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The Hon. J. G. Joly has a large plantation of young walnut trees at Lotbiniere, Que., and he has sent to Sarnia for more walnuts to plant. His example is a good one.

SIR A. J. SMITH'S mill, on the Petite-die River, was burned on Friday night, 26th of September. The origin of the fire is unknown. The mill was shut down that afternoon at three o'clock. Mr. Early Kay, the manager, left the mill premises at 5 p.m., at which time all was straight, and there was no sign of any fire in the vicinity then. Besides the destruction of the mill, valued at over \$2,000, there were over 300,000 feet of sawed lumber burned; also a portion of a bridge across the stream near the mill. The loss is estimated at \$3,000. Insurance, about \$1,000. Mr. Kay has taken steps towards rebuilding the mill at once.

The *Timber Trades Journal*, of Sept. 17, says:—Liverpool was as remarkable for its bare supplies of timber during the first week of this month as London for its superabundance. Only 24 ships with wood were reported in the former, and of these 15 were steamers, mostly with only part cargoes, and some with a very small part, too, such as 3,000 staves, or 400 or 500 planks (30 or 40 loads, perhaps). On the other hand London imported 94 complete cargoes by sailers, besides 42 by steamships, some of them full cargoes from the Baltic. Yet prices at Liverpool are not improving, and the stock is heavier than it was at this time last week, while that of London is only about three-fifths of what it was then.

A. C. Danner & Co., Mobile, Ala., shipped by *Lady Dufferin* for Liverpool, a while since, a cargo, consisting of 1,250,000 feet of lumber, deals and hewed timber. The first direct shipment to Europe from this port was made several years ago by H. C. Vaughan, at present the superintendent of the mill of the firm named above, and consisted of hewed timber. This firm averages a cut of 800,000 feet monthly, and ships about 600,000 feet. The timber is brought to their mills from a radius of nearly 120 miles, and floated down the Dog and Pascagoula rivers, Mississippi, and several creeks. As it has to be brought many miles above the reach of tide water, considerable difficulty is anticipated in the future floating of rafts, which even now can only be done in a certain season of the year. As the timber men go more inland to cut, the work of bringing the logs to the rivers and creeks becomes more arduous and expensive. Tramways are much needed which would carry the logs to tidewater, and thus afford a continuous and uninterrupted supply of material to the mills. There are at present ten mills in operation on the Dog and Pascagoula rivers. The timber is of fine quality and commands the highest price in the European markets.

SOME IRISH SAW MILLS.

Having a few hours' time to kill, while waiting for the homeward bound steamer at Londonderry, Ireland, the writer thought he could not employ them better than in a run through the saw mills, etc., which he noticed along the coast, as he passed up them on the deck of the steamer, which had brought him thither from Glasgow. Although a very different thing from those of Canada, the saw mills to be seen at Londonderry are neither few nor without interest to a Canadian. They are, in fact, mills which take up the lumber, as turned out of our eastern mills, and fit it for actual use.

Londonderry is the chief point of supply for the North-Western district of Ireland, and imports each season about ten cargoes of deals from St. John, N.B.; three or four from other parts of N.B., and about three from Quebec, besides two or three cargoes of pitch pine. For the conversion of this and such timber as the neighbourhood produces into sizes and thicknesses suitable for the local trade, five saw mills, etc., are employed. We say "etc." because all of these mills do more or less of other wood work in addition to sawing.

While in Canada the first object is to save labour, in Londonderry the first object is to save the precious wood, and that they understand how to do this will be conceded when we state that we saw in the mills of Mr. Balantine a three inch deal cut into six boards, with the loss of only one quarter of an inch of the wood for the five saws which had passed through it,—that is just one-twentieth of an inch for each passage of the saw. In many respects the gates in which the saws are fixed for cutting deals are not unlike one of the ordinary gang gates to be found in any Canadian mill. They are, of course, all driven by steam, and work up and down in a gate, and the saws can be set to any thickness desired, in much the same way as our own. The frames in which they stand are, however, of massive iron, and are all set on the ground with a pit underneath, from whence the sawdust can be easily removed. Most of these gates are made for sawing two pieces of deals, or other small timber, at one time. In the mill of Messrs. Cook & Co. (you see they have "cooks" in the lumber business there as well as in Canada) they have a gate which cuts four pieces at once, for which the "carver" claimed great superiority over all others in use in the district, and which, like all the rest of the machinery in these mills, had been brought across the Channel,—this particular one coming from the establishment of Thos. H. Allen, Jefferstone, near Glasgow, while the others came from the works of T. Robinson & Son, Rochdale. Besides these "gates," all these mills had one or more ordinary circulars, for cutting up our square timber and the wood brought in from the surrounding country. It is a pity one half of the people of Canada cannot

see for themselves the kind of Irish timber the writer saw in these mill yards, and in the course of manufacture. Nine-tenths of our people would consider it almost valueless for fuel, to say nothing of making use of it for manufacturing purposes, and yet here they were twisting and turning it about, and cutting it in this and then in that direction, until the refuse was almost reduced to nil. Seeing, they say, is believing, and one certainly requires to see for themselves the ingenuity displayed in the Old Country in making the most of a piece of the roughest wood, to appreciate in any degree the immense value which even our most inferior wood possesses under proper manipulation. As in too many other cases, it is to be feared our people will only appreciate the value of our forests when they are gone.

