

Seven men unceremoniously left the employ of the Messrs. Hurdman last month. They had only worked three days. Lumbermen sigh for the good old days when there was a law to punish men who left their work without a just cause. There are numbers of the river men now, who stay in Ottawa till they run up a big bill at their boarding house, then engage with some lumberman, go to the wood- and on the slightest pretext, or no pretext at all, leave their employer after he has paid their way up and in many cases advanced money to them.

The mills in the neighborhood of Fallbrook do not get much Pine to cut now, and the most they cut is in Hemlock, Basswood and Ash. At one time there were seven saw mills within a radius of two miles cutting, on an average 1,000,000 feet each a year, but now there are only three cutting about one and a half million altogether. The largest drive of sawlogs that ever went down the Mississippi in one season passed here a short time ago on its way to Carleton Place, to be cut there by the Canada Lumber Co., and Boyd Caldwell & Son. It consisted of about two hundred and twenty thousand pieces.

QUEBEC.

The mills at Scottown are all shut down for want of logs.

L. A. Stearns & Co., lumber and saw mill, have assigned.

The new steam saw mill of the Roberval Lumber Company, Roberval, is now in active operation, turning out some fine pine and spruce lumber. They expect to saw nearly 100,000 logs during the season.

The E. B. Eddy Company have decided not to send any more men into the woods or make any more logs. The Eddy limits found employment for about 500 men yearly. The mills will close down unless sold. They employ a day gang of about 300 and a night gang of about 250. Unless the mills and limits are purchased before the logs are cut, several hundred men will be thrown out of employment.

A meeting of lumbermen operating timber limits in the Province of Quebec was held Sept. 5th, to consider the new regulations of the Crown Lands Department with respect to the prevention of destruction of timber by fire, and the tax imposed on limit holders for the purpose of enforcing such regulations. Mr. J. R. Booth presided. Under the new law the Government appoint fire rangers to enforce the regulations, and half the expense of maintaining these officials is paid by the Government, and the other half raised by assessment at the rate of ten cents per mile upon the limits under license. Some of the lumbermen objected to the Quebec fire protection tax, on the ground that the fire rangers are appointed by the Government without consulting the lumbermen, whereas in Ontario license holders have a say in the appointment of fire rangers for their respective districts. After some discussion it was agreed that Mr. Charleson, the superintendent of Forest and Fire Rangers for Quebec, be informed that the limit holders agreed to pay the assessment levied upon them for fire protection purposes, with the understanding that their request that they should have a voice in the selection of fire rangers be submitted for the consideration of the Provincial Government. Mr. Charleson promised to convey the representation of the limit holders to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mr. H. O. Larey's mill at Mission Point has been shut down for the season for lack of logs.

The continuance of the dry weather has been the occasion of numerous forest fires in the Province. Much valuable timber has been destroyed.

H. H. Stevens, the well-known shingle manufacturer, has 12 machines at work, at Fairfield and Salmon river, and will cut out during the year twenty million shingles.

At a recent sale of the Fredericton Boom Company, spruce logs brought \$9.10 a thousand for merchantable, and two-thirds of that price for battens. White pine sold for \$7.60, cedar, \$5 and hemlock \$4.10.

Simmon & Burpee, bridge builders and mill owners, Fredericton, have assigned with heavy liabilities. The hanging up of the firm's logs by low water on the Upper St. John was the chief cause of the difficulty. It is stated that the liabilities of the firm will amount to about \$40,000 and that the assets will pay about sixty cents on the dollar.

The Chatham World says: Steamers are steadily supplanting sailing vessels in the deal carrying trade, much to the disgust of the laborers and others in port. The Thorndike, now loading at Muirhead's mill, is nearly 2000 tons and will carry about two million feet. She will have to take in part of her cargo outside the bar. A still larger steamship is expected.

During the month forest fires have done an immense amount of damage in the province; for miles the forests burned on each side of the tract on the Main Central Railroad.

