

OTTAWA LETTER.

[Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

LUMBERMEN of the Ottawa seem to have pretty well made up their minds to resist the new law in regard to dumping sawdust. At least, they will allow the matter to come before the courts, and have it thrashed out there before they will go to the expense of putting in equipments for the consumption of the sawdust. It is stated that a legal gentleman has determined to test the question, and after the 1st of May will lay information against all and sundry mill men, who shall violate the law. But an exception, perhaps, to the general rule is that of W. C. Edwards & Co., whom, it is stated, will build an incinerator to burn all sawdust and refuse from their lumber mill at New Edinburgh. The incinerator will be 20 feet in diameter and 80 feet in height. It will be located on the site of the old office of the firm and the end of the mill nearest Sussex St. The incinerator will be constructed entirely of stone and brick and of such thickness as to endure for 20 years. Carriers of the most improved kind will be laid all through the mills to carry all edgings and sawdust to the incinerator. What the final outcome of the legislation on the sawdust question will amount to, it is difficult to say. If the mill men show fight, it will be a serious thing for Ottawa to have the mills closed down at the season when they are expected to be at the busiest. Leaving out the question of possible trouble from the sawdust act the lumber mills of the Chaudiere are expected to begin operations about the middle of April, if the ice does not interfere. A busy season's sawing is anticipated, and it is not thought that there will be any delays for logs.

Reports of five colporteurs of the Ottawa Auxiliary Bible Society for the month of February, show that they visited 165 shanties and depots on the Ottawa river and its tributaries, travelled 2,484 miles, and sold in the lumbering camps 626 Bibles and Testaments, valued at \$350.60.

Some time ago the government issued a fiat to enable Dennis Ryan and Company to take action to set aside the letters patent of incorporation granted to the Ontario Western Lumber Co., of Rat Portage, on the ground that the statements made in the application were untrue. Evidence was taken in the case at Rat Portage last December, but argument was not concluded. The Imperial Bank of Toronto, creditors of the company, asks now that the government allow the fiat to be withdrawn and Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper heard the application a few days ago. He reserved his decision.

OTTAWA, CAN., March. 22, 1895.

NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

[Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

THE saw mill of S. T. King & Sons at Kingsville, that was closed down last summer because of the depression in trade, has started going again this season and nearly all the old staff have returned to their first love.

Isaac Porter is this week shipping ton timber by rail to St. John.

Evidence of the starting of the mills generally for the season is seen on many hands.

The return is noticed of Mr. Allen Ritchie, of Newcastle, from the United Kingdom.

Charles Miller's shingle mill, Pokiok, and Barnhill's mill at Pleasant Point have commenced operations.

There is some talk of Montreal capitalists establishing a large pulp mill on the Quebec shore of Bay Chaleur.

A large quantity of logs are now being hauled by Chas. Stillwell, C. J. & Moses O. Colwell, John Mullin and others to be sawed by C. & J. Robinson's mill at the Narrows, Queen's County.

It is not supposed that the lumber cut at Salmon River this season will exceed 9,000,000 feet, about as follows: Hugh McLean, four million; G. G. King, three million; R. D. Richardson, three quarters of a million.

It is noteworthy the number of portable mills that are in operation in different parts of the province. In the vicinity of Weymouth Creek near St. Martin's there are five mills of this class, giving employment to 200 men and 150 horses.

The death of Robert Connors, a veteran lumberman of the Upper St. John, N. B., took place at Hot Springs, Ark., on the 11th inst. He was a native of Nova Scotia, but resided and carried on extensive lumber operations on the St. Francis for many years.

Six teams are hauling deals from Beaver Brook, Albert County, for J. S. Atkinson & Co. In addition to the large amount of spruce timber got out this winter a great deal of hardwood in the shape of ton timber will be shipped from Albert and Riverside this spring. In the vicinity of Albert Station, J. S. Atkinson & Co., and C. and I. Prescott have a

large amount of very fine ton timber, which was cut at New Ireland and will be shipped direct to Great Britain from Grindstone Island.

ST. JOHN, N. B., March 22., 95.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

[Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

THE effort to extend ship building in the province is creating a good deal of interest among lumbermen and business men generally. The manner in which the proposal has been met by the different boards of trade shows how the position occurs to the commercial community. It is recognized, had British Columbia her own vessels, that business now carried in foreign bottoms, would come to this province. The lumber trade, of course, welcome any movement in this direction, and would be good customers for such vessels. Besides it would mean a consumption of lumber that would be worth something to the local lumbermen. The hope is that the provincial government will view the matter in a liberal light, and take steps in the direction indicated.

Some large shipments of lumber have gone east within the past week or two from the Brunette and Royal City Saw Mills.

The lumber trade of the province is looking up and there is a good deal of activity among the mills. Shipments of good size are going out for export and local trade, and also business with Manitoba is improving.

Estimates are being prepared for the installation of an electric logging railway on one of our large northern timber limits. Electricity will be generated by water power and transmitted some distance to the limits.

How quickly the standing tree can be turned into lumber is illustrated in the case of a car load of lumber that went east from the Royal City Mills on Thursday of last week, the raw material of which was growing in the woods on Monday.

An Ottawa despatch received here says that judgment has been handed down in the Supreme Court in Canada in the case of B. C. Mills & T Co., vs. Scott, involving an accident at the saw mill of the company. A new trial is given, the appeal being allowed.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C., March 18, 1895.

MICHIGAN LETTER.

[Regular correspondence CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

THOUGH another month has gone by, it must be confessed that there is not any great stir in lumber business in this state. Of course mills are getting in readiness for the season's operations, but even these are tardy in their movements. A year ago some of the mills were in good swing early in March. This year it will be the 1st of April and the 15th in many cases before there will be a large amount of stir. All these are evidences of caution on the part of the trade, and is in keeping with the spirit of buyers, who confine their purchases to small lots, where in other seasons they would buy much more generously.

