



PUBLISHED
SEMI-MONTHLY.

The only Newspaper devoted to the Lumber and Timber Industries published in Canada

SUBSCRIPTION
\$2.00 PER ANNUM

VOL. 4.

PETERBOROUGH, ONT., NOVEMBER 15, 1884.

NO. 22.

THE MILLS AT LAKE WINNIPEG.

The *Selkirk Herald* says: During the past season lumbering operations have been carried on pretty lively on Lake Winnipeg, as well as about Selkirk. The various mills on the lake with one or two exceptions have been busy since the opening of the season, and a considerable quantity of lumber has been cut, more being brought into Selkirk this summer than last year. One or two firms have experienced difficulties this season that have deterred them from doing the amount of cutting expected, besides being at some loss in consequence, through extra wages and other expenses. The fleet of steamers plying on Red River and Lake Winnipeg have nearly all been actively engaged towing in the barges of lumber for the companies having mills on the lake, and are now making efforts for a good winding up of the season's work.

A large portion of the lumber brought in from the lake has been transhipped at Selkirk for Winnipeg and other places, while some still remain here to supply local trade or to be shipped.

The facilities afforded at Selkirk for the transfer of lumber from the river conveyances to the cars, as well as the ground for piling, etc., are the best, and cannot be surpassed. The business on the Selkirk and Winnipeg railway has been very much increased by the transshipment of lumber here, every train showing evidence of this fact.

While a great quantity of lumber has been cut and brought in this season, it is understood that the demand has not been at all equal to supply and consequently considerable still remains on hand. Most of the firms have been operating largely on Lake Winnipeg, have decided to retrench during the coming winter, and, so far as has been learned, intend to do little or nothing in the way of getting out timber for next season's cutting. Some of them may have logs left over from this summer's cutting, but it is not understood so, and the chances are the mills will not have so much to do next year.

THE ENGRAVER'S WOOD.

Boxwood, on which the engravers make such fine wood engravings for the magazines and illustrated newspapers, is imported mostly from the Mediterranean shores of Spain and Turkey. It comes in small blocks of a roundish but irregular form and perhaps half an inch thick. This shape represents the outline of the tree trunk or main branch, from which they were sawed off. The box tree, as a good many readers may not know, is a variety of the odorous dwarf box, which, only two or three feet high, is cultivated in this country in gardens and used for forming edgings for flower beds and gravel walks; and even the tree from which the wood is cut for engravers' use never grows to any large size;

twenty feet is about its height. It is, moreover, a slow growing tree—as trees having very hard, dense wood usually are—and it need not be surprising therefore, that the largest blocks imported for the engravers rarely exceed five inches in diameter, and on an average not over four or five. In making a picture large enough to cover a magazine page a good many separate bits of engraved wood have to be used. Putting those together so that every part fits exactly, and no white lines show in the printed picture, is a trade in itself. One printing firm in New York keeps half a dozen men employed at it. In electrotyping the engraving, the electrotyper often renders a skilful service in perfecting these joints so that the sharpest eye cannot detect the places of union.

Boxwood, being of such slow growth, is becoming scarce. The supply does not keep pace with the modern demand. Some substitute is anxiously looked for, and even celluloid is being tried in some experiments, but to no promising results. Meanwhile the whole art and method of producing printed pictures, already somewhat modified by photo-engraving and other devices, is likely to be superseded, within a few years, by some new and less slow and costly method.

PAYING METHODS.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* pays the following compliment to Canadian lumber manufacturers:—

"We learn that Mr. J. K. Ward, of Montreal, Quebec, sold a lot of deals at \$128 for 1sts, \$80 for 2nds and \$40 for 3rds. These are probably the highest prices obtained in Canada for deals this year; and such figures were possible because the timber was first-class and properly manufactured. The leading Canadian saw-mill men seem to understand the importance of turning out perfect stock. So proud are some of them of their work that they stamp every board that is sent to market. They use the best of machinery and demand carefulness on the part of their employes. The fact is nowhere understood better than in Canada that such a method pays."

DON'T LET THE LOGS LIE.

