

**THE LIVERPOOL BROKERS' ANNUAL CIRCULARS.**

The Liverpool brokers are in the habit of making up their yearly returns to January 31st, so that we have only just now received the following annual circulars—many of them very ably compiled—from which we take the following extracts:—

Messrs. Farnworth & Jardine state that the past year commenced with improving prospects, and the trade looked forward to a more active and profitable business; stocks generally were low, prices moderate, and advices from abroad all indicated a moderate production for the year; buyers were thus encouraged to operate rather freely early in the season, which unfortunately had the effect of unduly forcing the production abroad, especially of deals, and so to some extent nullifying these favorable expectations; however, there has been an improving trade, and, with a few exceptions, the results have been fairly satisfactory.

In the aggregate the import has been 53 per cent. in excess of 1879, and 8 per cent. beyond the average of the last seven years. The consumption has also increased, but not in the same ratio as the import, having been only 25 per cent. in excess of 1879; but still it does not reach the average of the last seven years by 1 per cent. The stock is much in excess of last year, which was unusually light, but it is also 13 per cent. more than the average of the last seven years, and is somewhat unequally distributed. It may, however, be noted that the stocks at the American shipping ports are unusually small, therefore the imports during the next few months are likely to be on a much reduced scale.

Prospects are fairly promising for a moderate and steady trade, but last year's supplies were too large, and, as we commence the year with full stocks, we must strongly urge upon shippers to use a little more judgment and discretion, and not press on the market every foot of wood they can possibly produce, otherwise all calculations will be upset, and both shipper and receiver must suffer.

Messrs. Duncan, Ewing & Co. state that the year just ended cannot be said to have been an unsatisfactory one, though it has been shorn of much of the brightness it showed in its earlier months, by the excessive imports which were poured into the market during the latter portion of the import season. Prices have given way recently under the continued pressure to sell, and, as the stocks on hand are quite ample to meet the probable wants of the market until the opening of next import season, there is little chance of any improvement taking place. Looking at the state of matter as it exists at present, the fact that speculative building has been carried to an excess in nearly every part of the north-west of England, and the stocks on hand in Liverpool and other adjacent ports are, apparently, more than will suffice for the next few months, it is evident that the utmost caution should be used by exporters in sending supplies of timber, deals, etc., to this part of the country. At the same time, the brighter side must not be lost sight of; business throughout the country has slowly but steadily increased, and a feeling of confidence in the future improvement of the general trade of the country is making itself felt. So far as regards the timber trade, much of the effects of this revival will be accounted by the heavy stocks now on hand, which are ready to meet any increased consumption as soon as it sets in.

**Fifteen Hundred Miles a Minute.**

The cable message to Australia respecting the Haulan-Trickett match was an ordinary achievement in telegraphy—in fact, it has never been equalled. The total extent of lines—namely, 2,000 miles—was travelled in one hour and twenty minutes. The greater portion of this time was occupied in transmitting the message through India. From Singapore to Sydney, 6,000 miles, the message occupied only thirty seconds in transmission. This message was repeated fourteen times, from station to station, between London and Sydney. —*Sydney Mail.*

Messrs. Bronson & Weston have taken out about 100,000 logs on the Schyan and Black Rivers this winter, of fine white pine, cut on the limits bought from the Egan Estate.

**DEFERRED NOTES. BRANTFORD CITY.**

When in Brantford recently, we were shown in the works of the Watrous Engine Company, a portable flour-mill, complete in itself. It only occupied a floor space 12x20 feet and stood 12 feet high. The wheat was first elevated into the smut mill; thence into the hopper over the stones; thence through the 20-inch standard mill stones, conveyor and elevator to a portable bolting chest, from which the flour in different grades is discharged. The mill, which was ready to be shipped, has a capacity of turning from 6 to 7 bushels of wheat into good flour per hour. These mills being well adapted to the wants of large lumbermen, are being added to saw-mills in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Manitoba. Whilst visiting the Watrous Works we noticed a ship-yard carriage, capable of cutting stuff 60 feet long. It was complete and about to be shipped to Messrs. W. & R. Wallace, of Gardner's Creek, New Brunswick, to be run by one of the Watrous Co's 30 H.P. portable direct action saw-mill engines. It has in the front part of the carriage a special arrangement for taking ship-knees, and facing them with the large saw on each side. This is a most important addition to carriages for ship-yards, and one that lumbermen should look into. We were informed that this firm are working on portable saw-mill orders from Chili, S.A., Australia and Germany, as well as on the ordinary orders for the Provinces of the Dominion, from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. They complain of having to suffer loss in the matter of rebate on materials used in the manufacture of engines, etc., exported to foreign countries, as it is found impracticable to separate the particular items from invoices in which the materials used for other work were included at the time of purchase.

