

Sailing on the river; railroading in York State; working in the Michigan lumber woods at Alpena and Muskegon; teaming for the Shedden Company in Montreal; working for Mr. Shaw in the Quebec tanneries. Now at 31 he found himself partly cured of roving, for he had a wife and two babies to steady him.

Having heard me speak to one of the men about Muskoka, he became curious to know what like it was. For, he explained, his employer was about to give him "a chance" of a job in charge of a gang around Bracebridge, and if he liked the place he would remain there, and send for his family. So, as a loyal Ontarian, I said what I could for Muskoka. But perceiving the simple wants of the man, and remembering that blessed is he who expects little, for he shall not be disappointed, I warned him that gold did not grow on the bushes there.

He was no fool, this man Fred. Foucault, even though he seemed likely to be "contented wi' little and cantie wi' mair," if I may use one of Burns' phrases instead of one of Dr. Drummond's to describe a French-Canadian characteristic. His description of the development in American lumbering of late years, the small mill superseded by the large; the changed methods, "lumbering-by-railroad" as it may be termed of late; the reign of the gang-saw—the coming of the band-saw: the ever hasty depletion of the lumber woods in Michigan; the receding of the pine forests from Saginaw Bay clear across the peninsula to Ludington, and then beyond the big lake into Wisconsin; the increased attention now paid to woods that were formerly despised; the waste without repair, and the cost of that waste—All this was spoken of with artlessness, and yet with a shrewdness that showed the habitant to have both observed and reflected. His career, besides, proved in how many directions a man of no particular training may find employment in this young country if only he chooses to work at what offers, and not, as some fools of immigrants do, throw themselves on public charity because they cannot get the precise sort of work they have been used to.

It was instructive, and the writer thought not a little curious, to discover through the incident of meeting this gang that the Messrs. Shaw & Cassils had several hundred men already in the Muskoka woods, cutting hemlock bark for tanning purposes, and more were to come, as soon as they could be got from Montreal or the Eastern Townships. It serves to give one an idea of the enormous quantity of this material a large tanning establishment requires. The morning, I should add, found these roysterers all sober, a little shame-faced at their overnight excesses, but full of their unvarying civility, as they changed cars for the North.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Jack Roach, who was implicated in the Napanee bank robbery, has been convicted, at Montreal, of holding up one Patrick Rooney with a revolver, in his store on Dorchester street in that city, and robbing him of \$120.

The Bank of Hamilton purchased last week from the Finance Committee of Hamilton city council city debentures to the amount of \$386,000, described as follows: Waterworks, \$200,000; thirty years, 3½ per cent.; \$150,000 of good roads debentures, 20 years 3½ per cent.; \$36,000 of school debentures, 20 years, 3½ per cent.; in all, \$386,000. The prices paid were waterworks debentures, 98.52; good roads, 98.57; school, 98.26; total amount paid \$380,268.60. The other tenders were Canada Life Assurance Co., total, \$371,062; J. W. Woods & Son, Toronto, \$369,305; Central Canada Loan & Savings Co., \$370,250; Emilius Jarvis, Toronto, \$372,311; W. H. Browse, Toronto, \$365,025; Canadian Bank of Commerce, thirty-year debentures at 95.22, twenty-year debentures at 96.72.

Instead of being timid and hysterical as women so circumstanced are usually represented in story-books, a Massachusetts woman (a new woman, of course), showed pluck and presence of mind the other day. At the Five-Cent Savings Bank in Lynn, between 12 and 1 a man approached the teller's window and passed a note to Harriet P. Houghton, who was on duty. The note read: "Don't speak or make any noise, or I'll put a bullet through your brain. Count out \$500 and be quick. Pass it to me without trouble. I have two friends watching us now, and any attempt to communicate with anyone will mean your death." Miss Houghton reached a button near her desk which

sounded a call for the police. Then she informed the man what she had done. Without a pause the robber rushed from the bank and disappeared.

INDUSTRIAL MATTERS.

Ottawa Contractors' Association claim that the laborers' strike is broken, and declare that if the men want work they will have to apply and take their chances with others. They will pay \$1.50 per day, and may grant another increase later in the month.

Owen Sound property-owners voted on Monday to loan W. H. Merritt \$15,000 to assist in the establishment of a furniture factory, and also to loan the Parkhill Basket Co. \$7,000, for the purpose of opening a factory there. A bylaw to raise \$7,000 to supplement a vote of \$18,000 for the erection of a public school was defeated.

A company under the name of the Consolidated Phosphates Co., Limited, has recently been formed in Toronto, with a capital of \$150,000, for the purpose of taking up the crude materials used in preparing artificial fertilizers. It is also intended to establish a factory at some point in the Maritime Provinces, probably in Nova Scotia.

On Wednesday, the 6th inst., the shareholders' meeting of the Canada Woolen Mills, Limited, was held at the head office in Toronto. The following gentlemen were elected to the board: Messrs. John Shuh, late president of the Waterloo Woolen Mills; Geo. F. Benson, Montreal; A. W. Brodie, Hespeler; Timothy Eaton, Toronto; W. D. Long, Hamilton; Geo. Randall, Waterloo; Reuben Millichamp, Toronto. We learn that Mr. Shuh was elected president, pending the return of Mr. Brock next month. It is understood that Mr. Shuh, owing to ill health will retire in Mr. Brock's favor. W. D. Long, of Hamilton, of Messrs. Long & Bisby, was elected vice-president. The executive committee consists of Messrs. Brodie, Morley and Millichamp, and these gentlemen will, we understand, have entire charge of the operations of the company. The mills owned by the company are: The Brodie mill at Hespeler, the Waterloo Woolen Mills at Waterloo, the Maple Leaf Woolen Mills at Markham, and the Lambton Woolen Mills at Lambton, the Hawthorne Woolen Mills at Carleton Place, and the Gillies mill at Carleton Place. Both of the latter properties are to be run by one system from the water power owned by the company. Messrs. Millichamp, Coyle & Co. are appointed the selling agents.

PIANO AND ORGAN MAKERS ORGANIZE.

We learn that the manufacturers of pianos and organs in Ontario have determined to become a section of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The organization meeting was held this week at the Board of Trade, the chair being taken by Mr. R. H. Hawkins, of the Bell Organ Co., Guelph, who was elected president. Those present were: Messrs. Richard Manning, Doherty Organ Co., Clinton; A. Saunders, Goderich Organ Co., Goderich; Gerhard Heintzman, of Gerhard Heintzman Co.; J. Gray, Heintzman Piano Co.; Frank Stanley, Stanley Piano Co.; O. Newcombe, Newcombe Piano Co., and Henry Mason, of Mason & Risch. The organization being completed those present discussed a number of subjects connected with the business. A resolution was passed endorsing the action of the Government and city council in agreeing to grant money for the Dominion Exhibition, to be held in 1901, and pledging themselves to support the exhibition. The next meeting of the section is to be held in August, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the association, when officers will be chosen.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The coffee market is firm both in United States and Europe. In Havre an advance of ½ franc is shown.

Japan teas are maintained in price at Yokohama at about 2c. per pound above prices of a year ago.

Some kinds of black teas are scarce and higher in the Canadian market; Congous are good value.