

## NOVA SCOTIA NOTES.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

In our ramblings for June we parted company in the historic town of Shelburne, and I promised to give you something regarding the lumber business in my next. Before going into details, I will say that sawmilling at Shelburne and on the Shelburne river is one of the oldest industries of the province. Most of the mill-men now doing business in Shelburne and up the river are the grand-sons of men who began the business, so that in most cases the present operators were born and bred to the sawmilling business, and are consequently practical and in most cases successful mill-men. When I say "successful" I do not mean to compare them to some of the western lumbermen, who have made "millions," and whose positions and standing are looked upon by some as the natural and ultimate goal of all in the lumber business. What I do mean to say is that by dint of hard work, energy, and economy, together with their practical training, the majority of them have acquired a fair competence, which they richly deserve.

In the town of Shelburne James R. Bower has a steam saw mill, with shingle machine, planers, band saws, cylinder barrel, stave and heading machines and turning lathes, in which he does a good business, manufacturing barrel stock for fishermen, thin boards for fishermen's dories or boats, framing timber, ship builders' stock, such as futtocks and knees (of which the frames and bracings of deck beams, etc., are made), culling and planking timbers, deck plank, treenails, stanchions, rails, etc., etc., and besides he sends cargoes of lumber and shingles to Newfoundland and the West Indies. He also does considerable local sawing for the building trade. Mr. Bower began this business here only a couple of years ago, but through his indomitable energy and push has worked up a nice business.

Bower Bros. have a water power saw mill at the head of Shelburne harbor, about one mile from the town, with gang mill, shingle machine, barrel and heading machinery and planers, in which they do a good business. Some two years ago they had the misfortune to lose their mill by fire, and when they rebuilt the machinery was modernized. The class of work done is somewhat in the same line as James R. Bower, but they ship more of their stock to the West Indies and American ports. This section of the country is noted for its oak, which they supply for car works and furniture, the principal furniture manufacturers in the province getting their stock of oak from them.

Andrew Bower & Son have a band saw in their mill, which is on the Shelburne river, about four miles above Bower Bros. This is the first log band saw mill in Nova Scotia. When Mr. Bower heard of the band saw he judged it would be a good thing, although band saws were only in their infancy at the time; yet he had the courage to try the experiment and is thoroughly satisfied with the result. Both Mr. Bower and his son being practical mill-men, it did not take them long to master the difficulties that usually attend the change from one style of saw to another. They also have a fine water power and manufacture lumber, lath, pickets, shingles, ship plank, treenails, and anything else that can be made out of the round log, and find a ready market for their products.

George W. Durfee, Shelburne, has a water power mill in which he makes staves and heading for fish barrels, ships, blocks and pumps, and also does planing for builders in the town, and does a good shingle business besides. Mr. Durfee has an eye for a fast horse and usually has one ready to give your correspondent a spin when he has the pleasure of being in Shelburne. Mr. Durfee is a thoroughly practical man in his line of business, and pays strict attention to business when there is no horse trot on. The old saying, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," is as applicable to mill-men as to any class; their work is exacting and an occasional change is a benefit to them.

Frederick R. Muir has a small mill in the town, planing, sawing, turning lathe, etc., also a cording mill, steam power.

John T. Ryer & Son had a fine rotary mill, but it was burned down. They have not rebuilt yet, but hope to do so at an early date.

At Ohio, some eight to sixteen miles up the Shelburne river, there are a number of mills, all water power; they are small, but in the aggregate saw a lot of lumber, some of which is for the local trade and the rest is shipped from Shelburne. Robert Bower has a nice rotary mill; then there is James Bower, David A. Bower, John J. Bower, and T. H. Bower & Son, and they all do about the same class of work, sawing lumber, shingles, staves and heading.

