

# SCARCITY OF STAVE AND HOOP TIMBER.

The Sutherland, Innes Co., of Chatham, Ont., in a letter in the National Coopers' Journal, comment upon the scarcity of timber for staves and hoops. When we look even around this immediate neighborhood, what do we find? they ask. Ten years ago, for 30 or 40 miles north, east and west, and for 12 miles south, we had what were thought to be illimitable forests, and now, where are they? Gone, and in their place the garden of Canada, and perhaps the richest agricultural soil in the world. Don't let our American friends pooh-pooh this, for land that will produce 12,000 to 15,000, and even 25,000 feet of elm alone to the acre, not counting other timber, we believe is unexcelled, while the climate of this peninsula is the most equable on the North American continent east of the Rockies.

The mills that are gone used over 100,000,000 feet of elm per annum. And the mills that are left, what are they? Where a one-knife mill used to have to turn away logs every winter, or nearly so, half a million feet is a large stock now, and the larger mills are stocked in proportion, except, in a few instances, where the manufacturers are able, from their own standing timber, purchased years ago, to stock up their mills in something like the old style. A few more years, very few, and the timber around here will be a thing of the past, and it puzzles us where the mills will go.

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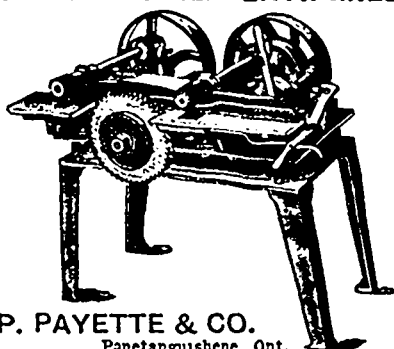
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