

THE NEWS.

ONTARIO.

—The Collingwood Dry Dock has been disposed of at Baillif's sale.

—Bush fires have been very bad in the country surrounding Byng Inlet.

—River driving on the northern waters is said to be three months ahead of 1887.

—Pierce & Co's mills, at the Chaudiere, are now running at night by electric light.

—The machinery for the Neebing Lumber Company's saw mill at Port Arthur has been shipped.

—Burton Bros., of Byng Inlet report that their cut up to July 21st amounted to over 5,500,000 feet.

—The Spanish River Lumber Company lost \$12,000 by the extensive fires which totally destroyed their two camps.

—David H. Cameron, lumberman, Boundary Line, has assigned. His liabilities have not yet been ascertained.

—McLachlin Bros., the well known lumbermen, have generously granted to Arnprior a site for the new town hall.

—A Detroit firm is now shipping several thousand cords of spruce and other soft wood, for paper making, from Port Findlay.

—The McBurney & Laycock Lumber Co.'s mill at West Gravenhurst recently cut 250,000 feet of lumber with one circular in a week.

—About 22,000,000 feet of logs are adrift in Lake of the Woods. The break was caused by a raise in the water letting the logs out of the booms.

—From almost every section we learn that the drives are progressing very favorably, and in some localities are months ahead of previous years.

—Messrs. Burton Bros. steam tug "Metamora" has brought to Byng Inlet three tows of logs this summer, each tow exceeding 16,000 pieces.

—Messrs. Cummer and R. Young, sawmillers, of Arran, were each severely fined recently for allowing sawdust from their mill to fall into the river.

—The Algoma Mining and Lumber Syndicate will shortly commence work on some of their valuable properties at Goulias Bay and Garden River.

—Graham, Horne & Co., of Port Arthur, have secured the contract for supplying all the lumber necessary to complete the new elevator at Fort William.

—A fine drive belonging to the Rathbun Co., of Deseronto, consisting of about 160,000 logs, passed down the Otonabee river during the early part of July.

—During the recent storm the tug Superior had 12,000 logs in tow for the Victoria Harbor Lumber Co. The logs broke loose and were lost near Giant's Tomb.

—The smoke stocks of the Midland & North Shore Lumber Co's timber and shingle mill has been raised and the new mill will be ready to commence cutting in a short time.

—Thirty feet addition is being built to the saw mill at Young's Point by Mr. C. Young. He has a big order for shingles which will tax the capacity of the mill to supply.

—The steam barge *W. B. Hall*, owned by the Midland & N. S. Lumber Co., was recently loaded with 500,400 feet of lumber in a little less than seventeen hours. This is a good record.

—At a recent meeting of the directors of the Lakeside Lumber & Manufacturing Co., Mr. A. V. R. Young, chartered accountant, of Peterborough, was appointed auditor for the Company.

—Messrs. Hurdman & Co's new mill at the Chaudiere is now running, and will increase this season's cut by about 30,000,000 feet. The mill is lit by electricity and will run day and night.

—Bush fires have been doing an incalculable amount of damage throughout the country during the past month. The recent rains have done much, however, towards putting a quietus to the flames.

—Mr. Archie Brook's raft of 25,000 feet of square timber rafted at Belleville, has recently reached Quebec. It was a fine lot of timber and the Quebec papers note its quality in announcing its arrival.

—John Hoff, night fireman in the Cedar mill, at Deseronto, has received notice from Washington, D.C., that he is entitled to a pension and will hereafter receive \$20 per month; besides he will get \$3,000 back pension.

—The Madawaska Improvement Co. is about to purchase a steam boat for use on the improvements on the Madawaska

river. The company begin its operations next spring when it will bring the Madawaska drive into the Ottawa river.

—Sawdust explosions are becoming a very common occurrence in the Ottawa river. A few days ago the sawdust seemed to concentrate in one place and suddenly rose ten feet out of the water in a large column accompanied by a loud report.

