

IMPROVEMENTS FOR DRYING LUMBER.

MESSRS. W. C. Edwards and Company, of Rockland, and Mr. E. C. Whitney, of the St. Anthony Lumber Company, of Ottawa, are now having constructed at their works modern plants for the purpose of drying lumber under the well-known Emerson patent automatic compression moist air system. The same spirit which has been characteristic of Mr. Edwards and Mr. Whitney, for having everything the most complete, seems to have decidedly expressed itself when selecting the equipment for their drying plants, which possess many new and novel features.

The trucks for conveying the lumber through the dryer are of a new design, having a great capacity for their weight, each car having eight wheels, with hardened steel roller bearings. The frame of car being entirely of steel, it is not affected by the heat, and is so arranged as to give four supports to the lumber, keeping it straight through the process of drying.

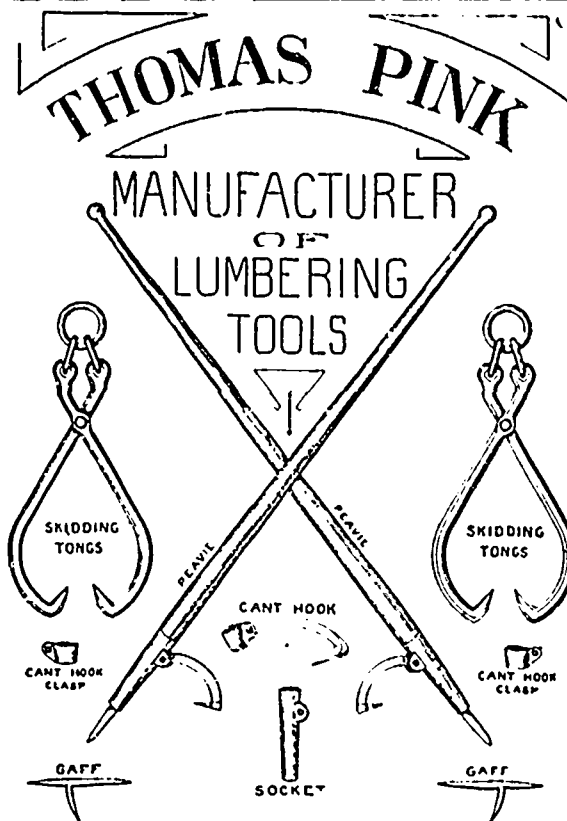
The steam equipment is of the most substantial character, arranged for heating either by exhaust or live steam, and rests on an iron base, and is perfectly insulated from the building. The tracks through the dryer are secured to iron stands every 2 feet, which holds the track firm and in alignment, at the same time allowing for expansion, and doing away entirely with the wooden track supports, which soon dry out and often cause disastrous fires. The kiln houses, owing to the moist air process, are always wet, entirely overcoming any liability of fire being started spontaneously. It is claimed that with this process of drying the strength of the lumber is not impaired or the lumber baked, and while the lumber is greatly reduced in weight in a remarkably short time, it produces no evil effects which are characteristic in general kiln drying, and the color of the lumber remains the same as newly air-dried stock.

The Reliance Dry Kiln Company, of Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A., who are the manufacturers of this equipment for Messrs. Edwards and Whitney, would be pleased to give any information desired to manufacturers who are interested in lumber drying.

SLABBING FOR THE GANG.

A MINNEAPOLIS sawyer, in an interview with a representative of the Mississippi Valley Lumberman, says: "In slabbing for the gang, there is a very important point which is not given sufficient attention. If you stand and watch a circular saw in operation, especially in sawing up cants, you will appreciate my remarks. Most all logs taper from one end to the other, and it is not always practicable to begin sawing from the butt. Tough knots and limbs are the rule rather than the exception. When the circular goes up against the uneven side of a log, it has a decided tendency to spring against the outside rim, and the pressure prevents it from coming back to a perpendicular position. I have seen circulars, when in operation, vary 1½ inches from the centre. While a band will deviate from its course fully as readily as a circular, its construction compels it to almost immediately swerve back in the other direction and resume its regular course. These facts have to be taken into consideration by the sawyer, and when he is operating a circular he is compelled to take off generous slabs, not only to ensure perfect lumber, but also to protect the saw. Where I am now engaged the orders are to get out every board that will measure four feet long and four inches wide, and by judicious slabbing much of this class of lumber is saved which would otherwise go into the refuse pile."

The Campbell Logging Co., New Westminster, B. C., is being incorporated, with a capital stock of \$10,000.



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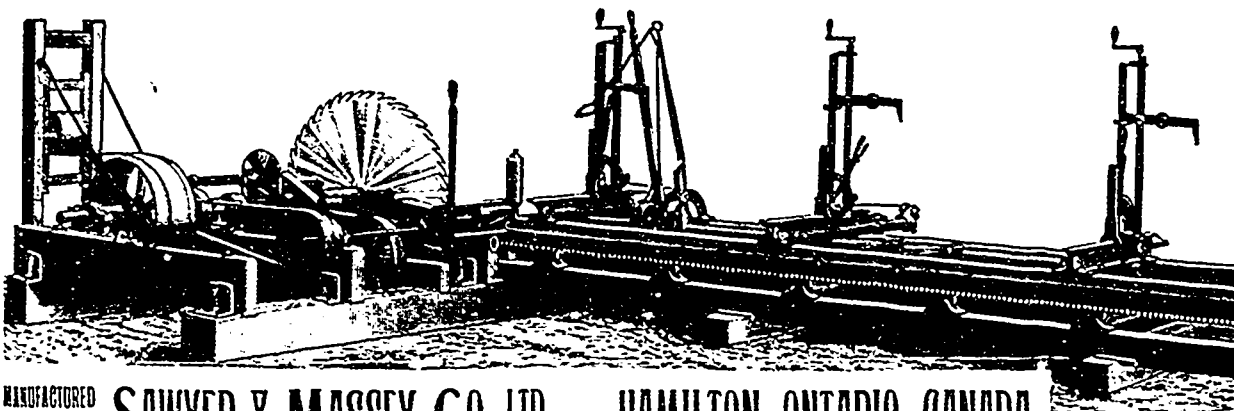
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