

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

The chief topic in local lumber circles is the announcement by Mr. J. R. Booth of his intention to move his sawmill from Ottawa. Since the fire a year ago, there has been a strong agitation to prohibit, or at least restrict, lumber piling in the residential sections. It was contended that the long avenues of lumber fed the flame and indirectly caused the destruction of other valuable property. No action was taken in the matter further than the amendment of the fire by-law, which requires that the lumber shall be piled at a safe distance from residences and other structures. This does not satisfy the extremists, who are still clamoring for the removal of the piles. There is also a scheme under way having for its object the imposition of a tax on lumber piled within the city limits.

The avoidance of these threatened restrictions furnishes one reason for Mr. Booth's desire to locate elsewhere. He stated that a site would be chosen on the Ottawa below the city, where advantage can be taken of the river for the transportation of logs and lumber.

Many believe, however, that Mr. Booth will reconsider his proposal, and continue his lumber business here. The removal of it would mean a serious blow to both Hull and Ottawa.

As soon as the water in the Ottawa recedes sufficiently, blasting operations will be commenced on the site of the new mill at the Chaudiere, to be erected by the Hull and Ottawa Pulp, Power and Paper Company. The ruins of the Hull Lumber Company's mill have all been cleared away, ready for the blasting. The new company has just acquired possession of a portion of the Table Rock from the Quebec Government, situated alongside the property secured from the Hull Lumber Company. These, along with the adjoining area secured from Mr. Alexander Fraser, gives the new company control of the Table Rock and adjoining water power. Mr. Wm. Kennedy, of Montreal, consulting engineer of the company, is now preparing plans for the new building. A power house will also be erected for the generation and distribution of power for manufacturing purposes.

All the mills in and about Ottawa are now running full time. The Hull Lumber Company is operating Mason's mill at Hintonburg and will also operate Ritchie Brothers' mill at Aylmer as soon as the

new machinery of larger capacity is installed. Mr. J. R. Booth's, Gilmour & Hughson's and W. C. Edward's mills are all in full swing. There should be no scarcity of logs this season, as the drives are all being well handled on account of the high water. During the past week the logs have been coming down the Gatineau in large numbers. There are at present over 70,000 at the boom. Several large rafts of logs have also been handled on Lake Deschenes for local mill owners. These logs came from the tributaries of the Upper Ottawa.

There is no change in prices in the Ottawa lumber market, which holds firm. No break is looked for; indeed, a further advance is conceded, as several lines are sold out. Although the present mill operations will relieve the stringency, a heavy demand will sustain prices.

Navigation is now open on the Ottawa river and Rideau canal, and lumber shippers have taken early advantage of the fact. Several barges belonging to the Ottawa Transportation Company's fleet have been loaded at the Chaudiere docks for American points. Shipments by rail are also brisk. A new spur line has been laid, connecting with the Export Lumber Co.'s yards and those of Mr. J. R. Booth.

The E. B. Eddy Company is carrying out extensive plans for the improvement of its fire protection. A second large water tower has been erected. The first was built near the match factory and paper mills in the west end of Hull. The second one is being erected in the east end, near the sulphite mill. These towers have a capacity of several thousand gallons of water, thus furnishing increased pressure for the water mains. The buildings have also been supplied with automatic sprinklers. Work on the new paper mills is being rushed ahead and building operations on the Eddy Co.'s premises promise to be even brisker than they were last year.

Ottawa, May 6th, 1901.

TIMBER LIMIT PURCHASE.

It is reported that the Ross timber limits and mica mines in the province of Quebec have been purchased by McLaren & Co., of Buckingham and Ottawa. The limits are extensive and the consideration is said to have been in the neighborhood of \$500,000.

Prouty & Miller have a large drive of logs in Cherry river, Que., en route to their mill.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Logan & Sutherland, of Musquodoboit Harbor, N. S., expect to cut 11,000,000 feet of lumber this year.

Montgomery Bros. & Co., of Buffalo, have just received a cargo of mill culls from Deseronto, Ont., purchased through Rathbun & Company, of Oswego.

John Hanbury, of Brandon, Man., has a drive of 125,000 logs on its way from the Riding Mountains to his mill. He expects to cut 8,000,000 feet this year.

Further advances have been made in the price of spruce logs. T. H. Lawler, of Bangor, N.S., has 4,000,000 feet for sale for which he is asking \$16.50 per thousand. He is reported to have refused an offer of \$15.75.

TO CANADIAN MILL MEN.

A responsible London firm of agents-brokers are anxious to extend their connection in Canada, and desire to open up correspondence with Canadian lumber manufacturers and shippers. They will agree to advance 75 per cent. of the value of the lumber upon shipment thereof. Mill men who are desirous of opening up a trade in Great Britain, or extending their present business, are asked to write to this office for the name and address of the above firm, who will be pleased to quote prices and give all assistance possible.

THE BARBADOES MARKET.

Clairmonte, Man & Company, under date of April 13th, say: There is still a good demand for both spruce and white pine lumber, especially the latter, with one arrival of white pine during the fortnight.

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Latest local sales have been \$25 for merchantable white pine, and \$21 for second quality; \$21.50 for merchantable spruce, and \$17.50 for second quality. Gaspe cedar shingles are in supply. A small lot has recently been sold at \$3.20 per M, also 47 M at quotations given in our last report. Cedar laying shingles are selling at \$2.16, and spruce laying at \$2.09.

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