

Chips.

THE water on the rivers and lakes fell more rapidly this spring than has been known for years past.

FOUR hundred species of trees are found in North America. Of those sixteen are heavy enough to sink in water when dry.

THE Grand Trunk railway is to erect a new station in Montreal, this season, to cost from \$300,000 to \$400,000.

A BOOM of logs to be used in making a steamer landing at the Old Man's Island, near Brockville, broke away Saturday night and was lost.

JOHN KENNEDY, who has charge of Burton Bros., Powers' and Maxwells' drives, is running upwards of 65,000 pieces. They have passed over the dam at Turk's Falls.

THE men unloading the lumber on barges at Kingston were receiving fifteen cents per hour. They struck for twenty cents and their demand was acceded to.

A NUMBER of forest fires in Burlington and Atlantic counties, New Jersey, burned buildings valued at \$4,700, and swept through a cedar swamp, destroying much valuable timber.

THE new band saw in the Chippewa Lumber and Boom Company's mill, at Chippewa Falls, Wis., gives the best of satisfaction. It cuts between 25,000 and 30,000 feet a day.

THE schooner Oregon, with lumber from the Kennebec for New York, arrived at Gloucester, Mass., May 9th, leaking badly. In a storm the night before a deck load was lost.

CANTIN's ship carpenters in Montreal struck work on Monday for an advance of wages from \$1.50 to \$1.75. Mr. Cantin agreed to pay his men \$1.75 for the future.

THE Conger Lumber Company's steam mill at Parry Sound was started up on May 11th and is being run up to its full capacity. The company expect to do a big season's cutting this season.

THE cut of logs on Androscoggin waters the past winter is something above 60,000,000 ft. Of this amount about 50,000,000 feet, in the opinion of the Post, will probably reach market the present season.

MICHIGAN dealers are buying black walnut fence rails in that state, that have been used twenty years. The thoroughly seasoned wood is used for chair legs, spindles and other small articles.

IT is estimated that on the 3,269,439 acres of uncleared land, tributary to White river, Arkansas, there are 34,814,333,000 feet of hardwood fit for lumber and timber. It is a wonder that the odd inches were not included in the estimate.

AT Beaver Falls, Pa., a co-operative planing mill company has been formed among a number of practical mechanics, with a capital of \$50,000. They have purchased the planing mill of Wareham, Dodds & Co., and propose to fit up with the most approved and costly wood-working machinery.

A TOW of four Canadian vessels recently loaded square timber at Marquette, Mich., for Burton & Nelson. It goes to Garden Island, in St. Lawrence river, where it will be put into rafts and floated to Quebec. The amount of timber Burton & Nelson have at Marquette will load the same tow four trips.

A TOW of Canadian vessels lately arrived at Tonawanda, N. Y., to load cargoes to be taken through the Welland canal for Quebec, and thence to South America. The lumber thus

to be shipped belongs to the Export Lumber Company, and goes to its trade in Buenos Ayres.

BARNET and Mackey's square timber cut on the Sturgeon river has all passed Sturgeon Falls en route to Cache bay from which point it will be shipped by the C. P. R. to Papineauville. The C. P. R. Co are building a spur a mile long, striking the river above the falls, where D and E. D. Moore will boom and load their square timber. The iron will be all laid in a few days.

THE soundness of timber may be ascertained by placing the ear close to one end of the log, while another person delivers a succession of smart blows with a hammer or mallet on the opposite end, when a continuance of the vibrations will indicate to an experienced ear even the degree of soundness. If only a dull thud meets the ear, the listener may be certain that unsoundness exists.

THE increase in strength due to seasoning in different woods is as follows: Elm, 12.3 per cent; oak, 20.6 per cent; ash, 44.7 per cent; beech, 61.9 per cent. The comparative value of different woods in respect to crushing strength and stiffness is thus shown: Oak 4,074, ash 3,571, elm 3,468, beech 3,079. Regarding relative degree of hardness shell-bark hickory stands the highest and calling that 100, white oak is 85, white ash 77.

THE Parry Sound Star of May 14th says:—There is considerable activity around the lumber docks this week. On Saturday evening the Parry Sound Lumber Co's barge Van Straubenzie left Sarnia with a full cargo of lumber. On Tuesday the same company's steam barge Lothair and Corisande arrived in port from Oswego having made the run from here to Oswego, discharged their cargo and returned in two weeks. They expect to leave to-day for Oswego, with full cargoes. The same company's schooner Jane C. Woodruff came into port the early part of the week and is now loading lumber for Midland.

BARCOCK & ENGLEMAN are building a logging railroad, ten miles long, in the vicinity of Grayling, Mich. It will be called the Grass Lake & Manistee River railroad. Over this railroad it is estimated that 100,000,000 feet of pine will be conveyed and put into Manistee river—pine that is naturally tributary to the Au Sable. When the new road is completed there will be six logging railroads in operation in the vicinity of Grayling, and 65,000,000 feet logs will be by them put into Manistee and Muskegon rivers this season. It is estimated that in Crawford county, with Grayling as the centre, there is 2,200,000,000 feet of standing pine.

A SITE for the Halifax dry dock has been selected. It lies between the sugar refinery and the dock yards, and has a frontage of 808 feet running back to the railway line. The dimensions of the dock will be: length on top 580 feet; length on bottom 560 feet; width on top 162 feet; width on bottom 70 feet. It will built obliquely into the land with the entrance down the harbor and will, says the Chronicle, be capable of taking in the largest ships of her majesty's navy, including the great Inflexible of 8,000 tons, thus proving to be, when finished, one of the very largest in the world. Work was commenced last week.

AN English paper states that birch is a good material for doors. A gentleman recently had black birch used for the folding doors of his new house, against the architects protest. The result has so far been satisfactory. The birch in texture resembles satin wood and is a dark cherry in color. The doors are admired by every one that sees them. Although this is so, the question of durability still remains to be tested. Black birch is not generally considered so lasting a wood as some other kinds. There is undoubtedly a great field for furniture and cabinet woods among many of those which are native to our New England soils, and some time the furniture men and architects will wake up to the value and importance.

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