J. A. & J. H. McKay have a water power saw-mill at Clyde river, some fourteen miles west of Shelburne; they have rotary, edger, lath and picket machines, planer and shingle machine. Their logs come down the Clyde river. They also saw a large quantity of oak, finding a market for it in the furniture factories of the province, and a lot of spruce and pine, which is shipped from Port Clyde, a few miles away. There is a good demand for oak ship plank.

Mr. Joseph A. McKay owns and runs the hotel of the place, in which the weary traveller can have his wants well attended to and go on his way rejoicing. Both Mr. and Mrs. McKay do all they can to make the "wanderers on God's footstool" feel at home, and in this respect they are quite successful. Mr. McKay is a J. P., and woe betide the unlucky wretch that has been brought before him and proved to have broken any of the statutes enacted by the representatives of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, yet I think his disposition would be to "temper justice with mercy." Mr. McKay is prominent in the affairs of the county of Shelburne, and also prominent in the political parties—both local and federal—with which he identifies himself.

Clyde river and Port Clyde at one time were the headquarters for ship-building and lumbering in the south-western part of Nova Scotia, but wooden ships having gone out of date, that industry has dwindled to very small proportions, and the lumbering mills, burned some years ago, were not rebuilt. While the owner, Hon. Thomas Coffin—a member of the MacKenzie administration—was doing business there the place was a live, busy spot. It is to be hoped that the ebb tide has been reached and the flood tide of prosperity will bring back some of the old time prestige.

W. J. P.

## TWO BERLIN PLANING MILLS.

The planing mill of Mr. Jacob Kaufman is situated on the main street of the thriving German town of Berlin, Ont. It is a brick structure, three stories high.

Mr. Kaufman started a planing mill and lumber business in 1877, and since that time has turned over between \$50,000 and \$70,000 per annum. The present building was erected a short time ago, and thirty men are kept constantly employed in and around the factory.

On the ground floor is the heavy machinery, with offices in front. This machinery is comprised of two planers, two rip saws, a moulder, a resaw, and a sand-paperer. In the basement is a Goldie & McCulloch Wheelock engine of 45 h.p., supplied by a 60 h.p. boiler along side of the same make. On the first floor is a band saw, pony planer, buzz planer, three cross and rip saw machines, turning lathe, shaper, moulder, tenoning machine, mortiser, and blind slot machine.

The top flat is used for a store-room, in which are stored mouldings, doors, sashes, blinds, etc.

In two annexes are dry kilns of 20' x 18' and 15' x 18' dimensions, made by the Sturtevant Company.

In the yard is a large store house for dressed lumber, and 1,500,000 feet of lumber is kept piled in the yard. Mr. Kaufman has another yard further up the street in which he keeps lath, shingles and cedar posts.

All the lumber used in this mill is supplied from Mr. Kaufman's own saw mill at Trout Creek, where he cuts annually 2,000,000 feet of lumber. He reports prospects fair for a steady building season and is now busily engaged filling orders for building material.

Situated in the same town is the planing mill of Mr. John Hall, a short distance below that of Mr. Kaufman. To this mill and yard are shipped annually from 150 to 200 cars of lumber. The building is a three-storey frame structure, with brick faced front and concrete covered sides. A new 45 h. p. Wheelock engine supplies power to the mill.

The ground floor is filled up with the following heavy machinery: matcher, planer, two rip saws, cross-cut saw, and moulder. In front are the offices, projecting out from the building. On the first floor are the usual amount of machinery in a well-equipped planing mill, comprising: turning lathe, mortiser, tenoning machine, sand-paperer, boring machine, band saw, dadoing machine, rip saw, and buzz planer. This planer in two days will run through 13,500 feet of lumber. The second floor is used for bench work and a store-room. The other store-room is in a rear annex, and to one side is a dry kiln of a capacity of 30,000 feet.

In the yard of half an acre is piled the rough lumber, and in a shed 80' x 20' is stored the dressed lumber. The mill and premises are lighted by gas and the building is heated by steam. About 30 men are employed.

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