

SEASONING TIMBER.

Though air drying is the best and most certain way of promoting durability in wood without impairing its strength, the time it takes is often a great drawback; hence the immersion of the newly-felled timber is resorted to in order to arrest any tendency to change, by washing out of the pores of the wood all sap and other substances which tend to promote fermentation, and hence decay. Moreover, the soaking in water makes the wood less liable to twist and warp in subsequent drying, and when it is cut up into scantlings for use, beides rendering it more proof against the attacks of worms, though its strength is supposed to be slightly diminished thereby, which seems to be borne out by the fact that the loss of weight is greater in waterseasoned wood than when it has been merely air seasoned. If placed in water it is better that it should be completely submerged, as nothing is so injurious to timber as being exposed to alternate wet and dry. The generally received opinion is, that for ordinary purposes a fortnight's immersion in running water is sufficient, though much must depend on the size of the bulks so treated. T. de Lapparent, one of the Government inspectors of timber in France, recommends for timber used in shipbuilding one year's immersion in river water, two years in fresh, or three in brackish water, constantly being changed, to be followed by two years of air-seasoning. The gradual processes of air and water seasoning are the only ones which can be safely applied to timber in large scantlings; still, artificial drying may often be successfully employed in the case of smaller scantlings, more especially in the preparation of timber for joinery, for which purpose it should be quite dry and free from any tendency to shrink.

Amongst such systems we may mention drying in ovens or hot chambers, exposed to currents of air ranging from 90° for hard woods and large sections, to 250° for soft woods in thin boards, the process being carried on until the wood has lost from one-fifth to one-third of its original weight, according to the purpose for which it is required to be used. Boiling and steaming wood for three or four hours are often resorted to, as the subsequent drying is thereby rendered very rapid, and the tendency to shrink and twist is reduced to a minimum, whilst the wood becomes so pliable that ribs and planks can be bent to any required curve, and, if confined until dry, will readily retain the form so given them. Smoke-drying may also be employed at times with advantage; but carbonizing or charring the outer surfaces of the wood, though very effectual in preserving it from the destructive influence of alternate wet and dry, such as the ends of posts let into the ground are so much exposed to, must never be regarded as a substitute for seasoning; for though keeping out external moisture, it effectually imprisons that which is in the pores of the wood, and so hastens internal decay. While on this subject it may be as well to observe that paint, tar, and all similar waterproof coatings are only preservatives so long as the timber is already seasoned and free from moisture, as then they keep it dry; but if not, they become the most certain agents of destruction. For imperfectly seasoned timber the best preservative against the weather is a rough-sawn face, which forms a shield against both sun and rain, and at the same time offers no check to the evaporation of the moisture from the pores of the wood.—*Timber.*

A Reminiscence.

A strange tragedy, that took place twelve years ago in the lonely woods of the North Shore of Lake Huron, is told in the *Manitowlin Exporter* of April 10. Seven men in employ of Williams & Murray, lumbermen, of Blind River, while taking up a load of oats and provisions in a boat to an inland station camped one raw night in Spring on the banks of the river. To shelter them from the wind they piled the bags of oats in a dyke, behind which they lay down to sleep. The dyke toppled over during the night smothering them all. Mr. Murray found their dead bodies on the fatal spot three days after.

The length of the short line to be constructed by the C. P. R. from Smith's Falls east is 121 miles.

NEW YORK.

The following is the official list of the prices obtained at the New York Lumber Auction Company's sale at New York on April 13th:—

