

New Forestry Laws.

The New York State Forestry Commission in their annual report mention particularly three things as absolutely necessary for a basis of future action.

First, they urge that additional forest lands be acquired by the State by purchase. Those now in its possession have been acquired at tax sales. They are in isolated parcels, many of them, and are very difficult to take care of. Their boundaries in many instances are almost impossible to define. They are subject to constant encroachment. If the intervening lands could be acquired so as to make one, or even three or four or half a dozen large tracts, they could be much more easily and economically managed.

In the second place, the laws relating to prevention of fire need to be made more stringent, and new laws need to be passed to encourage tree planting and forest culture. Lands once made bare of trees can be made valuable again by the judicious planting of forest saplings and a partial remission of taxes in favor of owners of land who plant trees systematically is recommended by the commission.

In the third place, the commissioners are very decided in their opinion that railroads should be kept out of the forest regions. They say that these roads are the curse of the woods; that they start more fires than any other agency, and cause more destruction of timber than any other. A forest preserve and a railroad cannot possibly co-exist contemporaneously. The State must choose which it will have. If it wants a forest preserve it must keep out the railways.

There are other matters considered in the report, which is an able and thorough presentation of the subject; but these three are fundamental, and, as the Commissioners say, "without such legislation any scheme of forest preservation will, it is believed, prove to be a mockery and end in disastrous failure."

Maclaren-Ross Lumber Company.

The *Canada Gazette* contains an application for incorporation from the Maclaren-Ross Lumber Company. It is stated that the purpose for which incorporation is sought are to carry on the business of lumbering in all its branches and all other incidental business; to manufacture furniture, doors, sashes, blinds, and any other articles of which wood shall form a component part, and to build and operate grist mills and saw mills, and to carry on all business usually connected therewith, with power to purchase, sell and deal in grain, flour and breadstuffs generally throughout the Dominion; to work mines, mineral and mining rights, to crush, smelt and otherwise render marketable the produce of any mines, whether belonging to the company or not; to purchase and vend general merchandise and to carry on in all its branches farming and stock raising, as well as generally to do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects. The chief place of business of the company is to be at Ottawa. The intended amount of capital stock is \$500,000; the number of shares is to be one thousand and the amount of each share to be the value of \$500.

The incorporators of the company are given as follows: James Maclaren, Buckingham, Que., lumber merchant; Frank Ross, Quebec, merchant; John Theodore Ross, Quebec, merchant; Leonard Greenham Little, Montreal, merchant; William Henry Higgins, of New Westminster, B. C., lumberman; Charles David Rand, of Vancouver, B. C., estate broker; David Maclaren, of Wakefield, Que., merchant; John Maclaren, of Buckingham, gentleman, and Alexander Maclaren, Buckingham, gentleman, of whom James Maclaren, F. Ross, J. T. Ross, L. G. Little, W. H. Higgins, C. D. Rand and David Maclaren are to be the first or provincial directors of the company.

The Proposed Algonkin Forest.

A movement has been started to induce the Canadian government to establish a forest and reserve on the water-shed between the Lake Huron and Ottawa River, in the picturesque and, as yet, well-wooded region round Island Lake, the source of the Muskoka River, which flows into Lake Huron. Otter Slide Lake from which

flows the Petewawa, a feeder of the Ottawa, is only about a half mile away. The proposed reservation will include some 330,000 acres of land and 60,000 acres of water surface, or about 600 square miles in all. If in the form of a square it would be nearly twenty-five miles on a side. The government will be asked to create a public forest, define its boundaries, appoint a forester and assistants who shall be empowered to cut mature timber, under suitable regulations. The manifest advantages of maintaining a forest cover on the headwaters of these important streams, that will supply permanently and regularly a considerable output of lumber, furnish a model of scientifically managed woodland, and at the same time preserve a healthful region, now well stocked with game and fish, as a resort for those seeking recreation.

Firing with Sawdust.

I see that one of your correspondents wants to know something about firing with sawdust. I will explain how I fired a sawmill boiler. I fired and run the engine for three years. The engine was 16x24, cutting off at 3/8 stroke, and the boiler was 5x18 feet, with 38 four-inch flues, engine running 100 revolutions per minute. There were two band saws, edger, trimmer and other machinery. At first I had considerable trouble with the firing, and tried everything I could think of without success, until I hit upon the method which I will now describe. I got from a mill near by two wheelbarrows full of hard cinders, about the size of a hen's egg, and spread them upon the grate, putting most of them upon the sides, and in the corners, and just enough to cover the grates in the middle. I then put sawdust on about five or six inches thick evenly. I then gave the night watchman instructions how to arrange the furnace in the morning before starting the fire. I told him to scrape the cinders back and forth until the fine stuff had all fallen through, and then to put in cinders enough to keep up the same amount. After that I had no more trouble in keeping up steam, and most of the time I had to keep the bottom doors nearly closed, or the steam would be blowing off. This may seem strange to some before trying, but I found it to be the most economical way to fire a sawmill boiler. I forgot to say that five minutes before dinner I would fill up the furnace pretty well with sawdust, and shut all the doors of the furnace, and the damper, about one quarter, and open about five minutes before starting.—H. B. in *Proves*.