The *Ottawa Free Press*, referring to the throwing of mill refuse into streams, gives the following reasons why logs should not be allowed to lie in the woods:—

"The only good which can be said to arise from this drifting of dead, and very shortly after injection from the mill, water-logged refuse, is that it furnishes in poor compensation for its grievances a small amount of wood, which the farmer utilizes as kindling for his household fires. Yet what an irreparable loss is, we may consider by this apparently harmless and gratis acquisition, affixed to our overloaded forests. The farmer, instead of availing himself

of the proximity of the forest, laden and embarrassed with the fallen growth of centuries, prefers gathering what is as he considers—providentially or improvidentially, as the case may be driven to his shores—while in so doing he strips his forests of a very important factor to their growth and continuance by permitting the fallen and dead timber, not only to disfigure the beauty of a properly attended forest growth, but to check quite perceptibly and irrevocably the under or young growth of incudious or coniferous woods. Besides this rude carelessness to the proper attendance of the growing trees, the older are subjected to no less disastrous drawbacks to their natural development because the ground and their roots thus burdened with the decaying mass of centuries cannot receive that benefit from external and natural causes, such as rain, the sowing of seeds, etc., which consequently is refused them as promoters to their increase and fecundity. For an example of the correctness of this assertion we have but to investigate any of the finely tended forests of the old world and compare them to our own.

OTTAWA NOTES

The old lumber firm of Johnathan Francis & Co., doing business on the Madawasca River, has been dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Francis has retired from the firm and is succeeded by his son, Mr. Harry A. Francis, Mr. Jas. Carwell, of Renfrew, and Mr. W. R. Thistle, of Ottawa. The style of the new firm is Francis, Carwell & Co. They are erecting a steam saw mill with a cutting capacity of 30,000,000 feet, on Calabogie Lake, to be completed in the spring. In future their Madawasca logs will be cut there and shipped via the Kingston and Pembroke Railway.

Two rafts of small square timber were sold at Calabogie Lake, delivered on board K. and P. cars, at 16 cents per foot this fall. They were rafted again at Kingston and used to float a raft of oak to Quebec.

Mr. Peter McLaren, of Perth, talks of building a large steam saw mill at or near Calabogie Lake next season.

The American boatmen now in Perth are on a strike for higher freights.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

READING FOR THE LOGGERS.

The following is from the *Milwaukee, Wis. Journal*: "What are those for?" I asked Secretary Willis of the Young Mens Christian Association, yesterday, as he received a huge package of old newspapers and magazines. "For the lumbermen," he answered. "These are only a few in comparison with the many that are denoted by friends that are disposed to help us in humanizing the men that go into the woods in the winter. Last winter I was at Clippewa Falls and a man came down from a large lumber camp. He told a story of a

camp; how there was 60 men in the shanties, and nothing in the shape of reading matter, but a single copy of Robinson Crusoe in the camp; how 15 or 20 men would try to read it at once. This gave us the idea, and since then we send as many papers and magazines as we can get. In northern Wisconsin there are 40,000 lumbermen, who work in the woods. The majority of them go in about December 1st and come out about April 1st, sometimes sooner, sometimes later, as the winter is long or short. Many of the associations of the state send boxes of reading matter, consisting of religious weeklies, *Youth's Companions*, *Harpers Publications*, odd copies of the *Century*, etc., to some central point, where there is a secretary in charge of the lumbermen's work. Most of the Milwaukee donations go the Eau Claire. The secretaries in charge there start out in a cutter with a supply of the papers, and drive to lumber camps, where they leave a part of their stock and spend the night, generally holding services; each day they visit a new camp, and so on until the supply gives out. In this way a wide circulation is given to the reading matter."

REVIEWS.

LUMBER DIRECTORY.—We have received from the publishers, Messrs. Rand, McNally & Co., of Chicago, a valuable work called "The Directory and Shipping Guide of Lumber Mills and Lumber Dealers in the United States and Canada." It contains a complete list of saw mills, shingle mills, stove mills, planing mills, sash and door and blind factories, and dealers in lumber, together with the laws for material, men, and a digest of the statutes affecting lumbermen and lumbering, also the railways express companies to every town or city wherein these interests are located. It is conveniently arranged alphabetically as to states, towns and names. We miss some few names, but this is explained by the neglect of firms omitted to answer the circulars sent to them. It will be most useful and indeed indispensable to those in the timber trades of this continent or connected with them.

Toronto's Lumber Trade.

The *Toronto Telegram* says:—The lumber export trade of Toronto is being rapidly diverted to Port Hope. In the past the Northern railway carried large quantities of lumber to this city when it was shipped by schooner to Oswego. The Midland railway now controls the trade and the loading and unloading are now done in Port Hope.

The lumber in Mr. Church's yard and saw mill, Bright, was destroyed by fire on Oct. 31st. Loss, \$14,000; no insurance. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.