

LUMBERING OPERATIONS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

THE bulk of the lumber cut for export in the western part of Nova Scotia goes to South America and the West Indies, only a small portion being shipped to the United States and Europe. Beginning at Yarmouth and coming up the Bay of Fundy, the principal operators and exporters are Blackadar & Co., of Hectanooga and Methagan River. At the former place they have a steam rotary mill and at the latter a water power gang mill, with a combined capacity of six million feet. Parker, Eakins & Co. have a water power mill at Methagan river, which cuts one and one-half million feet. These mills are situated on the line of the Dominion Atlantic Railway, and the lumber is freighted to Yarmouth for shipment.

At Weymouth, G. D. Campbell saws about two million feet, and Charles Burrill & Co. buy the product of several mills, all of which is shipped direct. The Sissiboo pulp mill is about five miles above the town of Weymouth, on the Sissiboo river, and has a capacity of about twenty tons per day.

Pickles & Mills, Annapolis, have a considerable timber limit at Paradise, their output being about four million feet, which is taken by rail to Annapolis for shipment. T. S. Whitman, Annapolis, buys the cut of several small mills inland, and also ships from Annapolis. R. W. Hardwick, Annapolis, saws about one million feet for export to the United States and West Indies, also considerable for the local trade. He has a sash and door factory in connection and carries on a large building trade.

Clarke Bros., Bear River, operate several small mills, sawing from four to five million feet, which they ship in their own vessels to South America, United States and the West Indies. The vessels bring return cargoes of sugar and molasses from the West Indies, and coal from the United States.

R. W. Kinsman & Co., Canning, successors to Hon. F. W. Horden, the present Minister of Militia, have a rotary mill at Blomdon, in which they saw about three million feet per year for export. They saw some deals for the English markets, as well as boards for the United States and the West Indies. They ship via Minas Basin into the Bay of Fundy.

THE JORDAN RIVER.

H. W. Freeman carries on lumbering operations on this river, which is about thirty-three miles east of Liverpool. About two years ago he purchased the Doull property adjoining his own, on the same river. This, with the Freeman property, which he purchased about five years ago, makes an excellent limit. Last year he thoroughly rebuilt the mill, putting in new water wheels, new rotary, and practically a new gang, and put all the other machinery in first class shape. The mill has now a capacity of five million feet in a season. Formerly the mill cut exclusively for the South American, West India and United States markets, but latterly it has been turned to sawing deals. Mr. Freeman is thoroughly practical, and is always ready to manufacture for the market that yields the best returns. He intends stocking the mill for next season to its full capacity. He resides in the shiretown, Shelburne, seven miles further west.

MILTON.

This town is situated on the Liverpool river, about three miles from Liverpool, which is about one hundred miles west of Halifax. If the name had another "l" and a "w" put in the proper places, it would spell "Milltown," and would describe the place exactly. There are two dams on the river, about three-quarters of a mile apart, each furnishing power for four mills, by which the town is practically sustained. There is also a large pulp mill about two miles further up the river. On the lower dam are the mills of Henry L. Tupper, John Millard, Mulard & Freeman and John G. Morton. John Millard's mill is a rotary and stock gang, with patent edger, trimmers, lath machine and planer, while the others are live gang mills. At the upper dam Harlow & Kempton have a live gang and rotary mill, with patent edger, lath and picket machines, box and shook machinery. They handle from three to four million feet each season. This firm also have another mill, with planers and sash and door machinery. The Estate of Joseph Ford has a rotary, which has not been in operation this year, and Eldred Minard has a live gang, in which he saws from three-quarters to one million feet. The principal stock cut in all these mills is pine, spruce and hemlock boards, which are exported to the West Indies,

South America and the United States. There is a considerable quantity of oak on this river, some of which is cut every year for Halifax markets, and also for the car works at Amherst. The pulp mill referred to is owned by the Acadia Pulp & Paper Company, who use a large quantity of the smaller logs. Their output is about sixty tons of net pulp for twenty-four hours. The pulp and lumber are transported to shipping point at Liverpool on a steam tramway, built about two years ago. The lumber operations in Milton have been very slack for the past two or three years, owing to the complications in Cuba and other West Indian Islands, but now that there is a prospect of business reverting to its normal condition, the outlook is brighter.

About three miles east of Milton, J. & J. Coops have a steam gang, shingle and planing mill, and also a mill for cutting pulp blocks for the Acadia pulp mill at Milton. This firm saw about one million feet per year, of board, ship and building timber. Lumber shipments from Liverpool are made in a small class of vessels—brigs, brigantines and schooners—which usually return with sugar or molasses to some of the Nova Scotian ports.

SHEET HARBOR.

The section of country that goes under the name of Sheet Harbor has been operated for a long time, but for a few years back neither of the large limits which converge there have been operated but to a very limited extent. There was an American syndicate which bonded these and a number of other properties, but for some reason the purchase was not completed. Afterwards capitalists at Amherst concluded that these properties offered good fields for investment, with the result that both were purchased in 1896, and have been operated to a moderate extent since. The property at West River, Sheet Harbor, is owned by the Sheet Harbor Lumber Co., who have sawn about four million feet of English deals in each of the two years they have owned the property. At East River, some two miles distant, the East River Lumber Company have operated to about the same extent. These two rivers afford splendid water power privileges, and a description of one mill will suffice for the other. The equipment consists of a live gang and rotary, with the necessary edging and trimming machinery and planers. Large ships can take cargo in the river, a short distance below the East River mill. These mills have usually sawn for the English markets. Sheet Harbor is about sixty miles by water east of Halifax, on the Atlantic coast.