Our Lumber Exports.

Every year from 150,000,000 to 200,000,000 feet of the lumber cut in the Ottawa Valley is shipped to South America, West Indies, Australia and the Cape of Good Hope. It goes principally by the large lumber export firms, such as Shepherd, Morse & Co., the Canada Export Co., New York Export Lumber Co. and Messrs. Bronson & Weston, and Dunham of Burlington, N. Y. That so much Ottawa lumber should go to South America, is at the first sight rather a remarkable statement. As it is well known that the Amazon and La Platta countries of South America, are noted for the large quantities of valuable hardwood timber taken out and exported from Buenos Ayres, Rio Janeiro, and other ports to all parts of the civilized world.

An agent of one of the largest export lumber firms in this city speaking to a reporter said: "South America is one of the largest markets there is for certain classes of lumber cut in the Ottawa valley. A large percentage of the lumber cut at the Chaudiere every year is shipped by rail and boat to New York, Boston and other American shipping ports, where it is loaded on sailing vessels and taken to Buenos Ayres, La Platta and other large ports on the Atlantic coast of South America. It is very interesting to note the manner in which the lumber is carried to its destination after leaving the vessels. The firms to whom we sell this lumber at these South American ports in turn ship it to the interior of the continent. In fact some of it is taken right across the continent to the Pacific side of the Andes mountains.

Upon the arrival of a ship load of lumber at Buenos Ayres for instance, the lumber is unloaded from the vessel and simply dumped upon the docks where it is loaded on the backs of mules for transport inland. Re-

member they have no railroads in that country. The lumber is carried in that primitive manner far into the interior of the continent, through immense forests, over mountain ranges, through morasses and swamps and along narrow footpaths over the mountains, which in this country it would be considered exceedingly dangerous for a man to pass over on foot. These mules take a load of from 400 to 500 feet of lumber. "They carry this load far into the interior for a thousand miles or more."

"What is the lumber used for?"

"It is used almost entirely for building purposes, and I am told that in almost every part of that vast continent, even in the very interior on the large plateaus or steppes of the country, may be seen houses and buildings constructed of lumber cut on the Ottawa River and its tributaries, taken as I have told you to its destination."

"Why is not the lumber of the country used for buildings purposes?"

"Well the lumber cut in South America, chiefly in the Amazon country, is mostly hard wood such as mahogany, rose wood and other fine hard woods, which although peculiarly adapted for some purposes are entirely unfit for building, as they will not stand the weather and are very hard to work. Our Canadian lumber is light, stands the weather far better than any of their domestic lumber, and is soft and easy to work, consequently it is used almost entirely."

"What class of lumber is chiefly used?"

"What is known as good stocks—that is, lumber with sound knots and cut from the hart of the tree. What is known as sidings or the soft clear outsidings of the logs, is of no use for the South American market, as it is more liable to warp and will not stand the weather."

"This lumber must be very valuable in South America after such shipment as you describe."

"Yes it is. For instance lumber that costs here from \$14 to \$18 per thousand feet, would cost from \$25 to \$30 at Buenos Ayres or La Platta, and from \$50 to \$60 in the interior."

"Is the South American market an extensive one?"

"It is one of our best foreign markets, as Canadian lumber is much preferred to the Michigan lumber, or in fact to any other kind of lumber simply because ours is better manufactured, sounder knotted and stands the weather better. The market is very large and is increasing year by year."—*Ottawa Journal*.

Lumber Shipments from Ottawa.

The following returns furnished by the United States Consul at Ottawa show the total quantities of lumber shipped from the Ottawa district to the United States in the last three months of 1888, and the values as compared with the returns for the same months of 1887:

	Value in 1888.	Value in 1887.
Sawn lumber	\$621,301.91	\$542,413.98
Box shooks	45,604.67	12,789.16
Laths	11,025.10	17,368.39
Pickets	5,851.05	4,953.43
Bark	5,565.00	6,283.00
Railway ties	1,046.63	6,451.56
Shingles	625.30	2,049.70
Match blocks	318.50
Telegraph poles	96.00	355.75
Fire wood	60.75
Fence posts	52.02	581.90
	\$691,549.93	\$593,246.87
	Feet.	Value.
Lumber in bond for export in 1888	9,882,584	\$151,545.84
Lumber for duty and consumption	35,139,124	469,756.07
Other for consumption	70,248.02
		\$691,549.93
Lumber shipped by rail	28,355,436 feet	
" " " water	16,666,272 "	

The quantities shipped during the last three months of 1888 were as follows: Sawn lumber, 45,021,708 feet; laths, 9,172,250 pieces; bark, 1,113 cords; railway ties, 5,216; shingles, 429,000; match blocks, 9 cords; telegraph poles, 120; pickets, 575,400; firewood, 13½ cords; fence posts, 204, and box shooks to the value of \$45,604.