

A GOOD THING FOR CANADA.

"The new tariff bill," said Judge Daniels, in response to an interviewer at Washington, "will become law within the ten days of its passing, unless it is signed before that time by the President. The lumber people of western New York are greatly interested in this, and I have had much correspondence concerning the free lumber clause of the new bill. It is a great slaughter to the lumber industry, and free lumber will prove most injurious to the business along the frontier. When the bill was in conference I endeavored to get them to put an ad valorem duty on plain, matched, grooved and tongued lumber, but they did not pay the slightest heed to the arguments showing the necessity for such duty in order to protect our lumber manufacturers from the inroads that will be made upon them by the Canadian people. All manufactured lumber can be made cheaper in Canada than it can be made on this side, as wages stand now. No argument is needed to show the injustice thus done to the lumber trade on the American side. It speaks for itself."

A VIEW FROM THE SOUTH.

Amos Kent, Kentwood, L.A., yellow pine manufacturer, says: "That to place domestic production on an equality with foreign production the rates of duty should be a specific duty of \$1.50 per thousand on lumber and \$1 per thousand on logs for the following reason: My product, the bulk of it, must be marketed in the states of Illinois, Iowa, and other states north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers. Without the above duty on Canadian lumber, or lumber made in the United States from Canadian logs, can, on account of the less freights and the facilities for rafting and transporting logs to mills, reach the market at \$1.50 less, actual cost, than I can place my product there. The Canadian pine and hemlock being much lighter in weight, have great advantages in freight, even where distances to be transported are equal."

WILL INCREASE CANADIAN STUMPAGE.

Mitchell & McClure, Duluth, Minn., lumber manufacturers, state: "The output of our mill in Duluth is 40,000,000 feet each season. We are interested in the Vermillion Lumber Company, operating at Three Rivers, Quebec. Our average wages paid last year were \$1.84 per man, running from \$5.25 for skilled labor down to \$1.50 for common labor. While in Three Rivers last summer I asked the superintendent what were the average wages paid by them in the mill and was informed that they were \$1.07 per man. They paid their common labor 90 cents per day. We paid in the woods here this winter about \$16 to \$20 per month and board. Lumber in this market has declined fully \$2 per thousand feet. Every cent of the \$1 duty to be taken off of lumber will be added to Canadian stumpage within two years."

A MICHIGAN FIRM SPEAKS.

Briggs & Cooper, of Saginaw, Mich., state: "We manufacture about 8,000,000 feet of lumber annually. Have run full time until last fall and part of the time ran down the middle of October and will not start until business is better, although we have a full stock of logs. If lumber is imported from Canada, the Saginaw market will be restricted to an amount equal to that imported; and, as the United States can supply the territory reached by Canada, and Canada will go into the Saginaw market, we will have to intrude on ground now covered by other parties in the United States. Our opinion is that prices will not be lowered much, but there will have to be a new adjustment of markets by United States dealers. If an export duty were put on logs by Canada, Michigan men would go there to manufacture and thus injure this state."

A BUFFALO HARDWOOD CONCERN.

The Buffalo Hardwood Lumber Company, of Buffalo, N. Y., state: "We have bought for a number of years more or less stock in Canada. The duty on most of these goods which we buy is \$2 per thousand and \$1 per thousand on basswood lumber. If this duty is taken off, it is our belief, from talking with parties from whom we have been buying, that the Canadian will expect to advance his price at least \$1.50 per thousand feet on all lumber on which the duty is \$2, and the wholesale buyer

will undoubtedly be able to buy 50 cents per thousand cheaper than he has in the past. The parties who buy through the wholesale houses will perhaps be able to buy and receive 50 cents per thousand benefit on their purchases; and, by the time it reaches the final purchaser, we do not believe that he will get any of the benefit of the reduction in the duty. We do not believe that it would be a benefit to this country to have lumber come in free, and we think we are in a position to judge quite fairly in the matter."

WHAT UNITED STATES LUMBER JOURNALS SAY.

Northwestern Lumberman: No good can come out of whining over the result, and it remains to be seen what the effect will be. If the lumber interests of the country had been as strong in the lobby as those of others less important, the end might have been different. There remains the consolation that the whole tariff question has been disposed of, and the country knowing exactly how it stands in that connection will now buckle up and get down to business again.

The Timberman: The senate bill, which passed the house on Monday, provides in addition to free lumber on general principles, that the former duty shall be reimposed on lumber coming from any country which shall place an export duty on logs. This is as it should be, and we believe has the hearty approval of every business man, regardless of politics; for without this provision, which was omitted in one of the tariff bills drafted, there would be nothing to prevent the Canadian government from reimposing the duty on logs; thus having the advantage of a free import into this country without the competition of American mills being able to cut Canadian logs. If free trade in any or all conditions be desirable, it should be reciprocal in such cases as this; and it is hoped that when the new tariff bill shall become a law it will contain this provision, which is for the safeguard of the interests on this side of the line, and, moreover, accords with what Canadian authorities have insisted upon as an equitable arrangement.