**TOWN OF BRANTFORD.**

This thriving place is making rapid progress. A number of buildings are to be erected this spring. Here we met Mr. McIntosh, manager of the Caledon Quarries. These quarries have sent out during the winter, by the Credit Valley Railway, about 260 car loads of stone—both red and grey freestone. There will be a large trade done in this splendid stone next summer; and there should be, when it becomes known that it is free from iron, and works almost as easy as the Ohio sandstone, whilst the latter costs about \$1 per foot more than the former, laid down in Toronto. Mr. McIntosh has had about forty men working during the winter, and will have twice the number in the spring, when a switch will be completed from the railway to the quarry bed, and even under the level of the bed, as the quarry is on the side of a mountain of freestone, having beds of all thicknesses up to five feet, which improve in quality as the strata are followed up. Judging from specimens of the stone in the yard of the Ontario Legislative buildings, it is admirably adapted for monument bases. Any quantity of the best limestone for building railway bridges can also be furnished from these quarries.

**Salicylic Acid in Foot-and-Mouth Diseases of Cattle.**

The Duke of Brunswick has of late successfully combated the ravages of this much dreaded enemy on his estate at Stampen, near Oels, in Prussian Silesia, by treatment with salicylic acid, the well-known antiseptic. Instead of several weeks required to effect a cure with the remedies hitherto employed, truly surprising results have been brought about within a few days by this new treatment. A solution of the acid is prepared by pouring some hot water on about three tablespoonfuls of salicylic acid in an earthen vessel, and adding lukewarm water to make up a gallon. The mouth and feet of the diseased animal should be carefully washed three times a day with the liquid, and the tops of the hoofs well powdered with the dry acid after each ablution. The effect will, moreover, be greatly increased by salicylating the drinking water of the beasts by the addition of two tablespoonfuls of the acid dissolved in hot water. During the above treatment great attention must be paid to the perfect cleanliness of the stables or sheds. The dung is to be saturated with salicylic acid solution to prevent further infection, but it is chiefly in the dung that the germs of the disease are to be found.

**HEATING ROOMS.**

In some new styles of open fire-places recently introduced in France, use is made of a hot-water circulation to warm one or more chambers from waste heat of an open fire in a room below. Seventy percent of the heat of an open fire, whether of wood, coal, or gas, is spent in heating the chimney flue, or is thrown away out of the top of the chimney. Attempts to save this waste heat have been often made, and there are base-burning stoves in this market that heat two rooms, the one below by a stove and the one above by a hot air flue in the chimney. These stoves work well, but are still somewhat wasteful and are generally vicious, because the air heated in the flue is often taken from the room below, instead of from out-of-doors. The French stoves made on this plan appear to be of much better design, as they have more heating surface. The water circulation stoves consist simply of a cast-iron water-back placed in the chimney above the open fire, and connected with a system of flow and return hot-water pipes in the rooms above. A cheap and unpatented method of economizing the heat of an open fire would be to give the fire a rather large flue, and in this flue, extending downward from the room above and reaching nearly to the fire-place, to hang two pieces of wrought-iron pipe (an inch in diameter), joined at the lower end by a common coupling, or "return bend." One of these pipes must be a few inches longer than the other and must be connected with the flow-pipe of a hot-water system, the shorter pipe connecting with the return pipe. Every housekeeper is aware that a few feet of brass pipe bent around the inside of a cook-stove will supply a family with abundance of hot water, without apparent effect on the fire. The stove cooks as well with the pipe as without it, and the heat in the hot water is a direct saving of heat that would otherwise go up the chimney. In like manner, a length of pipe hung in a chimney will save heat that otherwise would be lost, and by a well-designed water system the heat may be used to warm a room on the second floor. Where strong coal fires are maintained in open grates, a second pipe reaching down from the third story might also be added, and another room might be warmed by the same fire. —*Scribner's Monthly.*

**Failure of Another Railway Viaduct.**

Following the destruction of the Tay bridge now comes intelligence of the destruction, on Feb. 6, by ice of a section of the Solway Viaduct, the most important part of the Solway Junction Railway, and until this week, a connecting link between England and Scotland. In former years the thaw has been accompanied by high winds, breaking up the ice and saving viaduct; but this season no wind has arisen, and the packs have been carried down in unbroken masses, hurling themselves against the piers, carrying everything before them. The accident has been unattended by any loss of life, owing to the vigilance of the railway authorities, who had watchmen stationed, who gave timely warning.

The structure is very similar to the Tay bridge in construction and size. The viaduct is about a mile and a quarter in length, and about 40 ft. in height; the spans are in groups of seventeen of 30 ft., each group being connected by a span of 5 ft.

Some idea of the force of the floating ice may be formed from the narrative of the fishermen, that for some days the channel was covered with fields of ice acres in extent from 6 ft. to 12 ft. in thickness. The crashing of the ice as it swept along, borne by the current at the rate of twelve knots an hour, was heard two or three miles off, they said, and even half a mile away from the viaduct the noise was audible, although the wind was blowing in the opposite direction.

