

J. B. SMITH & SONS' SAW MILL.

LAST fall fire laid waste the saw mill of Messrs. J. B. Smith & Sons at Callendar, Ont., but upon its ashes has been erected a more pretentious and modern structure. In every particular the new mill is complete, being well lighted by large windows, while an electric plant furnishes illumination at night.

The mill is of frame, with heavy timbers, its dimensions being 132 x 42 feet. The roof is shipped with a cupalo running the full length, in which the windows are set. The lath mill annex is 30 x 55 feet, and the filing room annex 10 x 30 feet. On the ground floor is the motive power. Twin Cunningham steam feed engines drive the steam feed for the dimension carriage, and gun-shot steam feed drive the lumber carriages. A Doty engine of 150 h. p. operates the circular saws, double edger and jack ladder chains, and a Doty engine of 50 h. p., slide valve, runs the balance of the machinery. A Reliance 35-light machine furnishes the light. Mr. Stephens is the electrician in charge. The pulleys used are made by the Dodge Wood Split Pulley Co., and the belting is of Scotch manufacture. In the engine-room are two steam pumps, which, with six hydrants and 500 feet of hose, furnish the fire protection. The manufacturing machinery consists of three carriages, one driven by steam feed, and the other two by rope drives operated by gunshot steam feeds. There are two circular saws, one made by the Jas. Robertson Co. and the other by Shurly & Deitrich. The double edger and lath mill machinery, steam niggers, trimmers, and the two lath tables, besides the carriages, were mostly built by the Wm. Hamilton Mfg. Co.

In the filing room are two large automatic filing machines, with all accessories. At one side is the boiler room, built of brick, containing three Goldie & McCulloch boilers, two of 150 E. h. p. each and one of 100 h. p. Two iron smoke stacks have a brick base of 16 feet each. One is 90 inches in diameter by 45 feet above the roof, and the other is 75 inches in diameter by 80 feet high. Sawdust, etc., is used for fuel. The burner is circular, and built of stone, and is surmounted by an iron rim, but uncovered.

A well-equipped blacksmith shop, 64 x 20 feet, supplies all demands for repairs. There are two forges, a 22" lathe swinging 40 inches, an iron shaper swinging two feet, and an iron drilling machine. An upright boiler supplies steam to a 20 h. p. engine which operates the machinery.

The yard is large, and an engine owned by the company does all the shunting, etc., of the cars. On the lake is their tug, the "Sparrow," which picks up the logs and does all the towing.

Mr. Jas. Smith, one of the members of the company, is in charge. The firm manufactures all grades of lumber, lath, shingles, and dimension timber.

IMPORTANT PATENT DECISION.

By recent decision of the United States Circuit Court at Cincinnati, O., the Dodge and Phillon patent for separable wood pulleys, covering the compression fastening and interchangeable bushing system, is broadly sustained. Under the patent laws, the user, the seller and the manufacturer are all held to be infringers and liable as such to the owners of the patent. The Dodge Wood Split Pulley Company, of Toronto, is taking proceedings against infringers of their patent in Canada.

NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

[Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

LUMBERMEN have been badly in need of snow in order to carry on operations in the woods successfully. The weather early in the month was most unfavorable, crews in some cases finding it impossible to do effective work. Of late there have been some light snow-falls, and it is probable that the extent of the cut will not be interfered with.

Messrs. Richard Turner, of Quebec, and W. H. Thorne, of this city, liquidators of the St. Lawrence Lumber Company, of Bathurst, have completed their duties and received their discharge from Judge Tuck. The St. Lawrence Lumber Company went into liquidation about two years ago. At the time it looked as if there would be serious legal difficulties, as there were conflicting interests in this province, Quebec and England. The liquidators were able to avoid trouble, and it is understood only about \$1,400 of the estate was required to pay all the legal bills. Operations were carried on the first winter and then the property was sold. In all about \$237,000 passed through the hands of the liquidators. The general creditors got fifteen cents on the dollar, a better settlement than was looked for at the time of the failure.

The construction of a line of railway from Bathurst to Tracadie, as contemplated, will prove of great benefit to the country. At Tracadie Senator Snowball has a large saw mill with an annual output of nine million feet. Adjacent thereto is a large area of timber, known as the Sweeney block, estimated to yield 100,000,000 feet of timber. It is owned by an American company, of which Mr. Hill, of Bangor, is the president, and it is said that it is proposed to erect on the property a large saw mill to cut lumber for the United States market. The rail shipments would go via the gulf shore and the Caraque and I. C. R. lines through St. John.

At a meeting of the directors of the St. John River Log Driving Company held early in the month, matters in connection with the failure of F. M. Moore were discussed. An offer of \$4,000 was made by Mr. Moore in settlement of the claim against him, but it was refused as altogether too small. The selection of L. C. Stearns, of Caribou, as arbitrator between the log owners and the company was ratified.

Mr. Miles Moore, a son of Mr. Fred. Moore, the well-known lumber operator of Woodstock, has purchased the property known as the Craig & Sawyer mill on the Meduxualsek, and will make repairs thereto.

BITS OF LUMBER.

The revenue from New Brunswick crown lands will this year be ahead of last year's figures, which were \$140,000.

Hon. J. B. Snowball, of Chatham, has commenced the construction of two steam tugs for service in connection with his lumber business.

