

CORRESPONDENCE

DRIVING HARDWOOD LOGS.

TROUT CREEK, Oct. 21st, 1901.

Editor CANADA LUMBERMAN:

Dear Sir,—Noticing various ways described in your paper of handling hardwood logs in the water, I beg leave to add an account of my experience.

For twenty years we have driven hardwood logs and find it can be done without difficulty and small loss, if any. Soft, rock and grey elm, black and white ash, basswood and cherry, if sound, will float, but any log will sink if much shake or rot exists. Maple, beech and birch can be driven in the loose by cutting and skidding on rollways, during summer months, then banking them on skids by the water's edge until May or June of the following spring, to allow them to dry well. When put in the water they should be driven with the least delay to the mill.

The ends of all hardwood logs should be painted when skidded to preserve the timber and especially before putting in water to prevent soakage.

Oak cannot be driven any distance successfully unless placed with alternating softwood logs. We have rafted them with pine, hemlock and cedar by the use of small iron or steel dogs—driven in the logs—in which a ring has been arranged through which to pass a line or rope, thereby securing them to each other. Drive two dogs in the top side of each log, say eight or ten feet apart, then pass two lines of half inch rope through the rings, beginning with a pine or other softwood, followed by two or three hardwood, then another softwood, and so on until the raft is complete. The stream would require to be fairly straight with no rough rapids to break the raft.

We have never tried the peeling of birch logs for driving, but think it would be rather an expensive proceeding. We have tried boring holes in the ends and plugging them, leaving space for air, but without success.

Yours truly,
C. W. BURNES.

FROM ALGOMA.

DAY MILLS, Oct. 23rd, 1901.

Editor CANADA LUMBERMAN:

Dear Sir,—Lumbering is quite brisk in this part of Algoma. Wages are high for bush work. Teamsters and cant hook men are getting \$28 to \$32 per month, and other men \$20 to \$26. I think it would be to the interest of all lumbermen in Canada to stop rough timber from coming in to our country duty free. If this were stopped and a duty put on all undressed lumber and bill stuff coming from Uncle Sam, mill owners would not feel a dollar or two per month on extra wages. When at Sault Ste. Marie the other day I was shown by a lumber dealer there some nice hemlock all No. 1 and 2, 2 x 10 inch 18 feet long, that just cost the dealer \$9.50 per M, f.o.b. scow, Soo, Ont. This hemlock came from Uncle Sam's bush.

Jas. Harris has cut this season for the W. Doherty Company, of Clinton, 1,500,000 feet of lumber. W. G. Doherty, of Doherty & Company, made a business trip to Toronto and other points in the interest of his firm in October, and I understand disposed of some stock.

Jas. I. Harris made a business trip to the Soo October 21st.

R. Blutie, one of W. G. Doherty's employees, had a very close call to a watery grave a few days ago. Early in the morning, while out in a birch bark canoe on Mud Lake shooting duck, he lost control of the canoe and was capsized. His cries for help were heard just in time. W. J. Harris ran about 100 rods to the lake, got another birch canoe and paddled out to the drowning man and brought him safely to land. We think W. J. Harris should have a Victoria Cross for performing such a feat as this. He is fireman for the W. Doherty Company here.

Jas. First, of Iron Bridge, has a new shingle mill in operation at that place.

D. Gordon, of Thessalon, is moving his steam portable mill out to the C.P.R. track about four miles east of Thessalon. Mr. Gordon is putting in a siding for his own use.

"HEMLOCK."

ANNOYANCE OF SMOKE FROM FACTORIES.

The following judgment, rendered in the Court of Appeal of Hamilton, is of much interest to manufacturers:

Whipple vs. Ontario Box Company.—Judgment on appeal by plaintiffs from judgment of Ferguson, J., dismissing action to restrain defendants from allowing smoke and sawdust to escape from their factory, No. 120 Main street, in the city of Hamilton, and fall upon the plaintiffs' dwelling-house opposite the factory, and known as number 119 Main street. The defendants allege that for more than 20 years they have enjoyed as of right, and without interruption, an easement or right to have the smoke and sawdust from their lands and premises escape and fall upon the plaintiff's property. The trial judge held that owing to defendants' having to fill a contract for boxes for British troops in China, that the factory was working to its full capacity, and the separator got clogged, but that this lasted only a few days, when the nuisance was abated; that as to smoke the particles alleged to have been carried and deposited by it had not been shown to have come from defendants' factory, which is thoroughly modern in all its appliances, though it appeared that no smoke consumer had yet been devised which will apply to the consumption of fuel such as shavings and sawdust. Held, that in view of the conflicting evidence between the parties with respect to whether the smoke complained of came from the defendants' chimney, coupled with letter of Oct. 22nd, 1900, from plaintiffs' solicitors to defendants' solicitors, complaining of sawdust only, and also Plaintiff Whipple's statement to the inspector, this court is not disposed to disagree with the judge below in concluding that the plaintiff had failed to establish that the smoke came from the defendants' chimney. But on the question of sawdust, an entirely different conclusion must be formed. The great preponderance of evidence shows that quantities of sawdust have been blown from defendants' to plaintiffs' premises, which materially interfered with their comfort and enjoyment of their property, and constituted a substantial nuisance, to the abatement of which they were entitled when action brought, but having ceased before trial, an injunction need not be granted. If recommended, however, a fresh action may be brought. *Dinning v. Grosvenor Dairies*, 1900, W.N., p. 265. Judgment below reversed, and judgment directed to be entered for plaintiff for \$50 damages, and full costs throughout. Per Armour, C.J.O., the plaintiffs are entitled to an injunction as to the smoke and soot also, but should the nuisance be continued, a fresh action may be brought.

AMERICAN REDUCTOIN IN LUMBER DUTIES.

(From a Washington Correspondent.)

While it may be that President Roosevelt will not follow up the example of the late Chief Magistrate of the Republic in advocating in his forthcoming message to Congress reciprocity with neighbouring nations, yet the signs of the times point to an early if not immediate reduction in lumber duties entering the United States and a total wiping out of the duties before the next presidential term. The imposition of the Dingley tariff on lumber was expected to favor the American lumberman and injure his Canadian competitor. The test of the Dingley Bill has proven that the American consumer pays the duty, and that never before have the Canadian lumbermen been so prosperous as since the imposition of what was thought on this side to be a fatal blow.

The bold stand taken by the government of the province of Ontario in proclaiming that far from accepting the blow from the Dingley Bill with meekness, that henceforth no more Ontario logs should leave her shores in an unmanufactured state, has opened the eyes of many of our people to the futility of trying to coerce a neighbouring nation of resolute men of our own stock. The Congress, and particu-

larly the Republican party, sees how the wind is blowing, and that the farmers of the treeless states and many of the best men in the east who have much influence in the party are desirous of taking off the lumber duties entirely. The growing scarcity of white pine and the increased demand for this matchless and indispensable wood is another reason why the Americans want to preserve the small remnants they have. Altogether, it would seem the outlook for the holders of Canadian white pine stumpage could not be more assuring, and as high as it is thought by some to be, it will likely become still higher.

RIGHT TO DEADMAN'S ISLAND.

Readers of THE LUMBERMAN will remember the somewhat exciting incidents in connection with the proposed establishment of a saw mill on Deadman's Island, in Vancouver harbor, by Theodore Ludgate. Steps were taken by the citizens of Vancouver to prevent the building of the mill, and the proceedings brought up the question of the title of the island. Mr. Justice Martin has just given judgment, quashing Ludgate's claim to the island, and placing the ownership of the island in the province of British Columbia. The counsel for plaintiff sought to establish that the land in question being part of the military reserve of the province, became part of the Dominion. Their contention was that the reserve existed prior to the time of the survey made in 1863 by Corporal Turner, R. E. The defendant's counsel argued that the land in question should be regarded as lands under section 109 of the British North America Act. The judge, however, in his judgment said that he failed to see that section 109 of the British North America Act has any application in this connection, for the existence of no trust or interest has been shown, and there was nothing to show that the province should cease to be the owner if it had been. In concluding the judge says: "The result is that defendant's case fails, and the title to Deadman's island is hereby declared to be in His Majesty the King on behalf of the province of British Columbia, and a perpetual injunction is granted restraining the defendant Ludgate from felling trees or otherwise trespassing upon said lands to which the plaintiff is entitled to immediate possession."

SOUTH AFRICA WANTS SHINGLES.

Consul General Stowe, of Cape Town, wants information from American manufacturers as to the efficiency, life, etc., of shingles as a roof covering. He explains that the De Beers Explosive Co., of Somerset West, Cape Colony, which has used shingles on all the isolated buildings of its explosive works, wishes to send the company's residences with the same material. These houses will be erected at or near cities, and the municipalities object to the use of shingles for roofing. A fine showing is expected to be made by western red cedars in the South African market, if the manufacturers make an effort to get the trade that is promised there. No supply point has the advantages that the west possesses in taking care of a shingle demand in South Africa, and it is quite possible that a cargo trade could be worked up that would do much to relieve the congested conditions caused by over-production.

The cargo market has the advantage of not being dependent upon railroad rates for its existence.