

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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A FLOATING SAW MILL.

PRESENTED on this page are views of what is believed to be the first floating saw mill to be operated in Canada. It was built last winter at Vercheres, Que., by Mr. J. H. Dansereau. The mill is built on a large scow, which is 100 feet long and 30 feet wide. In the first storey, that is to say, in the hold of the boat, there are two boilers sixty inches in diameter by sixteen feet long, an engine of 125 h.p., the necessary shafting and belting, and apparatus for conveying the sawdust to the fire. Located in the upper storey are appliances for hauling up the logs, a steam kicker, steam log roller, steam nigger, carriage with steam feed, Allis band saw, double edger, slab re-saw, trimmer and slasher, together with a complete system of live rolls, the whole being constructed somewhat similar to the equipment of an ordinary saw mill. The filing room consists of a boat-shaped apartment situated on the roof of the mill.

The machinery for this unique mill was supplied by the Waterous Engine Works Company, of Brantford, and is said to be giving much satisfaction.

In the spring Mr. Dansereau took his floating

saw lots of logs which so frequently escape from the boom, while at the same time it does away with the cost of towing logs.

FOREIGN TRADE OPENINGS.

BUTCHERS' WOODEN SKEWERS.

THE attention of Canadian manufacturers of "butchers' wooden skewers" is directed to the following letter recently received by the Department of Trade and Commerce:

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE ROAD,
LONDON, S.W., 22nd July, 1899.

W. G. PARMELER, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce,
Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—Upon behalf of certain of your correspondents, I last autumn made some general inquiries as to the possibility of Canadian manufacturers of butchers' wooden skewers obtaining a share of the very considerable trade done in the United Kingdom.

As was then pointed out, the supply here is mainly controlled by the American Skewer Trust, which deals through resident agents. Prices are much cut up, owing to severe competition, and it is a question of small profits on large shipments.

Many English houses are not satisfied with Trust methods, and are prepared to welcome Canadian skewers if they can compete with American.

It may be of interest to quote the following letter written on 21st instant by a large dealer in skewers, who has since I saw him last autumn followed up the matter:

"We have received several small consignments of Canadian skewers. Up to the present they have been very good in quality and have met a ready sale. The only disadvantage is they are rather irregular in forwarding their consignments. We consider they are as good or better value than any wooden skewers at present brought before our notice."

This is to a certain extent encouraging, but this irregularity of delivery is a defect which is absolutely fatal to many Canadian goods which might otherwise do well here.

Many of the large merchants are connected with the American Trust, but there are others who would be prepared to go into the matter with any Canadian manufacturer possessing adequate means of regular production.

The future of this trade appears worthy of the attention of Canadian skewer producers.

Yours faithfully,
HARRISON WATSON,
Curator Canadian Section.

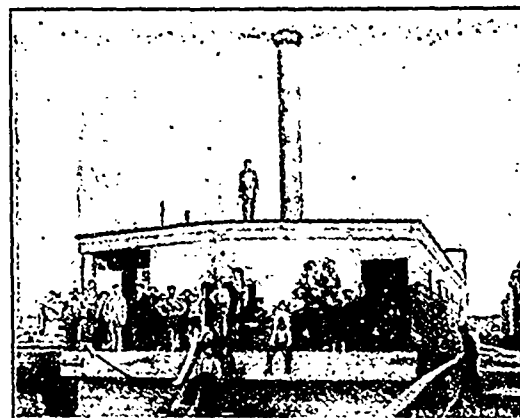
BROOM HANDLES.

The following letter has been received by the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa regarding broom handles:

DEAR SIR,—As previously stated, I gave the names of the Canadian manufacturers to my inquirers, and have since had a long interview with one of the partners. They claim to do a large trade, have a New York branch,

and one of the partners visits the States constantly. They know Canada, and would like to form a connection there if they can find the right people. They must, however, have someone capable of a large and constant output in broom handles, and state that they are at the moment ready to place an order for 3,000 gross, but would require that any Canadian mill doing business with them should give them their whole output. Any firm going into the export trade should, they think, hold spruce limits. Perhaps you can suggest likely people.

