

## TIMBER AND LUMBER NOTES.

The activity with which lumbering operations are to be carried on this coming season can be judged from the fact, says the *Manitoulin Expositor*, that in addition to large shipments already reported, the Atlantic on her last trip up left five cars of lumbermen's supplies at Meldrum Bay and three at Cockburn Island and that there are about eight cars to be shipped to those ports yet.

Mr. Bolier says that the Georgian Bay Lumber Company will put a large number of men into the woods this winter and will get out in all 200,000,000 feet of logs. The fire has damaged over 15,000,000 feet in the company's limit.

We learn from the *Quebec Chronicle*, 15th, that the timber market has been pretty quiet, and no sales were reported last week; though, since we last gave a report of the market, we understand three large Ottawa rafts changed hands at 24 cents for 35 feet; 26 and 28 cents for 58 feet, and 22 to 22½ cents for 50 feet; the former being 1886 timber and the latter 1887 wood. The demand for old wood is sluggish, and the stock at present on hand comes under the category.

The following comparative statement of timber, spars, staves, &c., measured 13th October, and culled to date, is furnished by the Quebec supervisor:

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Waney White			
Pine .....	2,751,523	2,812,681	1,995,110
White Pine..	2,654,596	2,602,394	1,166,922
Red Pine ....	69,767	266,097	591,646
Oak .....	1,460,413	1,036,583	716,720
Elm .....	981,256	398,379	219,892
Ash .....	268,636	132,751	112,950
Basswood ....	95	218	535
Butternut ....	3,083	192	1,079
Tamarac .....	3,622	5,085	5,507
Birch & Maple	380,383	227,183	116,694
Masts & Bow-			
sprits.....	—pcs	104 pcs	—pcs
Spars.....	17 pcs	—pcs	—pcs
Std. Staves ..	76.6.0.17	65.1.2.28	44.1.1.15
W. I. Staves..	185.9.3.25	128.7.0.29	136.8.2.18
Brl. Staves ..	195.9.3.25	19.0.3.16	15.4.0.11

The big mill now run by Messrs. Melville and Cooper closed down last week after a most successful season's run, says the *Collingwood Bulletin*. During the time it was in operation from the 25th of May to the 6th of October it cut about 6,000,000 feet of very superior stock.

There will probably be a scarcity of lumber vessels at Montreal, this autumn, in the opinion of the *Herald*. There are about eight cargoes yet on the Export Lumber Company's wharves yet waiting transportation. The rate now offered is \$12, an increase of \$1.50 over that given in the spring. There are still some vessels unchartered at Quebec and no doubt several of these will come to Montreal to load.

Mr. Robt. Connors, the big lumber operator of the St. John, is preparing to carry on heavy operations this winter in the Temiscouata lake region. He has struck districts covered with pine and spruce which have never been lumbered on before, and expects to cut 12 or 15 millions this winter. His lumber will be put in Lake Camino, which is connected with Lake Temiscouata. He has seventy men in the woods at present.

Owing to the fire in its premises, the Montreal Furniture Company is in financial trouble. Bulmer, jr., & Bro., and Kerr Bros., large creditors, presented a petition in Court on Saturday, asking for an order to wind up the company, to avoid useless litigation, as the company was now unable to meet its liabilities,

and a number of actions had already been instituted. The application was not opposed, and the order was granted, Mr. H. Bulmer being appointed provisional liquidator.

## THE STOCK MARKET.

The past week developed increased activity on the Toronto Stock Exchange, accompanied with a decidedly easier market. The difficulty in procuring money, while not so great as it was, is still a disturbing element. Several of our banks have advanced large sums to this city, pending the payment of taxes, which will be made at a very late date this year, but relief from that source is near at hand. The prompt manner in which margins have been put up by holders during the decline indicates that speculative shares are in strong hands. Buyers are offering much lower rates for bank shares, being down 3 per cent. for Standard, 2½ for Federal, 2 for Montreal and Dominion, allowing for the 5 per cent. dividend declared, in the bid for the last.

The worst "break" occurred in insurance shares, those of British America falling from 104 bid, to 91, but closing with a rapid recovery to 100½. Western fell from 140 to 121 but closed with buyers at 129½ and 130 asked. The latter has been the most active stock on the list. Telegraph shares and Gas were also very weak, but North-West Land was fairly steady at 42/- to 44/-, the last transaction being at 43/-. Only one sale took place in loan societies' shares, buyers are very shy and holding off.