—Some of the mills at the Chaudiere are being supplied with a new patent fire alarm apparatus, which will locate the exact vicinity of a fire a few seconds after it starts. In various parts of the buildings, thermometers are attached to an electric wire.

—The Upper Ottawa Improvement Company and Capt. Goulet have gathered together nearly 44,000 logs which broke loose from the tows on Deschenes Lake during the recent storm. They have been pocketed along the shores and towed into the booms.

—N. Dyment has already put in his Goderich yards 1,150,000 feet of lumber this season, and expects to handle five and six million more feet before the season is over. Besides the schooner *J. N. Carter*, it is expected that he will have two more boats put into the harbor carrying trade shortly.

—The drive consisting of 100,000 logs, belonging to the Messrs. Gilmour, of Trenton, now on its way down the Otonabee river, is made up of some of the best logs which have passed through these waters for a considerable time. All the drives in this direction, so far, have made good headway.

—Lumber operations in Toronto are reported quiet and likely to continue so for some time. It is said that sooner or later the manufacturers will be compelled to reduce prices as the margin for middlemen is considered very meagre. Out of town shipments are slow, freight rates being nominally the same.

—The canal statistics for 1887 shows that the Canadian Pacific and Canada Atlantic railway have become formidable competitors to the canals in the Ottawa district. The quantity carried from Ottawa by these two railways in 1886 was 99,000,000 feet, which increased last year to 100,000,000 feet, while the canal traffic decreased 22,000,000 feet in the same period.

—Mr. D. A. Martin, Messrs. Bronson & Weston's upper Ottawa agent, who returned from a four weeks' canoe voyage on the upper reaches of the Ottawa reports extensive fires on Wm. Mackay's limit near Mattawa, and also on the limit of the Messrs. Klock Bros., near Klock's mills. There are other extensive fires, he says, on the south side of the Ottawa, but none on the north side.

—The Commission appointed by the Dominion Government to investigate the proposed course of the Trent Valley Canal have been over the ground thoroughly and will doubtless soon present their report to Parliament. The T. V. canal would if constructed prove a great boon to the section of country through which it passes, and would be of particular benefit to the lumber trade.

—The dam built by the Dominion government at the Lake of the Woods, near Rat Portage, last spring, gave way recently carrying with it the colonization bridge, built by the Ontario government. The loss will be over \$10,000. The lake is very high. There is plenty of water power without the dam, to run the mills, the dam only being of use when the water is very low, in occasional seasons.

—The losses from rafting on the lakes are very great. Recently on Lake Huron a large raft belonging to Dellar, of Marquette, en route to Bay City, was run into just above Lake George in the St. Mary's river by the C. P. R. boat Athabasca, and the logs were scattered all over Lake George. The raft contained between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 feet. It is said that a legal contest will probably determine just what rights a raft has.

—Messrs. Vansickle & Bro., of Barrie, write the LUMBERMAN that their cut of lumber this year will be about 2,000,000 feet, made up as follows: 700,000 feet of Black Ash, 200,000 feet of Basswood, 100,000 feet of Elm, and the balance of stock pine and hemlock. They expect to get through cutting about the first of October, and will then send their men to the bush, to get out another stock about the same as the present one. They report trade good so far this season.

—Some of the mills at the Chaudiere are being supplied with a new patent fire alarm apparatus, which is said will locate the exact vicinity of a fire a few seconds after it starts. In various parts of the building thermometers are attached to an electric wire. When the heat in the vicinity of a thermometer rises above 110 degrees the glass breaks. This starts a bell in the watchman's room ringing. Each of these alarm bells has a number by which the watchman can tell exactly the location of the fire.

—West Toronto Junction is becoming quite an important

lumber point, several yards being already in full swing. From what THE LUMBERMAN can learn, however, it takes about as long to transmit a car of lumber from Toronto to that point as it would if it came from across the sea. Purchasers at that junction have evidently made up their minds that in order to secure a stock of lumber by a certain date they have to give the order a month ahead. The railway company is of course to blame, and it is high time that some better service should be inaugurated.