Lot 1—White pine shelving, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, 12,829 ft. \$18.
 Lot 2—Ash, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 3,401 ft.; seconds, 5,247 ft.; culls, 434 ft. \$27.
 Lot 3—Hemlock joists, $2\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, 924 pieces, 13 cents each.
 Lot 4—Walnut and cherry, 1 inch, walnut firsts, 291 ft.; seconds, 2,113 ft.; culls, 4,017 ft.; cherry, 69 ft. \$47.
 Lot 5—White pine shelving, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch s 2 s, 3,615 ft. \$18.60.
 Lot 6—Chestnut, 1 inch, firsts 101 ft.; seconds, 3,100 ft.; culls, 982 ft. \$14.
 Lot 7—Chestnut, 1 inch, firsts, 389 ft.; seconds, 2,791 ft.; culls, 913. \$15.
 Lot 8—Chestnut, 1 inch, firsts, 340 ft.; seconds, 2,710 ft.; culls, 325 ft. \$15.
 Lot A—Chestnut, 1 inch, culls, 10,785 ft.; \$9.50.
 Lot 9—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts 5,177 ft.; seconds, 3,541 ft.; culls, 260 ft. \$29.
 Lot 10—Hemlock joist $2\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, 937 pieces. 13 cents each.
 Lot 11—Whitewood squares, firsts, 569 ft.; seconds, 1,072 ft.; culls, 978 ft. \$17.50.
 Lot 12—Cherry, $\frac{1}{2}$ in., Ash, $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 in., Walnut 6x6 and 6x6 inch. Cherry culls 69 ft. Ash, firsts and seconds 114 ft., culls 31 ft. Walnut, firsts 111 ft.; seconds, 33 ft.; culls 64. \$33.
 Lot 13—Whitewood, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch; firsts 145 ft.; seconds (planed), 1,607 ft.; culls (planed), 1,040 ft. \$11.
 Lot 14—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts 2,593 ft.; seconds, 7,064 ft.; culls 935 ft. \$15.
 Lot 15—White pine, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, box pine 7,525 ft. \$15.50.
 Lot 16—White pine, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch W.P. cutting up stock, 4,224 ft. \$23.
 Lot 17—Whitewood, 1 inch; firsts, 173 ft.; seconds, 1,413 ft.; culls, 4,503 ft. \$18.50.
 Lot 18—Whitewood, $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; firsts, 5,308 ft.; seconds, 8,796 ft.; culls, 437 ft. \$29.
 Lot 19—Whitewood, 3 inch; firsts, 1,590 ft.; seconds, 1,852 ft.; culls, 205 ft. \$28.
 Lot 20—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 13,084 ft. \$16.
 Lot 21—Walnut squares, 794 ft. \$51.
 Lot 22—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch; firsts, 3,858 ft.; seconds, 2,628 ft.; culls, 80. \$28.
 Lot 23—Whitewood, 2 in., firsts, 3,405 ft.; seconds, 2,755 ft.; culls 62 ft. \$22.50.
 Lot 24—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 12 \times 13$, 644 pieces. 13 cents each.
 Lot 25—Box pine, 2 inch, 8,182 ft. \$15.
 Lot 26—Ash flooring, 1 inch, T. & G. planed one side. $\frac{3}{4}$ inch No 1 ash flooring, 11,133 ft. \$23.50.
 Lot 27—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 10 \times 13$, 924 pieces. 12 cents each.
 Lot 28—Walnut, 1 and 2 in., firsts, 45 ft.; seconds 844 ft.; culls, 4,866. \$38.
 Lot 29—White pine 1 in. W. P. No. 2 cutting up stock, 12,208 ft. \$24.
 Lot 30—Whitewood, 4 in., firsts, 4,118 ft.; seconds, 2,494 ft.; culls, 275 ft. \$32.50.
 Lot 31—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 10 \times 13$, 800 pieces. 13 cents each.
 Lot 32—Walnut, 1 inch, firsts 144 ft.; seconds, 1,333; culls, 1,855 ft. \$44.
 Lot 33—Walnut 1 in., firsts, 195 ft.; seconds, 1,757; culls, 2,363 ft. \$43.
 Lot 34—Whitewood, 2 in., firsts, 1,609 ft.; seconds, 2,638 ft.; culls, 996 ft. \$22.
 Lot B—Walnut Planks, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4 and $\frac{4}{5}$ inch, firsts, 1,056 ft.; seconds, 1,802 ft.; culls, 785 ft. \$90.
 Lot C—Walnut squares, 4x4, 5x5, 6x6, 7x7 and 8x8 inch, firsts, 1,002 ft.; seconds, 1,227 ft.; culls, 1,240 ft. \$75.
 Lot 35—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ in., firsts, 2,029 ft.; seconds, 655 ft.; culls, 50 ft. \$30.50.