## INSURANCE NOTES.

The Montreal agency of the Lancashire Insurance Company has been placed in the hands of Messrs. Belleau & Bamford, in Victoria Chambers; while in Quebec the company is represented by the same firm in the Union Bank Buildings.

At the Canada Screw Company's works, in Hamilton, the works are fitted with automatic sprinkler heads, connected to the city mains and to a powerful auxiliary pump with independent reservoir, making the fire risk, in the opinion of the underwriters, very nearly free of hazard.

Commenting on the forest fires of August and September in Canada, which filled Ottawa and Montreal with smoke and delayed navigation on the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa rivers for days at a time, the *Canadian Gazette* of London, Eng., has the following: "All this reads strange for the country of a people, boasting, as Canadians justly do, of much of the ingenuity of the American combined with the solidity and practical common sense of the Briton. Surely there must be some means of checking, if not of altogether preventing, this danger to life and trade alike."

Mr. A. B. Gwilt, for some time past inspector of the Royal Canadian Insurance Company, goes back to the office of the London Assurance Corporation, in which he was chief clerk for some years. He is now associated with Mr. C. C. Foster in the general agency of the latter company. This arrangement, we understand, was entered into with the view of extending and increasing the business of this good old English Company, now in its one hundred and sixty-seventh year. Many will wish it prosperity under its new management.

Many merchants have printed on the heads of the bills they send out to customers: "Are you insured?" The idea is a good one, and yet it is capable of improvement. It would

be well to add: "Are your stovepipes and and flues in good condition? Is the floor under your stoves protected by iron or brick? Do you keep your matches in either metal or crockery vessels? Do you forbid smoking on your premises? Do you see that all rubbish under your counters, in all your apartments and in the rear of your store-house is kept cleared away? Do you have your lamps filled in daylight and see that they are kept in order, and that none but the best quality of oil is used?" All these are small matters in themselves, and easily attended to, but they are of immense importance in securing the safety of your premises against fire. If properly attended to the chances of fire are very few, and the man who does strictly carry out the suggestions ought to be furnished insurance at a much lower rate than the man who does not.—*Cincinnati Price Current*.

## ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES.

H. D.—There is no longer room to doubt the constitutionality of the Act (45 vic. cap. 22) of the province of Quebec which taxed commercial corporations. It has been confirmed by the Privy Council of Great Britain, in July last, and applied to banks, insurance companies, loan, telegraph, telephone, navigation, railway and street car companies, in fact to all incorporated companies. The yearly tax for 1886 to 1887 inclusive was due on 1st July; and only on condition that the capital of the tax was paid on 20th October, instant, will the interest be remitted.

J. C. W.; Galt.—Cannot recall any such book. The mixing is likely to be a trade secret, and not found in any book. As to the butter and egg packing, Mr. James E. Baillie, of Toronto, or Mr. M. Hannan, of Montreal, can inform you.

W. L.; Toronto.—No; the tide has turned of late years. The number and tonnage of sea-going vessels that arrived at Montreal in the following years were:—

	Number.	Tonnage.
1877 .....	513	376,859
1880 .....	710	628,271
1883 .....	660	664,263
1886 .....	703	809,699

And up to September 1st of the present year the number of sea-going vessels that arrived in that port, was 481, with a tonnage of 561,463 tons, as compared with 452 vessels of a tonnage of 528,709 tons in the corresponding period last year. Four hundred and seventeen sea-going vessels have been entered at the Custom House, Quebec, since the opening of navigation to 1st October this year.

—How to treat vegetable matter or other garbage gathered from the lanes of a city, may be learned from the experience of Montreal, thus: A crematory can be built at a cost of \$4 for each furnace, exclusive of the cost of the shed covering. It can be worked by four men. In twelve hours each furnace will cremate 60 to 70 cubic yards or car-loads of garbage. There is no smell, and the crematory can be erected within the city limits without detriment to public health. It will require two and a half tons of the cheapest coal, screened, for each twelve hours. Instead of depositing such material on vacant lots in the outskirts of the city, to pollute the air and sow the seeds of diphtheria or typhoid, let it be burned, as is done in Montreal. Householders, too, may save the city trouble and expense and may contribute to the cleanliness of their respective neighborhoods by burning in their kitchen-ranges or coal stoves a great deal