

**SAVING THE TIMBER.**

The *Lumberman's Gazette* says:—The first annual meeting of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association of the Northwest was held at Chicago on Wednesday. This association was organized for the furtherance of the interests of lumber manufacturers, and those present were united in their determination to adopt measures looking towards a better condition of affairs. The gentlemen who were present represented an industry connected with a wide extent of country comprising vast tracts of land in the three great lumber states—Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The *Inter-Ocean* in speaking of the important gathering says:—"Figures are difficult to comprehend sometimes, but an idea of the immense amount of capital represented in this association may be gained from the fact 3,000,000,000 out of the 8,000,000,000 feet of lumber manufactured in those states annually was represented, besides the capital in the mills, the logs in the booms and in the timber, in addition to shipping and other interests. The association also represents an interest which employs 70,000 men directly and many others indirectly. The meeting was remarkable for the unanimity of feeling in regard to the matter of over-production, and the views of the members are set forth in strong language in the resolutions given below."

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted.

Whereas, In the present depressed condition of trade in this country in all branches of manufactured goods, taken in connection with a depressed condition of the products of the soil and farm, a depressed condition in which lumber deeply sympathizes; and

Whereas, We cannot see one prospect of an improvement in the price of lumber, except in such a curtailment of the amount of the lumber produced in the country as shall render the supply adequate, but not in excess of the ability of purchasers to consume; and that in this view of the cases we recommend to all engaged in logging operations a careful consideration of the conditions of the country and a shaping of their winter operations accordingly; therefore.

Resolved, That in view of the fact that under the impetus of excessive log cutting, the lumber supply of the northwest has for the past year or two been in excess of a healthy demand for consumption, inducing a partial stagnation in the lumber business of the country; and in view of the fact that the probable supply of old logs left over the coming winter will be abnormally large, we recommend to all manufacturers of lumber in the pine-producing regions such conservatism in their endeavors during the coming winter as will tend to restrict the tendency toward an over supply of logs during the year 1884.

Resolved, That only in such conservatism can we hope for a profitable return for investment of labor and capital, either to log producer, lumber manufacturer, or lumber dealer.

Resolved, That such curtailment can be accomplished only the individual effort and good judgment of such manufacturer, irrespective of what his neighbor may do, trusting to the good sense of the lumbermen as a body to accomplish a result which can only tend to the best interest of all engaged in the trade.

Resolved, That there is no more standing timber in the northwest than the future demands of the country will require, and it is as well for the interest of the consumer as producer to cut only such quantities as the yearly ability of the country to consume may demand. It is, therefore, a matter of public policy as well as a matter of self interest to timber-owners to consider their interests in the future while providing a sufficient but not excessive log supply for present consumption.

**Spruce in England.**

The *Timber Trades Journal* of Sept. 29, says: Spruce went cheap; the cargo ex Crane seemed to be the most attractive, and several lots of regulars were secured by one firm, who evidently was satisfied he had a bargain at £10 10s. The planks at £12 15s. and £13 were also cheap enough for anything, and with any turn in the market it would not surprise us to see similar

goods realizing a few months hence a couple of pounds a standard more. The 2nd quality planks also went cheap at £8 10s. Unsorted spruce seemed to average about £7 for regulars, but even at this were very low considering the moderate stocks. Some odd lots went cheaper, but anyway buyers had no cause to complain.

The lowest prices the 1st quality, ex Ellida, from Quebec, fetched, for we make no comment on, as they speak for themselves, and merely observe that with Quebec goods, as with those from some of the favorite Baltic ports, buyers cannot always dispense with an inspection.