Charles Merrill & Co., are likely to run their mill light this season, having a stock of 16,000,000 feet of lumber on hand, which is not moving very rapidly.

The final decision of the Dominion cabinet in officially announcing the removal of the duty on boom sticks and chains is a satisfactory ending of a difficulty that at one time looked rather threatening for Michigan and Canadian lumber interests.

There is some talk of a Michigan syndicate being formed to control Canadian timber, but it is hard to trace it back to sound foundations. Lumbermen, who ought to know, because of their interest in Canadian timbers, laugh at the suggestion.

The liquidation of the affairs of R. G. Peters, of Grand Rapids, who failed four years ago with over \$1,000,000 liabilities, is progressing, under the management of the Michigan Trust Co., in a very satisfactory manner. The trustees announce that within another year the business will be closed up, with a surplus of decent size for Mr. Peters.

In 1851 the mills on the Saginaw river cut 92,000,000 feet. Inside of ten years these figures had only reached 125,000,000 feet. Another decade showed an immense increase, when the cut figured out within a fraction of 600,000,000 feet only to be increased in 1880 to practically 900,000,000 feet, and high water mark was touched in 1882 with an output of more than 1,100,000,000 feet. Then came the toboggan slide act, until last year the record of cut shows only 481,244,039 feet. Stronger evidence of the denudation of this once great white pine state needs not to be offered.

SAGINAW, MICH., March 20, 1895.

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THE NEWS.

—W. H. Freeman, lumber, Milton, Ont., is dead.

—S. E. Holmes, Harwich, Ont., is rebuilding his saw mill.

—W. Hamilton will erect a saw and shingle mill at Sand Point, Ont.

—Over three million feet of logs are on hand at the Cashmere, Ont., saw mill.

—Mr. Kushick has just completed the erection of a saw mill at Buckingham, Que.

—Haun Bros., Edgington, Ont., are removing their saw mill to Dufferin Bridge, Ont.

—Wm. Arselstine, of Violet, has purchased the grist and saw mill of G. Deline, at Croydon.

—Scott Bros. have lately thoroughly overhauled the machinery in their saw mills near Galt, Ont.

—C. H. Merryfield has started his saw mill at Monkton, Ont. He has 600,000 feet of logs to saw.

—Messrs. Martin & Jones, of Kemptville, Ont., are erecting a sash and door factory on the south bank of the river.

—Ament Bros., of Brussels, Ont., have their mill yard stocked with 800,000 to 1,000,000 feet of logs this spring.

—Ferguson Bros. have started their saw mill at Eversley, Ont., for another season. They have their yard well stocked with logs.

—The shingle mill of S. A. McAuley at Lower Millstream, N. B., has been recently undergoing repairs, executed by the Robb Engineering Co.

—James Crawford offered to build and equip a large sawmill on Baker's Brook, N. B., provided the council will grant exemption from taxation for ten years.

—D. E. Sprague, of Winnipeg, has a number of men employed placing his log booms in the river near his mill preparatory to the spring break-up of the ice.

—Graham, Horne & Co., of Fort William, Ont., expect to operate their saw mill night and day during the coming summer, employing two gangs of workmen.

—Munroe & McEwen's saw mill at Moose Creek, Ont., has opened for the season. The cut this season will be large, as the number of logs taken out during the winter has been larger than usual.

—A steam barge is being built at Garden Island by the Calvin Company, expressly for carrying timber. The dimensions are 180 feet long, 87 feet beam, and 13 feet hold. She will carry 40,000 feet of oak timber.

—The Wm. Cane & Sons Mfg. Co., of Newmarket, Ont., are consumers of a large amount of timber. In one week recently 60 cars of pail timber were received by the firm. They intend putting in another machine for pail work.

—W. Kerr has been taking the machinery out of his old tannery at Mitchell, and shipping it off to exchange for saw-mill machinery. Mr. Kerr has a splendid water power and mill privilege in Algoma, and is putting up a saw and carding mill.

—A movement is on foot to establish a saw mill at Slate River, Ont. A large amount of timber in the Slate River valley is inaccessible to the mills at Port Arthur and Fort William, and there is a demand for lumber in the vicinity also, which cannot well be supplied by these mills on account of distance, except at too great a cost.

—George Gurd, timber dealer, of Tilbury, Ont., has over 2,000,000 feet of logs on the Lake Shore railway, awaiting shipment to Walkerville, from whence they will be rafted to Detroit. He has another 1,500,000 banked on the Krule and other drains for rafting, in addition to a large quantity on Detroit river.

—A deputation recently waited on the Ontario Government urging that further steps be taken for the protection of the timber limits in the northern parts of the province by the appointment of additional fire rangers. Among the deputation were Mr. Thos. Long, of Toronto, Mr. John Long, of Collingwood, and Dr. Spohn, of Simcoe. Consideration was promised by the Premier.

—D. L. Shannon, who recently sold the machinery of his sawmill at Prince Albert, Sask., to Smyth Bros., of Steep Creek, has purchased a 50-horse power engine and boiler, and a more extensive outfit of machinery, and is fitting up his mill to manufacture lumber, shingles and lath. The capacity of the new mill will be 20,000 feet of lumber, 20,000 shingles and 30,000 lath per day. About twenty men will be employed during the summer. The mill is expected to be in operation early in April.

—Wm. Irwin & Co., of Orillia, Ont., have entered suit against Turner & Fisher, a lumbering firm of Bay City, Mich.,