

THE NEWS.

ONTARIO.

A lumber exchange is being talked of at Ottawa.

The timber slides at the Chaudiere have been closed for the season.

Spence & Kuhlman, a planing mill firm of Cobourg, have assigned.

Quite a large quantity of hemlock logs will be cut at Deseronto this winter.

Grant & Ranger have the job of cutting 50,000 logs on Fraser & Co.'s Black River limit.

Fraser & Co.'s limit bordering on Sheenboro' township is considerably damaged by fire.

Fraser & Co., of Ottawa, have decided to employ jobbers henceforth instead of concern shanties.

Mr. John Mills, Merrickville, has recently made considerable enlargement of his cabinet factory in that place.

The Otonabee river has been filled for some time with J. M. Irwin's drive. They are getting down in good shape.

The water has risen about six inches in the River du Lievre, but is still far too low to run the lumber mills full power.

Messrs. Grier & Co.'s saw mill at the Chaudiere was closed down, temporarily, on the 19th ult., owing to lack of water.

Emery Bros., of Saginaw, intend doing some heavy log cutting this winter on their limits in the Georgian Bay district.

On the Spanish river the Spanish Lumber Co. are going to exceed all their previous efforts in log cutting the coming winter.

J. O. Long, an employee in Mickle's saw mill, Gravenhurst, recently had his left leg and collar bone broken by a tram-car running over him.

A shantyman named John Ryan had his legs broken recently by the falling of a tree while engaged in cutting in the upper Ottawa lumber district.

The Rathbun Company's mill at Campbellsford has all ties cut for this season and is now cutting lumber, and will finish operations about November 1st.

As the last block for the season was being cut in Thompson's shingle mill, Orillia, G. W. Brown, who was operating the saw, had a thumb and four fingers taken off.

Bronson & Weston's Schyan limit was seriously threatened by fire, but hard work and care averted the danger till rain came. Heavy local showers have killed most of the fires.

Building operations are very brisk at the works of the Terra Cotta Lumber Company, Deseronto. Large extensions are being made to the buildings which now enclose a large space.

The Upper Ottawa Improvement Company have purchased fifteen hundred pieces of boom timber to be used this winter in making the necessary repairs to their works on the Upper Ottawa.

Lumberman Bingham, of Ottawa, states that his drive on the Gatineau river has been laid up at Gilmour's mills, Chelsea, for over a month past. This stoppage of the drive is owing to a dam built across the river.

The Georgian Bay Lumber Company will cut 200,000 feet of square timber this season, and Messrs. Timmins & Gorman 100,000 feet. The former firm will cut ten million feet of timber on the Wanipite river this season.

The new furniture factory of the Lincsay-Seldon Furniture Company at Peterboro' is rapidly approaching completion. It covers an area of 50x40 feet, and is four stories high. It is located close to the river and adjoins the railroad track.

Bronson & Weston, of Ottawa, have two company shanties and three jobbers. J. F. Inglee has two shanties and expects to get out about 10,000 logs this season. Benjamin Moore and R. W. Eady are also jobbing for Bronson & Weston on Schyan limit.

It is rumored that Thomas Mackie, is negotiating for the purchase of Messrs. A. & P. White's steam saw mill at Pembroke, along with their mill and limits at Deux Rivieres. The Messrs. White are said to be willing to sell either property separately or both together.

In the Keepawa District there was recently some uneasiness among the log makers, owing to an outbreak of typhoid fever in one of Hurdman's camps, from which, fortunately, being isolated, the disease has been kept from spreading. Such cases as did occur, were, however, of a very mild type.

The Orillia *Packet* says that considerable difficulty is being experienced by the lumbermen operating back north in procuring the required number of men to carry on the work upon the enlarged scale rendered necessary in consequence of the limits being so overrun by the bush fires, many dams and sluiceways being also destroyed, and which will have to be replaced this fall so as to be ready for the spring freshets.

Mr. Rowen, C. E., has discovered what is thought to be a forest of petrified trees on the Storrington side of the Rideau canal. The columns are among sandstone, and while the latter splits horizontally the former splits perpendicularly, thus proving the contention that a forest has been discovered. The discovery will create a sensation among the geologists.