 Lot 36—Whitewood, 3 in., firsts, 3,508 ft.; seconds, 2,764 ft. \$30.50.
 Lot 37—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ in., firsts 3,965 ft.; seconds, 3,582 ft.; culls, 649 ft. \$3.50.
 Lot 38—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 15,478 ft. \$14.50.
 Lot 39—W. P. shelving, extra wide, planed 2 sides, $\frac{3}{4}$ W. P. Shelving pl 2 S—10,751 ft. \$18.
 Lot 40—Walnut, 1 inch, seconds, 959 ft.; culls, 1,928 ft. \$44.50.
 Lot 41—Walnut, 1 inch, seconds, 1,042 ft.; culls, 2,092 ft. \$46.
 Lot 42—Walnut, 1 inch, seconds, 1,498 ft.; culls, 1,666 ft. \$50.50.
 Lot 43—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 4,151 ft. \$14.50.
 Lot 44—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 4,243 ft. \$14.50.
 Lot 45—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 4,106 ft. \$14.50.
 Lot 46—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts, 1,283 ft.; seconds, 3,580 ft.; culls, 2,687 ft. \$26.
 Lot D—White pine shelving, extra wide, planed 2 sides, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, 18,159 ft. 2 M \$21.50, 2 M \$21.50, 1 M \$20, 5 M \$19.50 and 8,150 at \$19.00.
 Lot 47—Whitewood, 2 inch, firsts, 1,066 ft.; seconds, 1,744 ft.; culls, 684 ft. \$25.50.
 Lot 48—Whitewood, 3 inch firsts, 5,453 ft.; seconds, 1,909 ft.; culls, 815 ft. \$30.50.
 Lot 49—Walnut, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 inch, culls, 2,312 ft. \$26.
 Lot E—Whitewood, 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, seconds, 566 ft.; culls, 1,415 ft. \$23.
 Lot 50—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 1,121 ft.; seconds, 2,088 ft.; culls, 1,050 ft. \$24.
 Lot 51—Walnut, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 82 ft.; seconds, 788 ft.; culls, 2,532 ft. \$40.
 Lot 52—Walnut, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, firsts, 903 ft.; seconds, 945 ft.; culls, 1,638 ft. \$27.50.
 Lot 53—Whitewood squares, firsts, 2,651 ft.; seconds, 978 ft.; culls, 628 ft. \$25.
 Lot 54—White pine shelving, planed two sides, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, 17,175 ft. \$17.
 Lot 55—Walnut, 1 and 2 inch, firsts, 2,062 ft.; seconds, 4,245 ft.; culls, 524 ft. \$75.50.
 Lot 56—White pine flooring, T. & G. planed one side, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, 14,460 ft. \$16.
 Lot 57—Hemlock joist, $2\frac{1}{2} \times 13$, 660 pieces. 12 cents each.
 Lot 58—Whitewood, 1 inch, seconds, 792 ft.; culls, 3,233 ft. \$18.50.
 Lot 59—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 2,228 ft.; seconds, 1,930 ft.; culls, 144 ft. \$27.50.
 Lot F—White ash, 1 inch, firsts, 5,190 ft.; seconds, 2,595 ft.; culls, 56 ft. \$34.50.
 Lot 60—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, 2 inches, firsts, 9,815 ft.; seconds, 1,618 ft.; culls, 184 ft. \$31.
 Lot 61—Whitewood squares, firsts, 2,647 ft.; seconds, 531 ft.; culls, 72 ft. \$29.50.
 Lot 62—Whitewood, 1 to 2 inch, firsts, 3,000 ft.; seconds, 2,218 ft.; culls, 159 ft. \$20.
 Lot 63—Walnut, 1 and 2 inch, culls, 8,655 ft. \$38.50.
 Lot 64—Wide pine shelving, planed two sides, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, 10,905 ft. \$14.50.
 Lot 65—Quartered sycamore, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 1,214 ft.; seconds, 627 ft.; culls, 162 ft. \$31.75.
 Lot 66—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts, 2,331 ft.; seconds, 4,600 ft.; culls, 1,028 ft. \$26.
 Lot 67—Whitewood, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 5,668 ft.; seconds, 3,337 ft.; culls, 729 ft. \$27.75.
 Lot 68—Whitewood, $\frac{1}{2}$ in., firsts, 9,747 ft.; seconds, 1,600 ft.; culls, 49 ft. \$31.
 Lot 69—Walnut, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 in., seconds, 261 ft.; culls, 1,178 ft. \$32.