**HOW TO PRESERVE BELTS.**

Belting is a very heavy item of expense to every mill man, as it is indeed to every manufacturer using machinery for the prosecution of his industry, and anything which will tend to reduce such expenditure is worthy of presentation for their benefit. An experienced engineer says he has made a belt last him ten years by each Saturday evening turning the inner side out, washing it well with warm water and soda, scraping and oiling it, and then going over the same operation Monday morning before starting the machinery. By doing this and keeping his pulleys clean he finds that they will run at full speed with five pounds of steam when the belts are on loose pulleys, while a larger engine alongside, to which no such attention is given, cannot run with less than thirty pounds under like circumstances.—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

Every day reports from the south indicate that the ownership of pine lands there is being gradually contracted to few holders.

The *Lumberman's Gazette* says:—Cedar operations will not be heavy this winter as the demand for posts and poles does not warrant an extensive output. One Bay City dealer who last winter got out 900,000 pieces will not get out more than 200,000 this. The prospects for the cedar trade are not good.

A HOODED circular saw guard has been invented and patented by Mr. Leonhard Hofmann, of Cincinnati, Ohio, which is adjustable to any height above the saw table to allow for the working of any thickness of lumber. The adjustment may be made instantly, and the guard is held rigidly in place at any elevation desired. It is designed to prevent accidents by circular saws.

WHAT right have the parties who are daily making a practice of appropriating logs and cedar, found floating in the bay, to their own use and benefit? If a man can so claim property thus found, what protection is there against his claiming your wife or your wood-pile if he finds them on the streets. Until I am satisfied on this point, I shall in the interest of home comforts, keep my wife in and chain the dog to the wood-pile.

**THE PRAIRIE PROVINCE.**

WINNIPEG, Man., Oct. 10.—The first real snowstorm of the season occurred to-day. The ground is covered, but it is so soft that it will undoubtedly disappear and be followed by the usual Indian summer.

R. B. Angus, Vice-President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, General Manager Van Horne, and Superintendent Egan reached Calgary this evening after a thirty-six hour run from Winnipeg.

Rev. Dr. Grant, Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, who has just returned with Sanford Fleming from a trip through the Rock river route of the Canadian Pacific, reports Major Rogers, in charge of the Rocky Mountain survey, having successfully achieved a triumph for a direct line. There are three distinct passes, as follows:—In the Rockies proper, Kicking Horse; in the Selkirk range, Rogers' pass, and in the old or Columbia range, Eccles pass. This virtually settles a long-disputed question, and gives the Canadian Pacific the shortest of all trans-continental railways. From Winnipeg to Port Moody on the Pacific is only about one thousand four hundred and eighty miles, whereas from Portland to St. Paul is one thousand nine hundred and eleven miles. Another interesting fact is that it will present the most striking and picturesque scenery of all trans-continental railways. The mountains on Bow river, on Kicking Horse, and in the Selkirks are singularly grand and beautiful. Principal Grant has perched the Rockies now by four distinct passes, and knows whereof he speaks.

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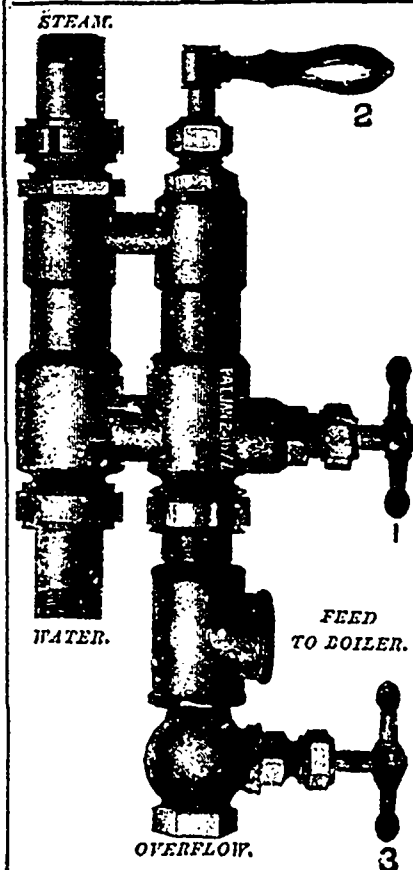
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