The Parry Sound and Conger Lumber Companies are making some extensive additions to their fire extinguishing apparatus by laying pipes from their engines and other ways. One very pleasing feature in connection with these arrangements is the spirit of reciprocity shown between the Companies in allowing a mutual use of the appliances for the benefit of both.

J. R. Eaton of Orillia has his planing mill in operation again, after a thorough overhauling, which renders it "as good as new." He is procuring a drying kiln, which will enable him to transform green timber into seasoned, within five days. This has been much needed at Orillia, where seasoned lumber is more difficult to obtain than in places distant from the mills. *Packet*.

The mill owners at the Chaudiere have to pay for drying, towing and boorage, as well as for passing their logs through Government works, it does not pay them to bring down logs of 12 inches and under in diameter, apart from the fact that their slabbers, nearly all our mills being fitted up with upright gangs, are never set for less than ten inch stock; such small logs cost more than they are worth when sawed up.

Lumber cutting as well as lumber shipping in Ottawa is now at low water mark. Numerous barges are lying about waiting for a load and there is nothing to load with. It is said that up till August the shipping interest was a booming one, but since then there is difficulty in moving the boats about at the lumber wharves, for their bottoms scrape and bump on the rocks to a troublesome extent. Never since the mills were erected at the Chaudiere has the water been so low.

Mr. A. J. Maxwell, of Mattawan, states that the Mattawan is a lively place just now. Every day shantymen are pouring in from Ottawa on their way to the various lumber shanties, and the lumbermen are shipping large quantities of supplies to the Mattawan to be taken by teams to their various shanties. All the firms this year expect to do fully as much as they did last year, a little more perhaps, to make up the shortage in the cut last winter owing to the depth of the snow.

A large lumber operator on the Whanapitae is reported as saying: "I think we'll get our square timber to Quebec by the water ways just as speedily and as cheaply as by way of the C. P. R. to Papineauville, and then taking the Ottawa river. As for water there is no better river in Ontario to drive than the Whanapitae, there is always plenty of water and the river is not broken up by rapids and the timber can be rushed into the Georgian Bay in double quick time."

A few days ago men belonging to the firm of McLaren & Edwards, saw-mill owners, of Carleton Place, were in Almonte inspecting the slide, taking measurements of necessary repairs, etc. It is their intention to float down their logs anyway, whether the slide is repaired or not, taking the falls for the highway, as they did last summer. It is said to be their present intention to close their Carleton Place mills and remove the plant to Rockland, on the Ottawa river, where mills will be erected to receive the machinery.

The Midhurst grist and saw mills recently burnt, said to be the oldest in the country, were erected by George Oliver on the site granted by Government in 1819. In the year 1841, Mr. Boys, the late County Treasurer, purchased them, improved them and worked them for several years, doing a large business. At this time a distillery was attached to the mills, which supplied all the hotels north of Bradford, and the grist mill did the grinding for all the settlers between Barrie and Lake Huron.

The bush fires around Eganville are all out and reports come from all sides of the great amount of valuable lands cleared by the fire. Hundreds of acres of beaver meadows and alder bushes were burnt over so that they are entirely cleared, and people are commencing to plow them just like prairies, only they are a lot richer than most prairies. Thousands of acres of fine swamp land is laid flat, that is a tract of fifteen square miles was burnt, that will undoubtedly ere long make the finest valley of farming land in the country. Most of the men in this country who were determined on going to the shanties this fall have now to remain at home clearing land. In this instance, at all events, the bush fire has resulted in doing good instead of harm.

Messrs R. W. Thistle & Co. expect to cut a larger number of saw logs on the Kippawa this year on their limits, which have only been worked to a very small extent for the past two or three years, and it is probable that Messrs. Grier & Co. will cut about double what they did last year in order to keep both their mills at Ottawa working. J. R. Booth will cut more logs this year on his Temiscaming limits, than ever before, and Bronson & Weston will cut extensively

on their Bonchere limits. Hamilton Bros. will cut a little more than usual on the Dominion limits, and Moore & Co. will turn out a large quantity of square timber from their Kippawa limits.