—Messrs. Barnes & Co., proprietors of the large box shoo factory at the Chaudiere have received an offer from the City Council of St. Albans, Vt., of a complete new factory, fully supplied with power, exemption from taxation and in addition a bonus of \$10,000 if they would consent to remove their business to that point. The offer has been refused. The firm employ about 300 hands, all of whom reside in the city of Hull and at the rate they are now manufacturing they will purchase about 18,000,000 feet of lumber a year from the Chaudiere lumbermen.

—The latest estimates of this season's cut by the Ottawa mills makes a total of 405,000,000 feet, the largest, it is said, for ten years. The estimates of the different firms are as follows: E. B. Eddy Manufacturing Co., 90,000,000 feet; J. B. Booth & Co., 75,000,000; Hurdman Bros., 70,000,000; Perley & Pattee, 60,000,000; Bronson, Weston & Co., 55,000,000; Pierce & Co., (formerly G. B. Grier & Co.) 35,000,000; Conroy & Co., 30,000,000. Down the river the Gilmours will saw about 50,000,000 feet, and Edwards & Co., of Rockland, 40,000,000. All the mills are running day and night.

—Mr. J. M. Irwin, of Peterborough, has three magnificent drives on the way to his mills at Nassau. We understand there is a total of eight million feet in all, principally made up of dimension timber. The superintendent, Mr. G. S. Thompson, informs us that they have had exceptionally good success in their stream driving this year, there being abundance of water to float all the logs without trouble. The foremen of the three drives referred to are C. Austin, G. Johnston and T. Preston. This timber comes from the Canadian Land & Emigration Company's lands in the township of Harburn, Guilford. The total cut at the Nassau mills this season will be about 14,000,000 feet.

—A raft of white pine; says the *Ottawa Journal*, belonging to Hale & Booth spoken of in those columns as passing over the Deschenes rapids on Monday last, and which was said to be of unexceptional quality and size, was yesterday sold to arrive at 38 cents per foot. This is said to be probably as big a price as ever paid for white pine on the Ottawa, and shows what quality and a clearing Quebec market will do for the enterprising lumbermen. The total amount paid for the pine was \$53,000. The excellent quality is accounted for by the fact that the timber is the first cut on the new limits on the Amable du Ford, sold by the Ontario Government last season. Another raft from the same section the property of Mr. Mackay, of equal if not so large quality, is coming down in good shape. The raft was sold to Dobell & Co., of Quebec.

—Advices have been received by Messrs. Perley & Pattee from Little Basin depot, on the Bonchere river, that on Tuesday, July 17th, the bush fires which were burning there destroyed the Little Madawaska depot on the Petewawa and about \$10,000 worth of provisions, stock, shanty implements, etc. The communication received by the firm here says that the fire began on the back of the limit, near Cedar Lake, and swept right across the country past Little Madawaska depot and was within a mile of Little Basin depot when Wednesday's rain damped but did not extinguish it. Had it not been for the rain on Wednesday a gang of one hundred men from the timber drives, who were engaged trying to stay the fire, might have perished about a mile from the depot. They were completely surrounded by masses of burning timber. The rain dampened the fires sufficiently to allow the men to escape from their dangerous situation.

—The Longford Lumber Co. write as follows to the *Northwestern Lumberman*:—"Our Company this season has taken out its usual stock of logs, about seventeen million feet. We found last winter to be one of the best for taking out stock, their being continual steady cold weather. Fears were entertained early that the supply of water for driving would be short, but on account of the dull backward spring the water in our streams has held up well, and our drives are fully one month ahead of other seasons. Our three mills started running about May 1st, and so far our stock is coming out fully up to the average, both in quality and manufacture. The demand for dry lumber is good, many lines being already cleared out of our yards, a large portion going to Boston by all rail route. We are anxiously waiting the action of Congress on the tariff question, and we presume our neighbors must be in the same mood, as we have not seen reports of many sales of the new cuts."