In addition to the sawing appliances found at the Messrs. McClelland's establishment, they were just getting into order, having been burnt out about two months before, an extensive shop for the manufacture of doors, sash, and wood-work generally. Already they had a few machines in operation, among them being what seemed to our unpractised eyes a very superior turning machine. Certainly no machine could do the work allotted to it more expeditiously or more neatly than this one did. They also had a new planing machine, which worked everything perfectly true (at right angles) from an inch up to 18 inches square. These machines, like all the others we saw (with the single exception already noted) were from the establishment of Messrs. Robinson, Rochdale, and were built, if not regardless of cost, certainly regardless of the quantity of iron put into them. In fact, as remarked to us, these machines were built to, and never did, wear out.

Mr. Balantine's is also a large establishment, with several ingenious machines for making mouldings, turning, etc., and the building trade must certainly be, as they said, fairly active in the North-west of Ireland, to give the full employment, which it seemed to be doing, to the establishments of Messrs. McClelland, Balantine and McAlwee. At Mr. Balantine's we came across an old friend from Deseronto, in the shape of some doors from the establishment of H. B. Roth and Son. Mr. Balantine says these doors give entire satisfaction, and that although there is a good deal of prejudice against them, yet they are destined to run the home-made article out of the market if the quality is kept up, and they can continue to be sold at present prices. Upon this latter point, however, he seemed to be rather skeptical, and at the conclusion of a somewhat long conversation as to their merits, he said the only suggestion which he could make for their improvement would be that the panel should not be fitted so tight as it was, as the wood sometimes swelled after they came to hand to such an extent as to make the panel bulge. He attributed the

swelling to their damper climate, and suggested that instead of being fitted tight up in the joints a vacancy of say an eighth of an inch should be left, so as to leave room for swelling. Doubtless the attention of Messrs. Rathbun only requires to be called to this point to ensure a remedy will be applied, while we are sure every one will be rejoiced to learn from such a source of the success attending the enterprise of Messrs. Rathbun in sending this class of manufactures across the Atlantic.

THE FUTURE LUMBER SUPPLY.

The *Ottawa Free Press* says that regrets have often been expressed at the wholesale destruction of our pine forests by the lumbermen, but of late years the destruction of vast tracts of valuable timber by fire has led to the belief that it is better the timber should be cut than that it should be worse than wasted by annual conflagrations. In a former article we gave an estimate of the rate at which the forests are disappearing before the woodman's axe to supply the demands of the market, wherein it was shown that ten years was the limit at which the supply in the lumber regions of the North-Western States could be relied upon, while that of Canada could not be expected to last longer.

Should this forecast turn out correct, where are we to look for the future lumber supply of the world? An answer to this question is given in the accounts which reach us from the far west. From the mouth of the Columbia river extending north into British Columbia there are forests capable of supplying the prairies east of the Rocky Mountains with lumber for a great many years to come, and we fancy it is not improbable that, so soon as railway facilities are obtained from the Western Slope to the North-West territories, a great trade will arise. The lumber, coal, fish, etc., of the Pacific coast find it profitable to exchange for the grain and meat of the territories.

The forests of British Columbia have a world wide fame. The timber consists chiefly of pine, with considerable quantities of fir, spruce, cedar, hemlock, and a small supply of white oak, hemlock and maple. The trees of this region show luxuriant growth. The yellow fir frequently attains a height of 250 feet, pine 125 to 160 feet, silver fir, 150 feet; white cedar, 100 feet; white oak, 70 feet; black spruce, 60 feet. Cedars have been found to measure 63 feet in girth, with a height of 120 feet. The pine trees are known to the lumbermen as of two varieties—"sap" and "overgrown." The "sap" trees yield 6,000 to 8,000 feet of lumber, and the "overgrown" 10,000 to 15,000 feet. Of this timber is made all grades of lumber ship timbers, fencing, pickets, railroad ties, barrel staves and headings, household furniture, etc.—and the product is shipped in large quantities to the Pacific coast of South America, while trade is done with Australia, France and England,