Mr. Frederick Brown has sold his interest in the milling business at Cross Creek. The remaining partners, Messrs E. & W. Sanson, will continue the business.

Mr. William Cunningham left the city this week for New York, en route to Hamilton, Bermuda, where he has been engaged to fit up a saw mill. The work will require about two months.

ST. JOHN, December 23, 1896.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

[Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

AT the time of writing it is feared that the lumber trust formed last winter to control prices has gone to the wall, so far as coastwise shipments are concerned at least. The consensus of opinion is that the first of January will witness its termination. Since the first of the month prices have been reduced from \$11 to \$9.50 per thousand feet. This was brought about by the cutting of prices by retail dealers in California, which compelled the trust to take such action. The Central Lumber Company was formed a little over a year ago by the big mills of the Pacific coast, including most of those in this province. These controlled the large majority of the retail yards, and after months of hard work the mills of the coast and the dealers were united under the central combine. Prices were soon after raised, and the agreement entered into was dated January 1st, 1896. It was to terminate in a year, by which time the movers of the enterprise hoped to cement the organization so that it would last for years.

The attempt has been futile, however, owing to the diversity of interests of the large number of mill men and dealers, who became identified with the Central Lumber Company. The large manufacturers hope, however, to hold together for another year to control the foreign trade, and their efforts are now being directed towards this end.

British Columbia lumber manufacturers are looking for an increased trade with China. The Chinese Foreign Office has issued a secret order giving permission for the construction of railways from Hankow to Canton, and from Hankow to Soochow. As China is largely denuded of her timber, the supply will be furnished largely by foreign countries, and British Columbia should certainly receive a fair share of the trade.

G. O. Buchanan is making extensive improvements to his saw mill plant at Kaslo. The shingle capacity has been increased from 20,000 to 70,000 per day by the addition of a new machine, and the capacity of the saw mill will be doubled, which has necessitated the enlarging of the buildings. In addition to this a complete wood-working plant has been ordered. Mr. Buchanan reports a busy season, and the consumption of logs has been much greater than was anticipated.

COAST CHIPS.

The limits of new markets for Douglas fir have not yet been reached. The British Columbia Mills, Timber & Trading Co., of Vancouver, B. C., made a shipment last month to Gibraltar, Spain.

The local government have placed upon the market 10,314 acres of timber land on Queen Charlotte Island, the lease being for twenty-one years. Offers are invited until the 21st January.

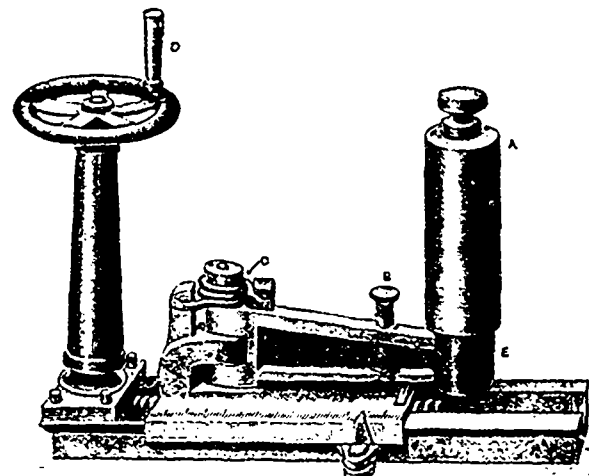
During the month of November twenty-two steamship charters were reported for foreign points. The season thus far has been more active than last year.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., Dec. 18, 1896.

LANCASTER MACHINE WORKS.

SITUATED on the bank of the beautiful Lake St. Francis, in the old Scotch county of Glengarry, is the pretty little town of Lancaster. Among the important business firms of the town is the Lancaster Machine Works. This enterprise was established in 1881 by the late William Stafford, a native of Hyde, Lancashire, England, who previously had carried on a similar business in Montreal. In 1884 the works were completely destroyed by fire, but were immediately replaced by a more modern and substantial building and plant.

A little over a year ago the head of the firm was accidentally killed on the G. T. R., and since that time the business has been carried on by his two sons, Messrs. A. & W. J. Stafford. They do an extensive trade in general saw mill plant and hold a number of patents on this and other machinery. The accompanying cut represents a



IMPROVED SET ROLLER MADE BY LANCASTER MACHINE WORKS.

set roller they manufacture which has many advantages in its favor, notably those of convenience, durability and neatness. It consists of a roller A carried on a radial arm E, which in turn is hinged to a traversing carriage sliding upon a planed bed or base, the whole of which is securely bolted to the saw frame or other favorable position in front of the saw. A spring C at the base of the radial arm keeps the roller in place, but when a knot or other uneven surface comes in contact with the roller this spring allows it to give way until the obstruction has passed. The roller is set by means of the hand wheel D, which controls the traversing motion of the carriage by means of a screw shaft beneath the same, and an indicating finger and gauge assists the Sawyer in setting the roller for the thickness of his cut. While slabbing, the retaining pin B is raised and the roller swung out of place. A large number of mill owners recognizing the merits of this inexpensive machine, have placed them in their mills and pronounce them very satisfactory.

In addition to the manufacture of saw mill appliances, this enterprising firm make a specialty of tannery and dairy machinery, and lately made several shipments of machinery to Europe. They are also working up a good trade in a special line of cotton mill machinery.