The prospect for Ottawa securing the mills of the Canada Lumber Company, of Carleton Place, does not appear certain after all. There will be a change in the location of the big establishment, but the advantages of half-a-dozen sites have not been fully considered. This was in effect the information given by Mr. W. C. Edwards, M. P., to a *Journal* reporter. Said Mr. Edwards: "The firm has come to the conclusion that the sawing capacity of the mills will have to be increased. This cannot be done at Carleton Place, where the water-power, for one thing, is not sufficient for our requirements. Then again better shipping facilities can be secured elsewhere, the railways not allowing competitive rates from Carleton Place. Ottawa is among the list of available sites. Mr. Folger of the Kingston & Pembroke railway has also brought before our notice the advantages of Mississippi, which is west of Carleton Place. Different points down the river, such as Point Claire, sixteen miles above Montreal, and St. Anne's, a few miles further up, are available. The proximity of these latter places to market is considerable advantage, and we think logs can be towed that distance and sawn there at a greater profit than to saw the lumber at Carleton Place and freight from there. The nearer we are to Montreal, too, the better chance we stand of disposing of the cuttings and refuse. No decision has been reached regarding the use of steam or water power. According to present indications the mills, wherever they are located, will be running next spring. About three hundred men are employed now at Carleton Place, and work is kept up night and day." Mr. Edwards added that exemption from taxation was not as great a consideration as the attainment of the best shipping facilities.

QUEBEC.

The lumber firm of Malo & Thomas, Montreal, has been dissolved.

The Lachute mills are again running full time owing to the raise of water in the river.

The Quebec *Official Gazette* advertises the ground rent on timber licenses at \$3; stumpage dues, \$1.30 per 1000, and the dues on spruce logs 65 cents per thousand feet.

The Canada Paper Company propose cutting some 25,000 cords of wood the coming winter for grinding into paper pulp at their pulp mills at Windsor Mills, Ont.

The Upper Ottawa Drive Association is constructing dams in the Cascades Rapids, at Portage du Fort, for the purpose of facilitating the driving of logs through that part of the Ottawa river.

There will probably be a scarcity of lumber vessels at Montreal this autumn, in the opinion of the *Herald*. There are about eight cargoes yet on the Export Lumber Company's wharf waiting transportation. The rate now offered is \$12, an increase of \$1.50 over that given in the spring. There are still some vessels unchartered at Quebec and no doubt several of these will come to Montreal to load.

We learn from the Quebec *Chronicle* that the timber market has been pretty quiet, and no sales were reported last week; though, since we last gave a report of the market, we understand three large Ottawa rafts changed hands at 24 cents for 35 feet; 26 and 28 cents for 38 feet, and 22 to 22½ for 50 feet; the former being 1886 timber and the latter being 1887 wood. The demand for old wood is sluggish, and the stock at present on hand comes under that category.

Owing to the fire in its premises, the Montreal Furniture Company is in financial trouble. Bulmer, jr., & Bro., and Kerr Bros., large creditors presented a petition in Court, asking for an order to wind up the company, to avoid useless litigation, as the company was now unable to meet its liabilities, and a number of actions had already been instituted. The application was not opposed, and the order was granted, Mr. H. Bulmer being appointed provisional liquidator.

The following comparative statement of timber, spars, staves, etc., measured and culled to Oct. 26th, is furnished by the Quebec Supervisor:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Waney White Pine.....	2,830,948	3,047,480	2,020,094
White Pine.....	2,711,467	2,941,158	1,168,143
Red Pine.....	70,758	271,693	591,646
Oak.....	1,566,968	1,036,766	746,243
Elm.....	1,018,932	398,950	221,309
Ash.....	287,595	134,472	113,478
Hasswood.....	95	432	535
Butternut.....	3,265	192	1,079
Tamarac.....	3,622	6,864	5,507
Birch and Maple.....	381,085	227,183	116,694
Masts and Bowsprits.....	— pcs	104 pcs	— pcs
Spars.....	17 pcs	— pcs	— pcs
Sid. Staves.....	77.7.3.20	65.1.2.28	44.1.1.15
W. I. Staves.....	185.9.3.25	128.7.0.29	156.0.0.5
Brl. Staves.....	209.2.0.24	19.0.3.16	15.4.0.11