**Eric Canal Tolls.**

ALBANY, N. Y., March 8.—The Canal Board to-day adopted a resolution abolishing tolls on western-bound freight, and placing on the free list salt manufactured in the State and under the supervision of State officers, all voting affirmative except Dutcher. On motion of Ward the Albemarle fertilizer was placed on the free list. Last year's toll shot on the Black River Canal was adopted. Seymour's resolution prohibiting the passage of rafts on the canals after September was reconsidered and amended so as to apply only to the Black River Canal.

**NORTH-WEST TIMBER LIMITS.**

Statement of timber limits granted in the North-west and Keewatin up to 2nd of Feb., 1881, are as follows: Richard Fuller & Co., timber limit on the Lake of the Woods, 38,100 acres; Macaulay, Ginty & Sprague, timber limit in the vicinity of Roseau River, 32,000 acres; Macaulay & Ginty, 32,000 acres on the Winnipeg River; W. J. MacAulay, 61,000 acres between the Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake; Capt. H. S. Moore, limit of 32,000 acres on the North Saskatchewan; Stephen H. Fowler, 61,000 acres on Rainy Lake and Seine River; Dick & Banning, 12,800 acres on Sandy Bar Creek, Lake Winnipeg; Joseph Whitehead, 61,440 acres on the White-mouth River, Keewatin; Hugh Sutherland, Patrick Kelly, Pratt & Smith, Joseph Whitehead and Peter MacArthur, 477,760 acres on Lakes Winnipegosis and Water Hen; annual licenses to D. W. Cummings, Stratford, 30,720 acres; Joseph Sherman and John Pratt, Stratford, 51,200 acres; Donald Gunn, Shoal Lake, 20,480 acres; Alexander Cameron, Hallford, N.W.T., 12,800 acres; R. McIntosh, Rapid City, 40,960 acres; J. S. Armitage, Hallford, 20,480 acres; Edward Roberts, Winnipeg, 28,160 acres; Albert Hudson & Co., Portage la Prairie, 810 acres; Wm. Hardie, Winnipeg, 6,400 acres; R. Z. Rogers, Grafton, Ont., 4,480 acres. Timber limits of 46,400 acres on the Winnipeg River were granted to Wm. Stubbs, Ottawa, of 64,000 acres on the Fairford and Shell Rivers to Messrs. Shields, Haggart, McLaren and Nichol; 40,960 acres in the Little Saskatchewan to Messrs. Armitage and McCulloch; 7,200 acres in the Turtle Mountain district to Messrs. Williams and Harrison; 2,304 acres on the Bird Tail Creek to John McBeth; 4,080 acres in the Little Saskatchewan to David McFadden, and 13,440 and 4,480 acres respectively in Manitoba to A. Watts and R. Z. Rogers.

**A New Insect Pest.**

According to the Banger, Me., Commercial, the primeval forests of this continent are now attacked by a small but exceedingly destructive insect that insidiously cuts into and kills the monarchs of the woods. It is noticeable that on forest lands where cutting has been prosecuted and the sunlight has been let into the tangled wild woods, the trees are not attacked, and the sun appears to be the natural annihilator of the pests. They, as yet, attack only spruce trees. It is the testimony of Mr. Jack, the Crown Land Agent of the Province of New Brunswick, that the destroyer attacks the forest primeval. It is nature's design that the old trees should be cut down to make room for new generations. The operation of the insect is as follows:—In July or August a gay little beetle settles upon the bark of the noblest trees, and lays a few tiny eggs; after a short time a small worm similar to a maggot hatched, and then the busy work of the destroyer begins. The worm eats his way to the very heart of the tree, until at last it falls a wreck. So insidious is the operation that many trees which are bored through and through, are green at the top and apparently sound, but a blow of the axe or the force of a gale causes them to fall, and their worthlessness is revealed. At present, the trouble from these pests is confined to the timber country watered by the Upper Kennebec, and that in parts of Aroostook and the Provinces. In consequence of the forests of New Brunswick having been attacked, Mr. Alexander Gibson, will cause 50,000,000 feet of spruce to be cut this winter on the Nashwaak, for if left standing longer the worms would render the lumber worthless.

**Extensive Enterprises.**

A paper manufacturing firm purchases converting twenty thousand acres of timber land in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, into paper. A large gang of workmen has been sent to the tract to begin improvements. There will be erected a shanty 50 ft. in length, 12 ft. in width and 8 ft high. The shanty once completed, work will be begun on a large store building thirty dwelling-houses, and an enormous digester for the cooking and steaming of wood in the manufacture of pulp, and a huge building to be used in the manufacture of paper sacks and wrapping paper. All these preparations are preliminary to reducing 20,000 acres of forest to news, book and fine writing papers.