

saddle in the west to the scrap heap. Thus, the new woman who is mercilessly pursuing us is our peer in a field where we thought we had it all our own way. What may we look for next? we have the right to ask.

But by looking at the clock I see that I must cut this little talk right off at a time when I had just begun to get into the bowels of my subject. Hence, au revoir, as my progenitors were wont to exclaim, which means, I am told. Good luck to you till we meet the next time.

THE HARDWOOD SAW MILL.

By J. T. SCHULTZ.

THE idea commonly entertained is that the saw mill owner invests his money, credit and time for the purpose of making a living, paying for the property, and with the hope that he may have something over for the days when he will not be able to jack a log or pile slabs. If any statement of mine, whether of experience or merely an opinion, may be of use to any of your readers in achieving the desire for profitable results in their business, it is the only excuse the author puts forth for writing in this connection.

A visit of inspection to fifty hardwood saw mills, as we find them in this country, taking an average lot, would probably make the inspector sure of one thing, that the mill owner was evidently "living," and earning it by hard enough work, but the hope for anything further would in many cases be a vain one.

A man going into the hardwood saw-milling without experience is at a disadvantage "from the stump to the factory," and if he makes a success of the venture he will some day be able to tell of the high price he paid for his whistle. But the conditions prevailing this year may convince many who have paid for their experience in better days, that there are some things lacking which only hard times and low prices would force them to seriously consider.

We have had occasion to look over many hardwood plants and stocks of lumber, and in many cases the query has been: "Where do you find sale for the low grades and rough stock?" and the answers have been various. In such cases, if the inquirer will go to the other end of the mill and inspect the logs, he will be liable to ask the proprietor if he buys logs like many he will see in the yard. Here is the place to take the first step towards making a profit, instead of simply working for the living he gets. Good logs will make good lumber with a profit. Poor logs will reduce his average stock to a common lot with little or no profit, and cull logs mean loss every time, even if the logs cost nothing. This is the place to start right.

We go into the mill and find an engine 10x12 pulling at a 60-inch saw and making poor lumber at a high cost, an old rickety edger and no trimmers, and we need not go to the piles to see the lumber.

If the logs are good the lumber will be no better than it should be. With a 5 ft. x 14 ft. good boiler, engine say 14-inch bore by 18-inch stroke, one circular, double edger, trimmer, slab re-saw and slab butting-saw can be run in good shape, do good work and enough more to easily pay the difference between it and a rig too light to do its work, and the lumber will be enough better in sawing, edging and appearance to be worth one dollar per 1,000 feet more than a large percentage of the hardwood lumber offered for sale.

Logs that will produce good lumber, a well equipped mill run by a man with experience and good judgment, should be a source of profit to the operator when he sells his lumber. In addition to his ordinary lumber there is, in many cases, where the slabs are not very valuable for wood, another profit too often let go to waste.

Ash slabs cut three and four feet long and re-sawed into 3 and 4 inches wide make a vainscotting difficult to equal from the lumber pile, as each piece is from the brightest of the timber and with the handsomest grain possible to get from the log. The same remarks apply to oak. Basswood furnishes drawer stock, and furniture cuttings and soft elm the same.

Maple is sometimes more difficult to place to advantage, though turning sticks for furniture makers is one outlet, and school desk makers can buy no such clean, bright,

even colored stock in wide and long lumber as can be got from slabs—all bright, white and clear. I have realized from the slab pile, with the work of one man and a boy, and a forty dollar saw rig, enough to pay two-thirds the wages and expenses of running a mill cutting twelve thousand feet a day.

The ideas I would wish to convey to readers of this article I may condense into a few words: Buy good logs or none; do not accept cull logs as a gift; saw them in a good mill, have a good sawyer and engineer as captain and mate of your crew; work up cull pieces and slabs into money-producing shapes; never try to run culls into good lumber, hoping the good will sell the culls, for it will be the culls that will spoil the good; have proper machinery and keep it in order; keep the mill clean, trim all lumber—and if any money can be made by any one you will be that one.

Our markets is another matter of importance to the trade, and I think the most important to the manufacturer of lumber. Canada produces many times the quantity of lumber that she consumes, both in hard and soft woods, and consequently we are cutting export stock. We should realize this fact, though it is a matter that has not received that consideration from our hardwood mill men that it deserves. Many in the trade sell their export stock in the United States markets, feeling that it is the only export market we have, or could have. In this there is a great error. While the Eastern and New England States buy a large proportion of our shipping stock, these same states export to European markets probably more maple, beech, birch, ash, elm and oak, than they buy from Canada, while Canadian exports to Europe of sawn woods of these varieties is a very small item compared with the quantities shipped to the States.