The same firm would also like to obtain Canadian



MR. J. H. DANSEREAU'S FLOATING SAW MILL.

mouldings. Several Canadian manufacturers are already represented here, but possibly you know others who would like to work up an export trade.

I have heard from several Canadian producers of chair parts, in reference to a previous inquiry.

This wooden ware and turnery trade is one of which Canada should be destined to obtain a large share in the course of time.

It is essentially a trade of large turn-overs and small profits, and would only be advantageous to persons holding large and well-equipped mills. Regular delivery is important, and it is essential that a connection be formed with a large importer and merchant who would assume the financial risk. Direct trade might be possible with the consumer in a few instances, but as a rule large transactions are carried on by the merchants. As an instance I might cite that large people like the Army and Navy Stores buy turnery entirely through merchant importers.

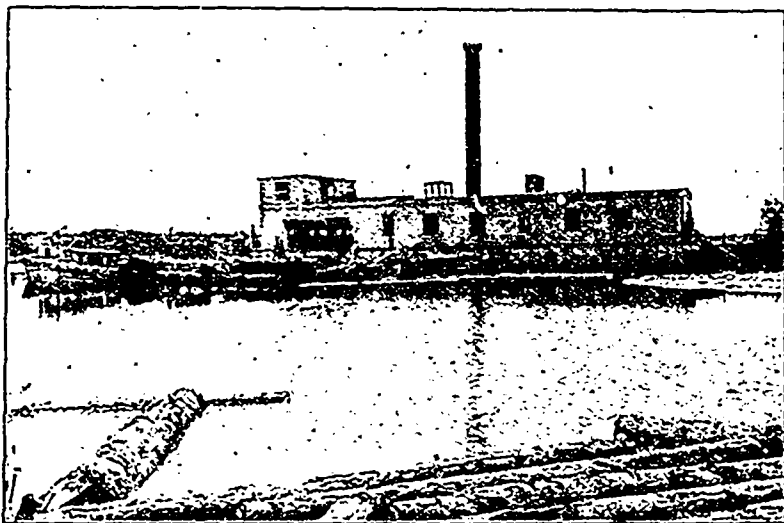
Yours faithfully,
HARRISON WATSON,
Curator Canadian Section Imperial Institute.

SHINGLES OF PAPER.

A REPORT from Japan states that an ingenious innovation recently started by the Tokyo Card and Pasteboard Co., the largest in Japan, has resulted in markedly facilitating the development of that industry. It consists in making thick tarred pasteboards as substitutes for shingles for ordinary roofing. The paper shingles are now in active demand, being about 50 per cent. cheaper and far more easily managed than ordinary shingles. They do not differ much in point of being proof against fire and water from the ordinary articles.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

The publishers of the CANADA LUMBERMAN invite correspondence from its readers on any subject bearing upon the lumbering industry. There are many questions affecting the trade of which a fair discussion would be beneficial, while the views of all would be broadened by reading the opinions of others. To every reader a hearty invitation is extended to contribute to our columns.



MR. J. H. DANSEREAU'S FLOATING SAW MILL.

saw mill to Calumet, on the river Ottawa, at the mouth of the river Rouge, where it has been in operation for some time. Working day and night, its capacity is about 100,000 superficial feet, the timber being spruce. Barges are placed on one side of the mill, the lumber being carried into them and then transported to Montreal for loading on the steamers. The slabs are loaded on cars on the wharf and also shipped to Montreal. The lumber is shipped without being dried, but if it were necessary to dry the lumber before shipping, it would not be a difficult matter to take the mill up to a wharf and pile it on the ground as with any other mill.

Mr. Dansereau finds that there is a great advantage in being able to move his mill from place to place, as the quantity of timber in many districts will not warrant the building of an ordinary stationary mill. This mill can also be used to