizes desired, and used mostly for sleighs and carriages. This firm has a large European trade.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—The long-sighted New York lumber dealers have had a splendid opportunity to make a small fortune in lath. Aug. 8, lath sold in that city at \$2.20, and last advices placed current prices at \$3.75, with some sales at \$4, and there are indications that the top is not reached yet. An advance of 70 per cent. in two months may be called a good one, looking at it from the dealers' side of the question.

The Thunder Bay Sash & Door Manufacturing Company, at Port Arthur, Ont., on the north shore of Lake Superior, has a capital of \$30,000. The intention is to erect a three-story frame building 44x80 feet on the ground, an engine house, dry kiln, storehouse and office. The company is to be represented at Winnipeg, so as to make sales throughout the Canadian Northwest. The object is to capture some of the trade now enjoyed by the Americans.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—Timber land in Maine is valuable, both for forest products and agriculture. George H. Fogg, of Eddington, started to make a farm out of 100 acres of forest land, which he bought in the town of Kingman for \$5 an acre. He cut 230,000 lath blocks and the frames for two 500-ton vessels off the lot, and having cleared 40 acres, he this year cut 75 tons of hay and raised 15,000 bushels of potatoes, and has 60 acres of timber left. He must have realized over \$2,000 on his 100 acre lot already, and more to hear from. It would bother a prairie farmer to do as much.

The *Parry Sound North Star* says:—The case of Ferris vs. the Parry Sound Lumber Company, for damages for flooded land, was tried at Barrie this week and resulted in the jury giving a verdict of \$100 damages in favor of Ferris. The amount sued for is \$1000. A similar case brought against the Muskoko Boom Company by Captain Harrison, of Ilfracombe, for "drowning" 25 acres of land, was also tried at the same court. The damages claimed in this case was also \$1,000 and the jury awarded damages to the amount of \$50. These cases show that juries cannot be persuaded to award "fancy" damages in such cases and proves that in advising settlers to settle their grievances with the lumbermen without a recourse to the courts we were in the right.

#### THE LATE MR. JAMES LITTLE.

In its remarks on the death of the late lamented Mr. Little, the *Montreal Herald* says—  
In 1830 he was married at St. Catherine's, and moved with his wife to a place on the Grand River, now called Caledonia. The whole section was, at this period, a wilderness inhabited by the Six Nation Indians, and Mr. Little passed months at a time without seeing the face of a white woman. He engaged in lumbering, and ultimately his business extended over nearly the whole peninsula lying between Lakes Erie and Ontario. He carried on an active business for nearly thirty years. He came to Montreal at the age of 70 years, and at once became one of the most persistent advocates of forest protection, his personal knowledge of the lumber business and the rapidly decreasing area of forest territory enabling him more rapidly to draw attention to the facts. He was in a great measure successful, as he lived to receive an acknowledgment of the soundness of his views by a special vote of thanks from the American Forestry Congress, and by having his name placed as honorable president of the Forestry Association of this Province. No one to read the able articles that have appeared in the columns of the *Herald*, and other papers could have imagined that these were the productions of a gentleman who had already passed the allotted seventy years, yet his death now at the age of 80 shows that he had passed this period, and recognizing as we do the great importance of forest conservation to the welfare of the country, can truly say that few men have done so much for the country's good, having their whole life's vigor to assist them. He was the first person in Canada to send lumber to the United States' markets, Albany being reached by night and day coaches from Buffalo in a week's time.

#### SOME MAINE WORKINGS IN WOOD.

The *Mining and Industrial Journal*, of Bangor, Me., says:—There are 2,000 clothes-pin factories in this country. Were it not for our forests of white birch, beech and other kinds of hardwoods, the world's washday would be dark indeed, as nearly every clothes-pin made in the world is made in the United States. There are some 200 factories in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Maine has several. One of these is at Strong, a thriving town under the shadow of Mount Blue. This mill is owned and operated by J. W. Porter & Son, who also turn out large quantities of croquet sets) base-ball bats, ten-pins, staves, excelsior, and wooden articles of various descriptions too numerous to mention. The clothes-pin is made of white birch, which is the best of all hardwoods in the lath, but must be worked green or it roughs up. Two machines make the clothes-pin; one turns it and another saws the slot. Then 10 bushels of pines are dumped together into a large drum, which is made to revolve rapidly; in this way the pins