On the New Brunswick Railroad thousands of dollars of damage was done. The country roads were impassable on account of the heat. The towns of Fredericton and Moncton was surrounded by flames and the people had to fight hard to save their property.

There promises to be great activity in the woods the coming winter, and the cut will be unusually heavy. Operators who have hitherto gone to Arcostook are seeking grounds on the Canadian side of the line in consequence of the trouble and expense arising out of the United States bonded system, and also on account of the extremely high rates charged by the Arcostook people for camp supplies. Wm. Sewell, who is to operate for Andre, Cushing & Sons, has started for the Aegash, and Walter Stevens has started for Fish river with his crew for E. D. Jewell & Co. Kilburn & Baird will operate extensively on the Tobique, while Wm. Teddie will occupy his old grounds on the same river. Gilman Bros. have left for Little Black river, Quebec, for Wm. Murray, and Robt. Connors is preparing for work on Cabins lake, his field of last winter. Beveridge & Co. go to Nicetina lake, on the Tobique. David Keswick, of Portland, will operate extensively on the Grand river. Lynch Bros. and Mr. Welch are making extensive preparations for a big cut on the Miramichi.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A tug called the *Active*, has been completed for the Royal City Mills, Westminster.

The Royal City Planing Mills Company, Westminster, contemplates making extensive improvements in its mills.

Improvements are being made in the Vancouver sawmill. It is the intention to ship to foreign countries as soon as the necessary alterations have been made.

The sale of the Hastings mill property at Vancouver to an English syndicate is reported off, owing to one of the British shareholders declining to dispose of his stock.

In view of the prospect of rafts of logs being exported from British Columbia to the United States, the governments are considering a rate of duty to be levied on British Columbia pine.

A. J. Hill and H. G. Ross, commission agents and surveyors, Westminster, have dissolved partnership. Ross will continue the commission business, and Hill the engineering department.

The Crystal City mill is expected to be in operation by the middle of October. On account of the moulders strike and the cancellation of orders by Goldie & McCulloch, of Galt, they were unable to get their engine completed and have purchased one now on exhibition in Toronto, which has received the highest commendation.

NOVA SCOTIA.

James A. Freeman, general store and lumber, Kempt, is offering to compromise.

The lumbering firm of Messrs. E. D. Davidson & Son, have purchased the mill and timber formerly owned by the Messrs. Freeman's on the Port Medway river.

E. Leonard & Sons have filled an order for engine, boiler and sawmill for Miss Stirling, founder of Edinburgh and Leith Children's Aid and Refuge at Aylesford, Nova Scotia.

Lumbering in Nova Scotia appears to have brightened up, and there is quite an active demand for milling property. J. E. Dickey, of Steviache, recently placed his saw mill and timber limits in Eastville on the market. They were at once taken up by a company from Amherst that intends to cut lumber on a large scale. This property is considered one of the finest water privileges in Nova Scotia.

AMERICAN.

Horace S. Shepard, Treasurer of the Shepard & Morse Lumber Co., whose office is in Boston, has failed. Liabilities, 100,000, assets, light.

J. W. Howry & Sons, of Bay City, have purchased a large block of Canadian timber and are making arrangements to commence lumbering. The logs will be towed to Saginaw river to be manufactured.

J. Weiss, a lumber dealer and large stockholder in the H. S. Matthews Lumber Co., Texas, Texas, the largest concern in the place, has decamped, carrying with him, it is alleged, funds of other parties estimated at from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

The lumber output of Memphis, Tenn. for the commercial year closed Aug. 31, by the mills and dealers, is estimated at \$1,930,000. These firms sold within the past 12 months over 60,000,000 feet of lumber, not including the output of the commission men during the same period.

The Folsom estate has a large amount of pine land in the Spanish river country, Canada. Some of this pine has been

cut into logs, while a large amount is still in the tree. At present the Folsom mill in Bay City, Mich., is busy consuming the logs on hand. As soon as the American logs are all sawed up, the shipment of the Spanish river stock will commence, and continue until their mill and store rooms are filled to their utmost capacity. The mill will then begin the consumption of these logs. There will be enough of them to last an indefinite period.

