

The Collapse of Shipbuilding.

After attaining last year to the highest point that it has reached in the history of the industry, shipbuilding in the northeastern ports has in the first three months of 1884 collapsed. It has been definitely stated that there are now about 7,000 shipbuilders unemployed on the rivers Wear and Tyne. If this statement be exaggerated, it must be confessed that there is an enormous falling off in the number and the tonnage of vessels in course of construction. On the Tyne and the Wear the number of the vessels on the stocks is only about one-half of those on the stocks at the same date last year; and at the other shipbuilding ports there is also a falling off, though not quite so marked. Again, out of the vessels on the stocks there are some, the progress of which is stopped; and as others are launched their places are not taken up. It is thus clear that there will be an enormous falling off in the tonnage of the vessels built at the northeastern ports during the current year, and it is probable that the completeness of the collapse will be one of the reasons that lead to the conclusion that the recovery, if not very rapid, will be not so long deferred. The loss of vessels still goes on, and as the work of the steamers has been restricted by the enormous stocks that have accumulated, and as these stocks are now falling off, it may be fairly concluded that the demand for tonnage will recover with more speed than had been thought likely. So complete a collapse as has been witnessed and is being witnessed may lead to a revival in the trade at no very distant date.—*The Engineer.*

Bobbins and Spools.

The Quaco Wood Manufacturing Company, at St. Martin's, N. B., in the midst of spruce and birch forests, began years ago a small rotary mill to make spools and bobbins by hand. Then some Boston capitalists and T. P. Davis enlarged the premises, put in a pair of 125 h. p. engines, and made cloth boards and broom handles also. It did not pay and changed hands. In 1881 the present owners got hold of it and first secured the services of competent bobbin makers from Nashua, N. H., bringing with them a full set of bobbin and spool machinery, and skilled labor to run it. The old building is 120x40 feet with a wing 40x60 feet, and the new building is 60x36 feet, with an ell 36 feet wide, all three storeys. Ships' blocks, pickets, and sheathing are added to the other articles made. The cloth boards go to New Hampshire; the bobbins to the different cotton and cordage factories in the Dominion. Large shipments of their products are made to different parts of the United States and England.—*Monetary Times.*

A Terrible Storm.

PITTSBURG, June 12.—The Allegheny valley was visited yesterday by one of the heaviest storms known for many years. At Brookville a waterspout burst, and in 2 hrs. the creek rose ten feet, transforming it into a torrent. Mill men had no chance to save their stock. The dams at North Fork mills, the Bryant & Wainwright, and Litch mills gave way carrying with them lumber valued at \$70,000. Two bridges were washed away and many small buildings demolished. A number of families were driven from their homes. A number of coal barges were swept from their moorings here, but were caught by tow boats. Fifty thousand pieces of lumber were swept away at Brookville. The water is now subsiding.

GREAT NEGLIGENCE.—There is great neglect with most people to maintain a regular action of the bowels, which causes much disease. Burdock Blood Bitters cure constipation.

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