Mississippi Valley Lumberman: At last congress has done something that it should have done over a year ago—passed a tariff bill—and as far as its good effect is concerned, it matters little what is the nature of the bill. It was the uncertainty that killed, and as soon as President Cleveland announces his course in regard to it, the uncertainty may be said to be at an end. Manufacturers can then go ahead and start up their factories and mills, knowing "where they are at." Business may not boom as many of the daily press would make us believe, but it will without doubt be greatly improved and will continue to grow healthier and stronger every day. The lumber trade is already showing some signs of a betterment, and although it was not caused by the tariff legislation, but rather by good crops, it will be helped by some tariff measure becoming a law and this much dreaded feeling of uncertainty put to an end.

The Southern Lumberman, of Nashville, Tenn., is a very mad paper, devoting more than a column and a half to a discussion of the tariff. It asks: "What mysterious Canadian influence with voters on tariff bills in a United States Congress makes this thing possible?" Having quoted at some length from the CANADA LUMBERMAN, it then goes on to say: "On the behalf and in the interest of Canadian lumber manufacturers, it is quite natural that our Toronto lumber trade contemporary should commend President Cleveland in 'the resolute stand taken' by him in support of free Canadian lumber, but lumbermen on this side of the lakes would like to know how many electoral votes in the Province of Ontario for a United States president warrants such partiality on the part of the present administration?" and much else in the same line. We thought our Southern friends were good natured sort of fellows, but our Nashville brother is rattled badly this time.

Good pencil cedar is getting so scarce that the great firm of Faber & Company have begun to cultivate forests of cedar in Germany. At Schloss Stein there is a cedar forest which covers thirteen acres, and the head of the firm has, for many years, maintained nurseries and plantations of cedars on his land in Bavaria, grown from seed which he imported from Florida.

ENGINEERS WHO TINKER.

THE American Machinist comes to the rescue of the engineer who knows enough to "tinker" with his engine when it needs it, in these words: "There are men around engines who ought to do 'tinkering,' but they are not engineers. They are men who rattle around for about a dollar and a quarter a day. These be they who never ought to get within a half-mile of an engine with wrench or hammer. No one ever knew a real engineer to do much tinkering. He is just lazy enough not to do useless work, and just enterprising enough to do such tinkering as is required. An engineer who hasn't push enough about him to tinker the pounds and other little ills out of his engine ought to get an easier job without serious delay. He might do well at holding down a chair, or something of that sort, but as an engineer he hasn't just a little chance of success. In the best interest of his employer he ought to get another job before his engine has to go to the machine shop, or the machine shop go to the engine."

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF DIFFERENT BOILERS.

THE comparative value of different boilers has lately been a prominent theme at the meetings of different engineering associations, and much has been said in favor of those of water tube construction. In the advantages claimed for the latter stress is laid on the fact that when the circulation is efficient a rapid current flows through the tubes, producing a tolerably uniform temperature in all parts of the boiler, and there are no serious strains from unequal expansion—the small diameter of the tubes permitting the attainment of excessive strength over any desired ordinary steam pressure even with thin heating surfaces. As such boilers are also made in sections of moderate size they are easily transported and can be conveyed through narrow openings of buildings which would not admit of a fire tube boiler, and they may be fixed in confined spaces. As is well understood, the heating surface of such boilers is measured on the internal diameter of the tube; in a general way, one square foot of heating surface being required for the evaporation of two and one-half pounds of water per hour, and 49 square feet of heating surface for every 100 pounds of water evaporated per hour.

AN INSPECTOR'S EXPERIENCE.

AN inspector writes concerning an experience that recently befell him, as follows: "I had an experience a few weeks ago, which I should be quite reluctant to repeat under the same circumstances, if it could be avoided as well as not. I called to make an inspection at a stone works, where they have two boilers, but use only one at a time. The engineer was working at his two pumps, which he could not get to throw water, and was scolding because he had no steam to run with, although he had plenty only a short time before. The tubes in the boiler I was going to inspect were badly choked, and, in fact, nearly filled with soot from the coal. I thought that might be the trouble with the boiler they were using, so I opened the front of that boiler and looked into the tubes. They were red hot. I looked for the water. It was gone. I looked under the boiler to see the fire, and jets of burning gas were actually spurting out between the rivets on the seams over the fire. And the engineer was still working at his pumps, trying to get some water. I had a queer feeling just at that instant. I got the engineer away from the pumps as soon as possible and had him draw the fire; and I could see the gas burning along the seam while the fire was being drawn. As soon as it was darkened in the arch a little, I could see that the sheet on the bottom of the boiler was red hot for a space of about three feet square. As soon as the boiler cooled down we opened the manhole, and found the inside to be bone dry. The outcome was that the seam next to the bridge wall was badly fire-cracked and sprung, so that a new sheet had to be put in. The tubes had all come out, and all the seams on the fire surface had to be re-calked; which I considered to be a very fortunate escape."—The Locomotive.

There is wood growing in Mexico, which is purple in color, and is now being cut and shipped to European markets.