

Although a glance at a map of the Dominion exhibits vast tracts of land, which extend north and west of the present limits of colonization, and those who have not traversed these forests might suppose them to be an exhaustless region of marketable timber, such is not the case.

We can assure our readers, from our personal experience, and the lumber merchants of the country know it full well to be a fact, that but a small portion of it contains merchantable lumber, such as is fit for exportation to a foreign market; that the pine tree has to be sought, year after year, farther and farther up rivers and streams, and that a hundred years hence—but a short period in the history of a country—will find these immense forests denuded as completely of their pine as are now the woods of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. When the population of Canada, which now amounts to about four millions, shall have increased in a hundred years to sixty millions, the old decayed stumps will be all that remain to mark the place where grew a giant race of trees that, at one period, towered their lofty heads over the once mighty forests of Canada. Vast tracts of our forests consist of swamp and burnt land, or mountainous regions timbered with a dwarf growth of stunted spruce, white birch and other inferior timber.

In making these remarks of course we feel it incumbent upon us to point out how this waste of lumber can profitably be disposed of. We can state our experience in this matter from a tour we made a few years since through the manufacturing districts of the New England States; we then noted the rigid economy practised in cutting up lumber for manufacturing purposes.

Scarcely a piece of any medium size but was utilized; pieces that would be discarded in Canada, on account of a knot, would be neatly bored out and plugged, and made as perfect, for work to be painted, as first quality pine.

But without going too lengthily into this subject, as to the economy of our neighbours across the line, we will point out to the English manufacturer, how he could obtain first-class pine for his purposes, at one half the price he is now paying.

We will take for instance, as an example, the wood required in the construction of a house. Setting aside all the large timbers necessary, although, even in this item, we could point out a saving, let us first consider the timber required for doors.

There are panels, cross bars, mouldings, &c., which could be supplied, of the sizes required, at probably one half the cost now paid for the same by English manufacturers.

Of doors, of a standard size, several thousand must be manufactured yearly in Great Britain, therefore window blinds, slats and cross bars, being all short pieces, could be cut up into sizes and packed for the English market. The same with slats for making Venetian blinds.

Sashes, shutters, and window casings also could be made up of short lumber.

Brackets and scrolls of every description could be sawn to any pattern, and sent to their destination in cases.

Flooring of short narrow battens could easily be obtained of perfectly clear pine, cedar, and other woods—such lumber can be obtained in large quantities and supplied to builders—in fact, there is no reason why a very large quantity of lumber required for house building in Great Britain could not be furnished in this way considerably under its present cost to consumers.

Of other articles connected with house building, such as light fancy fencing for cottage fronts, ornamental and rustic decorative work for gardens and villa grounds, we could send abroad a great variety.

Then we have our black and yellow birch for furniture, oak, ash and elm for machinery, carriages, and agricultural purposes; in fact, so numerous are the different branches of manufactures in wood work, which, with great profit, might take advantage of the idea we put forth, that any Company, under proper management, and with a limited capital, could easily obtain orders from various parties in Great Britain, so as to load several vessels before the close of another season.

Why we do not make use, ourselves, of the waste cuttings from the mills, is simply because the price of lumber in our own market has not yet reached so high a figure as to make it pay. If we were importers, instead of exporters, we would exercise more economy.

We are probably the first to bring forward this project in a public journal, for utilizing the waste lumber of this country, and, by so doing, creating a new branch of trade. It rests with the English consumer now to give it serious consideration, and if he can obtain lumber, cut up into certain sizes, to suit his work, at probably one half the cost he now pays, it is assuredly worth his while to make about it further enquiries. We shall be happy, since we have broached the subject, to afford full information as to the cost of supplying lumber sawn into short lengths, and we have no doubt that it will prove satisfactory.

LITERARY.

THE STEREOMETRICON.—We have just received the KEY TO BAILLARGE'S STEREOMETRICAL TABLEAU, or New System of measuring all BODIES, SEGMENTS, FRUSTRA and UNGOLI of such bodies, by one and the same rule.

For this very ingenious and valuable work the author, Chas. Baillargé, Architect and Civil Engineer, of Quebec, has been the recipient of seven medals awarded to him in Europe for his discovery and invention, and has been further awarded a medal by the Commission for the late Centennial Exhibition, as well as a Diploma strongly recommending the invention as one of high merit and especially adapted to Education.

For a work that has received such high recommendation it would be superfluous for us to make any comment, but we have much pleasure in bringing it to the notice of our readers.

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GLYCERINE AND ITS USES.

This substance, says the *Polytechnic Review*, which has of late years attained a position of considerable technical importance, exists in the form of glycerines—in combination with the solid and liquid fatty acids, in most of the fats, to the extent of eight or nine per cent. From these combinations the glycerine may be separated by treating them with certain bases (such as potassa, soda, lime, or oxide of lead), or with acids (sulphuric acid), and certain metallic chlorides (chloride of zinc); or finally by the action of superheated water. Glycerine is likewise one of the products of the alcoholic fermentation of the several fermentable varieties of sugar, forming, according to the researches of Pasteur, above three per cent. of the weight of the sugar.

We append in what follows, a list of the more important uses of this substance. It is employed to keep modeling clay in properly moist condition. It is excellently adapted for the preservation of articles of food, and especially of fruits which require to be kept in a moist condition. It is used in the manufacture of liquors, essences, and the like, as a sweetener; and its sweetening