Here is a condition that we should change materially. How can it be done? you may ask. There is one way by which to do it, that is: to deal with Europeans direct. Our lengths and sizes are frequently not suited to the needs of the English, and especially the French buyers, and here is a difficulty. The writer in looking into this trade came upon an amusing case lately. For some years we had been supplying a Boston buyer with special lengths and sizes in hardwoods. This year we were asking for a trial order for maple stock from a British buyer, and were informed by the Britisher that, having once heard of a place called Canada and "The Maple Leaf," he inferred good maple might be obtained from Canada. He put his idea into effect by ordering a sample shipment from a Quebec shipper who handles pine timber and deals in a large way, and maple in a limited way indeed. The Quebec sample arrived, but was found: "To have an unevenness in formation not observed in maple before used by us, and supplied during the four past years by Messrs. G— of Boston, United States. We found the Canadian maple too soft and uneven for our requirements, and not at all so suitable as that we obtained as above noted from Boston." Some Canuck evidently got an order for maple, and not being an experienced man with maple, was found with logs on hand in September probably, or later. He got the order for that Britisher and it was "soft and uneven," but I should judge not so uneven as the mill man, guilty of having maple logs uncut in the fall of the year. That Britisher swears by Boston maple yet, though it grows in Glengarry, and is cut in March and shipped in September, and he is pleased to pay \$44.00 per 1000 feet for it at Liverpool.

In a former letter to THE LUMBERMAN I dealt with this matter, and claimed then that our common country should assist the hardwood trade to develop a larger market. I then referred the matter to the Ontario government, perhaps wrongly, but I have lately noticed that the lumber business is not of much account with politicians. If we sent a deputation of hardwood lumbermen down to Ottawa, and explained to the government that unless we were recognized as our importance seemed to us to warrant, every mother's son in the country, interested in owning, sawing or selling hardwoods, would ever after "vote agin the government," we would surprise ourselves to find we were "somebody." We would not ask for a few millions to be granted to us for smelting our logs into furniture or flooring, nor that our saw mill machinery should come in free of duty to help us pay dividends of 40 per cent. per month on our capital, nor sixty cents a thousand feet bonus for our old age, nor twenty dollars a thousand for fourteen dollar butter-nut lumber, nor that a travelling saw mill be "skidded" around the townships of the country, with a commissioner to tell us how to

build logging camps and tote roads, nor would we even ask Sir Richard Cartwright to see to it right quickly that he establish the latest and best dry kilns in every part of the country, and the railroads to furnish us with ventilating hot chambered cars to get our stock to Montreal in good shape, and no rain to wet a sliver of it, even when it gets to the Liverpool docks. No, we would not even ask for an Institute lecturer to come around and tell us the best time of the moon to cut hemlock, hickory or swamp elm, or whether it is best to wear moccasins or go barefoot.

Our lack of advantages—constant contact with the butt end of hard times and store pay—has cultivated to perfection the desire in the heart of the hardwood mill man to pay his taxes for the good of humanity and the Australian commissioner, and to say nothing, but saw wood." But if, as I started out to say, we sent some of our foremen down to tell Sir Richard we wanted him to send a "hand" over to "Yurip" to get his sizes and shapes and kinds and qualities and lengths before we started to cut and skid, we might expect to take out a better raft, have a better drive, hold a better average, and with less measured off, than to be going it "random" as we are now.

We do not doubt but that we are justly entitled to all we may claim, and if we decidedly decide that Jay Lark is "no good" to the camp, and get a good "hand" in his place, it won't cost the "company" any more, and will, maybe, get orders to keep the mill running steady all season. But, seriously, I feel satisfied, if a proper party was maintained on the continent for even a portion of one year, it would be a paying benefit to the country at large.

Above I mentioned beech as a marketable timber, and I would mention here a use for it locally and ask some of our mill men to try it, and that is flooring. For mills, factories and even houses, I like it better than hard maple or birch, especially the red of the timber.

Would THE LUMBERMAN ask a Toronto architect to try a beech floor? I can assure him it would be no experiment. This wood has been considered fit for only cordwood, and not the best wood either.

THE LATE ARTHUR M. DODGE.

ON the 16th of October last Mr. Arthur Murray Dodge, of New York, died at his country residence at Westogue, Connecticut, at the age of 43 years. In July last he came to Canada feeling unwell, and after a few days was compelled to return home, where he remained until the time of his death.

Mr. Dodge was prominently connected with the lumber industry of Canada, where he had large financial interests, and was president of the Georgian Bay Lumber Company, of Toronto. He was the youngest son of the late Hon. William E. Dodge, of New York, who during his lifetime was head of the firm of Phelps, Dodge & Co., and was widely known for his philanthropy, as well as his business enterprise. With his father he became interested in the Georgian Bay Lumber Company, the Maganetawan Lumber Company and the Collingwood Lumber Company, all of which were amalgamated in the Georgian Bay Consolidated Lumber Company, which, owing to the death of his father, and the distribution of his father's estate, is now being wound up. Deceased was also the chief stockholder in the extensive business of the Dodge & Bliss Box Company, and other enterprises in New York and Jersey City, as well as A. M. Dodge & Co., of Tonawanda, and Tnokee & Co., of Wisconsin.

His brother at one time was a member of the Dominion parliament for North York, being made a British subject by special Act of Parliament.

A striking feature in his life was his characteristic enterprise, to which is largely due the commercial success which he attained. He was also widely known for his generosity. With his family and friends he has for many years spent the summer months on the Georgian Bay, where a few years ago he built a handsome residence on Dodge Island, opposite Midland. He was married to Miss Jewel, daughter of the late Hon. Marshall Jewel, who had been governor of the State of Connecticut and post-master general of the United States. Five sons survive him.

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