The Bangor Commercial intimates that the ordinary gang or rotary saw mill is to be superseded by the "band mill," in which the band saw is applied to all purposes of sawing. The F. W. Ayer & Co. mill is fitted with this band saw arrangement, and, says the Commercial, "representatives from nearly every mill on the St. John river, from the New Hampshire mills and the Bradstreets at Gardiner and from other mills all over the state have been here and inspected it and watched it work. They have all been surprised and pleased with it. Our own millmen say there will never be another gang or rotary put in here, but that they will be replaced by the band mill. We give the figures showing the amount of lumber sawed by the little and big gangs at Mr. Ayer's mills yesterday as well as that sawed by the band saw, and a comparison will be interesting. In eleven hours yesterday the little gang sawed 73,287 feet, the big gang 83,208 feet, and the band saw 128,357 feet making a total of 284,852 feet.

CASUALTIES.

Samuel Purcell, a young man working in Pierce & Co.'s lumber mill on the Chaudiere, had the toes of his right foot taken off by the carriage that feeds the circular saw.

Wm. Jacques, working at McKee's mill, Windsor, fell from a lumber pile and broke three of his ribs.

Theodore Moreau, who was engaged in canting logs at Gratton's mill, on the Ottawa, was frightfully crushed by a jam of logs rolling on him. Faint hopes are entertained of his recovery.

Crowley West, a well known citizen, fell on a circular saw at Babbitts mill, Gibson, N. B. and had his shoulder bone cut almost to the joint and one arm badly lacerated.

Geo. Palmer had three of his fingers almost severed by a circular saw at Carleton mills, Kouchibouguac, N. B.

A Finlander, named Marston, was killed by a slab saw in Graham, Horne & Co's mill, at Vermillion Bay.

While tailing on the gang at the Lakefield Lumber Co.'s mill, Lakefield, Ont., Wm. Wood was caught between the stock and the roller, fracturing the small bone of the leg.

Robert Forrester, while working on a machine in Cushing's planing mill, Calgary, Man., had his hand badly lacerated by coming in contact with the revolving knives.

William Herricks, an employee of the Canada Lumber Co., at Carleton Place, was killed on the 17th by a lorry laden with lumber running over him.

FIRE RECORD.

Larlee's mill at Perth Centre, N. B., was burned with its machinery.

J. C. Shook's saw mill at Corbelton, Ont. was burned early last month.

Leith's saw mill, near Moncton, N. B., was burned recently with all its contents.

The saw mill at Duncan's Indian colony at Metlakatla has been destroyed by fire. Loss, \$22,000.

W. & J. Anderson's saw mill, at Burnt Church, near Chatham, N. B., was burned last month. Loss \$3,000; no insurance.

The shingle mill, of Gilmour & Co., Trenton, Ont., was burned Sept. 4th. Loss about \$20,000; insured for \$13,000. The mill had been partly shut down for some time.

The barn and stables belonging to the Victoria Harbor Lumber Co., Victoria Harbor, was burned on the 15th, together with the contents. A spark from the burner is supposed to have been the cause of the fire.

A fire in Laird, Norton & Co.'s lumber yard, at Winona, Minn., destroyed twenty-two million feet of lumber, seven million shingles, and a three-story brick warehouse and contents, consisting of doors, sash, glass, etc., with sheds, tramways, etc.

Mr. L. H. Hillman's mill situated on the Ottawa, opposite Kettle Island, was burned Sept. 11th, and 1,500,000 feet of lumber. Loss nearly \$200,000. The mill was valued at \$22,000; insured for \$8,000. The lumber was owned by the Rathbun Co., of Deseronto, and was principally this season's cut. It consisted of pine, ash, birch and basswood. It was valued at \$175,000, and was partly insured. Fifty men are thrown out of employment.