 Lot 70—Whitewood, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, firsts, 2,871 ft.; seconds, 4,244 ft.; culls, 5,103 ft. \$17.50.
 Lot 71—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 12 \times 13$, 624 pieces. 14 cents each.
 Lot 72—White pine, 1 inch, W. P. No. 2, cutting up stocks, 12,251 ft. \$18.50.
 Lot 73—Oak timber, 5x12 inch, firsts, 5,627 ft.; seconds, 2,745 ft.; culls, 665. \$27.50.
 Lot 74—Whitewood, 1 inch, culls, 14,499 ft. \$14.25.
 Lot 75—Roofing boards, 1×10 D. & M. 14,107 ft. \$18.50.
 Lot 76—Basswood, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, culls, 9,012 ft. \$7.00.
 Lot 77—Ash Balusters, 4 205 pieces 2x2, clear, and 1,325 do., 2x2x3, clear. 4 cents each.
 Lot 78—Cherry Balusters, 831 pieces, 2x2, and 189 do., 3x2x3, clear. 5 cents each.
 Lot 79—Ash, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, firsts, 1,285 ft.; seconds, 3,766; culls, 351. \$26.
 Lot 80—Whitewood, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 1,594 ft.; seconds, 2,194 ft.; culls, 964 ft. \$21.50.
 Lot 81—Whitewood, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, firsts, 1,459 ft.; seconds, 2,001 ft.; culls, 770 ft. \$20.50.
 Lot 82—Whitewood 1 inch, firsts, 4,790 ft.; seconds, 3,479 ft.; culls, 500 ft. \$26.
 Lot 83—Ash strips, 1 inch, clear, 2,618 ft. \$23.
 Lot 84—Ash strips, 1 inch, clear, 3,139 ft. \$23.50.
 Lot 85—Ash strips, 1 inch, clear, 4,187 ft. \$23.
 Lot 86—Walnut, 1 inch, firsts, 63 ft.; seconds, 813 ft.; culls, 697 ft. \$61.
 Lot 87—Cherry, 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, seconds, 174 ft.; culls, 214 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., and 7,299 ft. 1 in. \$19.
 Lot 88—Whitewood culls, 1 inch, 11,007 ft. \$14.25.
 Lot 89—White ash, 1 inch, firsts, 2,934 ft.; seconds, 1,629 ft.; culls, 165 ft. \$34.
 Lot 90—White ash, 1 inch, firsts, 2,197 ft.; seconds, 995 ft. \$34.
 Lot 91—Walnut, 1 inch, firsts, 2,400 ft.; seconds, 5,459 ft.; culls, 228 ft. \$72.50.
 Lot 92—White ash, 2 inch, firsts, 6,762 ft.; seconds, 3,037 ft.; culls, 106 ft. \$32.75.
 Lot 93—Quartered white oak 1 inch, firsts, 6,654 ft.; seconds, 2,407 ft.; culls, 1,111 ft. \$44.
 Lot 94—Basswood, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, firsts, 378 ft.; seconds, 1,692 ft.; culls, 1,030 ft. \$13.
 Lot 95—Basswood, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, firsts, 658 ft.; seconds, 1,425 ft.; culls, 932 ft. \$13.
 Lot 96—Basswood, $\frac{1}{2}$ in., firsts, 780 ft.; seconds, 1,820 ft.; culls 982 ft. \$13.
 Lot 97—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts, 6,319 ft.; seconds, 2,642 ft. \$13.50.
 Lot 98—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts, 3,779 ft.; seconds, 1,122 ft. \$32.
 Lot 99—Whitewood, 1 inch, firsts, 6,788 ft.; seconds, 2,834 ft.; culls, 343 ft. \$34.50.
 Lot 100—White pine $\frac{3}{4}$ inch cutting up stock, 12,836 ft. \$17.
 Lot 101—Whitewood, 2 in., firsts, 4,433 ft.; seconds, 4,216 ft.; culls, 1,858 ft. \$3.
 Lot 102—Whitewood, 1 in., firsts, 1,567 ft.; seconds, 5,954 ft.; culls, 3,220 ft. \$22.50.
 Lot 103—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 10 \times 13$, 740 pieces. 12 cents each.
 Lot 104—White pine flooring, $\frac{3}{4}$ in., T. & G. planed one side, 14,378 ft. \$16.
 Lot 105—Whitewood, $\frac{3}{4}$ in., firsts, 1,942 ft.; seconds, 8,930 ft.; culls, 6,345 ft. \$45.
 Lot 106—Whitewood, $\frac{3}{4}$ in., firsts, 2,986 ft.; seconds, 4,496 ft.; culls, 282 ft. \$20.
 Lot 107—Walnut, 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2, firsts, 2,686 ft.; seconds, 4,625 ft.; culls, 394 ft. \$70.50.

Lot 108—Hemlock boards, $1 \times 12 \times 13$, 600 pieces. 13 cents each.
 Lot 109—Ash, 1 inch, firsts, 5,103 ft.; seconds, 2,970 ft.; culls, 210 ft. \$34.50.

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