WANT FREE LUMBER.

At the monthly meeting of the Massachusetts Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association, held in Boston on December 8th, one of the subjects to which careful attention was given by the members present was "Reciprocal Trade with Canada from the Lumberman's Point of View," which was interestingly treated by Mr. W. R. Chester. He pointed out that the enormous amount of lumber that is being used for manufacturing purposes in the United States, particularly for supplying the immense and steadily increasing demand for wood-pulp paper, is fast decimating the forests of that country. In New York and New England alone the amount of spruce used in paper manufacturing now amounts to 650,000,000 feet a year, while from Maine to Michigan, inclusive, all except the coarser qualities of pine have been practically used up. Under these circumstances he felt that the hour had arrived when the rapid destruction of the forests of the United States should be stopped, and what is left of them carefully husbanded. This necessary policy in the face of the continuous demand for lumber of all kinds could only be carried out by drawing what is needed for manufacturing purposes from the abundant supply to be found in the forests of Canada. In pursuance of his advice, a resolution was introduced and referred to a special committee stating that "the Association favors reciprocity relations with Canada whenever such relations can be established on a fair and equitable basis; that it behooves this Association to give this subject careful consideration, as the lumber interests of the two countries are extensive; and that, owing to the vast amount of spruce now being used for pulp to be manufactured into paper, this wood being considered the most valuable for that purpose, our spruce forests are being rapidly decimated, while our pine forests have been practically cleared of all but coarse qualities, from Maine to, and including, Michigan. We believe the time has come for us to carefully husband the

remaining forests, as the source of future wealth, health and beauty, and to borrow from our neighbor, who still has an abundance."

REPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THE government of Tasmania, a colony south of Australia, has passed an act making certain changes in the customs duties. The new schedule relating to timber is as follows:

Timber, sawn, 3 inches or over, not elsewhere specified, 1s. 6d. per 100 superficial feet; timber, sawn, under 3 inches, 2s. 6d. per 100 superficial feet; timber, planed, of every description, including tongued and grooved boards, 5s. per 100 superficial feet; timber, in short lengths, suitable for making cases, not exceeding two cubic feet in measurement, 1½d. per case; timber in log and veneer wood, free.

Mr. J. S. Larke, commissioner for Australia, writes to the Department of Trade and Commerce as follows:

I have had an inquiry respecting sculls and boat oars. The extent of the trade I have called attention to in previous reports. The chief demand is for ash oars, and they are bought in lots of five hundred and a thousand pairs. The number of spruce sculls required is more limited. The business is now largely done by Detroit and New York firms. The following are prices quoted f.o.b. at Detroit, cash:—

	Per Foot
Plain ash oars, 6 to 12 ft. in length.....	5c.
" " " 13 to 16 ft. in length.....	6c.
" " " 17 to 18 ft. in length.....	6½c.
" " " 19 ft. and upwards.....	1c.
(Extra up to 22 ft. 2c. after.)	
" " " 6 to 12 ft. in length, copper tipped	5½c.
Pine spoon oars, 7 to 8 ft. in length.....	10c.
Spruce spoon oars, 7 to 8 ft. long, copper tipped, leathered and varnished	13c.
Straight spruce oars, 7 to 8 ft. long, copper tipped	7c.

The report of Mr. G. Eustace Bird, commercial agent for Kingston, Jamaica, says of lumber:

"What, however, concerns me most to bring to the notice of your honorable department is, that as a result of the war and the difficulty at first in chartering American bottoms, lumber of all descriptions made a considerable advance; in fact, in many instances orders could not be supplied. I then thought it a good opportunity for the exporters in the provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to introduce their spruce and pine direct instead of via New York, and felt it incumbent on me to take measure to bring the situation to their notice. I accordingly addressed a communication to the CANADA LUMBERMAN, of Toronto, Ontario, and other organs on the subject, giving full particulars as to the sizes and descriptions required, offering my services for any other information desired. I, however, regret to say that but one cargo arrived at the port of Montego Bay, and that by chance, the craft being unable to enter a Cuban blockaded port. Although results were anything but satisfactory, I felt satisfied that I had done my duty, and I again through your honorable department call the attention of Canadian lumbermen to the fact that there is plenty of room for a direct profitable trade."

"WANTED AND FOR SALE"

Persons having for sale or wishing to purchase a particular lot of lumber, a mill property, timber limits, second hand machinery, etc., in fact, anything pertaining to lumbering operations, will find a buyer or seller, as the case may be, by placing an advertisement in the "Wanted and For Sale Department" of the CANADA LUMBERMAN Weekly Edition. Testimonials to the value of this department by those who have given it a trial state that the results of advertisements were frequently better than anticipated. The cost is comparatively small. Mill owners might, with profit to themselves, make use of this method of advertising their stock to a still greater extent.

The J. C. McLaren Belting Company, of Montreal, are sending to their customers a neat 15-inch desk rule, drawing attention to their well-known brands of belting, general mill supplies, pulleys, etc.