are rubbed against each other and polish themselves. There is a machine which turns out a complete clothes-pin, doing both the sawing and slotting, but this pin is straight and its prongs have no spring to them; while the prongs of the pin made by the two machines are concaved, and the pin is not so easily split. Croquet sets are turned out here with astonishing rapidity, by means of a variety of lathes. They are made of all kinds of hardwood. A maple bolt is chopped into round balls at the rate of 2,000 an hour, by knives that shape the opposite hemispheres of two balls at once. One clip makes a ball—that is, half of one ball and half of another. By means of patterns and travelling knives, mallet-heads and handles are made in a variety of shapes. The fashionable mallet the past season had a head twice as long as the old-fashioned mallet and a handle about half as long. The mallet-heads are subjected to the same shaking up and self-polishing in the drum that smooths the clothes-pins. The sets are decorated by machinery, the staves, mallets and balls being placed in a painter's lathe and one revolution make a strip. One may invest 50 cents, \$5 or more in croquet. The demand has never been so great as during the past summer. A single New York firm ordered 10,000 sets. As to base-ball bats, the dealers fairly begged for them. The supply failed, for some reason or other, and they could get their orders filled nowhere. Ash and willow make the favorite bats. Willow timber is not easily had, however, as the manufacturers of artificial legs manage to secure all the supply. There's nothing equal to willow for a wooden leg.

#### PANURGE ON FORESTRY.

The following letter appears in the *Mail*.—  
SIR,—Looking into Rabelais a day or two ago I lighted on an ancient illustration of the waste deplored by Mr. Phippe. Pantagruel appoints Panurge to the lordship of Salmigondia, upon which the latter dissipates the revenue of three years in a fortnight. One of the means by which this was accomplished is given as "felling timber burning the great logs for the sale of the ashes." Those who have lived forty years in Canada have been amply familiar with this process. But Panurge had a good word to say for his extravagance, which I fear poor Canadians had not wit enough to imagine. He says: The virtue of fortitude appears therein, by the cutting down and overthrowing of the great trees, like a second Milo, making havoc of the dark forests, which did serve only to furnish dens, caves, and shelter to wolves, wild boars, and foxes; and afford receptacles, withdrawing corners and refuges to robbers, thieves, and murderers; lurking holes and skulking places for cut-throat assassins; secret obscure shops for coiners of false money, and safe retreats for heretics; laying woods even and level with the plain champagne fields and pleasant healthy ground, at the

sound of the hautboys and bagpipes playing rooks with "high and stately timber" etc., etc. At any rate it would seem that Frenchmen three hundred and fifty years ago were no wiser than Canadians, and that the acute and witty scholar had eyes for their folly and many words for its reprehension.

Yours, &c.,  
JOHN CARRY.

Port Perry, Oct. 13.

#### TIMBER AND HOUSES IN SKYE.

Throughout the isles timber is a rare and precious article, most frequently the gift of ocean. The man who secures a good log of driftwood has obtained a prize worth having. It may have been a brave old tree, tempest-torn from its home in some distant forest, carried to the sea by rushing torrents, and perchance tossed by the waves and wafted to and fro by many a current, ere it drifted to its rest on those far isles. Or it may be the masts and spars, or perchance the cargo of some wrecked vessel—whatever its story it is treasure trove, and most deeply valued. Though encrusted with barnacles or riddled by pholades it can all be turned to good account; the smallest piece will make a stool or a settle, or a box or a part of a door; while large timbers become rafters—precious heirlooms, for a young couple cannot wed till they have accumulated enough rafters to support their thatch, and should they have occasion to "fit," the only part of their bothy that commands any pecuniary compensation is the roof, not the work only, but also the heavy thatch saturated with thick greasy peat-reek, (in other words with a thick coating of soot). This, when broken up, forms a valuable manure for the unfertile crofts. —*Temple Bar.*

#### Michoacan Forests.

The state of Michoacan, which Humboldt pronounced the paradise of Mexico, lies in the southwestern part of that great republic, and borders on the Pacific ocean. Besides being a country of extraordinary richness in soil and minerals, it has a vast abundance of valuable woods. The hills and mountains are everywhere clothed with luxuriant forests, in which grow a great variety of valuable woods, such as ebony, mahogany, etc. These forest growths are said to be more abundant in Michoacan than anywhere else in Mexico, and it is predicted that as soon as the present progressive policy of that country causes Michoacan to be penetrated by railroads, its trade in valuable woods will become immense. —*Northwestern Lumberman.*

On Oct. 4, 8,500 bushels of Oregon wheat arrived at Duluth over the Northern Pacific railway, the first shipment of the kind, to Duluth, ever made by way of the newly completed route. This receipt of wheat marks a new area in northwestern traffic and development.