

DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

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PETERBOROUGH, Ont., MAR. 15, 1854.

Ir is said that between Oso and Verona larger quantities of ties end timber are being taken out than in any previous year. Rathbun & Co. expect to buy 35,000 ties this spring.

The cut of lumber on the St. Croix this season is not expected to exceed 40,000,000 feet where the average cut for several past seasons has been near[60,000,000. Lumbermen's wages accross the border are very low.

A GRAVENHURST correspondent says that Mr. T. Tait has been making extensive improvements in his shingle mill. A new cylinder has been put in the engine giving it much more power, a second shingle machine has been set up and the mill generally thoroughly repaired. Mr. Tait has contracted to supply seven millions of shingles during the present year.

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Antificial cork is among the recent German inventions. The method of production consists in mixing powdered cork with starch and water, and kneading the mass while boiling hot until it is theroughly mixed. This substance is then poured into moulds for forming the articles, and afterwards dried at a very high temperature. The material is described as quite light, and possessing non-conducting properties.

The International Tub and Awning Co., of Ottawa, whose advertisement appears in this issue, have lately begun to make an ingenious and useful article in the shape of a canvass cance, which can, without trouble, be folded into small compass. They are cheap and serviceable and likely to be much used during the coming season by sportsmen, tourists, lumbermen and others. This company last year carried off five modals and twenty-six first prizes at the exhibitions held at Toronto, Halifax, and St. John, N. B. These were awarded for the excellence and completness of their camping outlis, tents, flags, ends, tables and general supplies for camps. They have just issued an attractive illustrated catalogue which

Panties in Pictou, N. S., with a capital of \$18,000, have received at Ottawa letters patent to manufacture, operate, and sell, a rope-serving machine. The Alma lumber and slupbuilding company of New Brunswick have deposited the plans of their proposed works.

A QUEBEO correspondent says that it is runoured that an English company is on the eve of purchasing the whole of Mr. Lamon tagno's timber limits at Escoumains. These limits comprise the intermediate region between the Bergeronnes and Sault au Mouton Rivers. They are said to be worth about \$150,000.

### POSSIBILITIES OF LAND GULTURE

A remarkable illustration of what may be done with ten acres of land only has been furnished by a fruit planter named Dillon, of Woodland, Cal. Six years ago he planted five acros with Muscatel grapes, since which he has added two more acros. He has also planted one acre with prunes, nectarines and peaches. From the five acres first mentioned his gross returns last year were \$1,200. Last year he planted three-fourths of an acre in beets, which yielded 35 tons. By the aid of these and a little bran or sorts he kept a span of horses and two cows seven months, besides which he sold \$30 worth of beets. One of the cows yields from ten pounds to eleven pounds of butter per week, besides the milk which the planter's small family uses. By the side of his fencing Dillon further planted twenty walnut trees, which have borne fruit for two years. From the wood cut from these trees this year in the trimmings he made a little over three cords of stove wood. Gum trees planted six years ago, and some of them twolve inches in diameter, will make when cut in wood from onefourth and one-half a cord of wood per tree. In the condition in which he now h his fruits and vines, this enterprising grower on a small scale states that he can make a living for himself and Jamily and lay by from \$800 to \$1,000 annually. His family consists of his wife and one child. It is evident that Mr. Dillon of Woodlend, Cal. does not allow anything within his reach to lie idle or unutilized

# AUTOMATIC DAM.

It has long been a question as to how a dam for rivers, so as to secure slack water for navigation, can be constructed. A dam was built across the Ohio river, below Pittaburg, with that object, called the Davis Island dam. Other dams similar to that one have been constructed by the government. The Davis Island dam was of French invention.

Since the dam referred to has been constructed, Mr. John Du Bois, of Du Bois, Pa., has been building dams on an entirely different plan. Comparing his invention with the Davis Island construction Mr. Du Bois says:

"While this is put up and let down by mechanical power, mine is put up and let down by the water itself. All the labor that is required to put it up or down is the closing of one set of wicket-gates and the opening of another, which will not take a man over five minutes. A dam 120 feet in length was put down and up seven and one half feet under nine feet of water in presence of Col. Merrill, Col. Craighill and Capt. Pratt, and many others at different times in less than ten minutes. The dam is perfectly automatic. It will commence going down when the water gots up to the hight set for it, and continues to do so as long as the water continues to rize until it is clear down. It will continue rising as soon as the water falls below the height set for it, and continues to fall until it is up. When properly built it will romain firm on a mud, sand or gravel foundation, provided care is taken to prevent it from undermining by the reaction of the water below the dam. automatic arrangement and operation of the dam prevents a heavy body of water passing over it at any great elevation, and consequently there is but little danger of reaction below the dam. Another advantage is gained by this device. When the streams are too low to navigate on natural water, only the difference between natural and navigable water has to be locked. Locks of large dimensions can be operlock gate or the dam constituting the gate is required to bodrawn out through the wicket gates, allowing the water in the lock to pass over the dam as it is going down. Water let in a lock in this manner causes less commetion than letting it through wicket gates under a high head. A lock may have any number of dams across it, so that a single craft can no passed without loss of water, or a whole tow can be passed, saving much time and loss of water.

All the dams can be let down and form a chute The rapidity with which a dam can be put up or down depends on the size of the wicket gates utod. Whenever the natural water is sufficiently high for navigation the dam will be down, leaving the river entirely unobstructed for the passage of craft, and migrating fish thas ascend the rivers during the spring flood to deposit their oggs for the next annual crop of fish. Shad are the most numerous and profitable, but the dams on the Sasquehanna have entirely prevented their ascent. Much thought and menoy has been expended to provide a way to pass them over, but it is a failure as vet. When a number of dams are crected for slackwatering a stream they can be put down so they will create an artificial flood for descending navigation. They can be used in that way to break up and carry away the ice when forming.'

Mr. Du Bois wants the government to furnish him means to build such a dam in the Alleghany river, the government to furnish him the money as the work progresses. The French government has offered to send an engineer to inspect a dam of the kind whenever Mr. Du Bois shall put one in that shall work satisfactorily in a large river, If it answers the purpose, the French government will pay for it liberally.—

Northwetern Lumberman,

#### ATISTRALIA.

We take the following from the Monthly circular of Mesars. Lord & Huges, timber brokers, of Melbourne, dated 16th of January, 1884:—

Our last advice was on 19th ultime, since which the season's holidays prevented all business at auction, until 8th inst., when the usual sales commenced, since which large offerings of the principal descriptions of timber have been made, with considerable sales.

Oregon is lower, sales being made at £0 7s. 6d. to £6 16s., at which prices three cargoes were disposed of at the one sale. Baltic deals main tained their price, but flooring is lower. American shelving, ceiling and clear pine, ex Empire, were all cleared off, fully sustaining last prices. Kauri pine is in excessive supply, and lower rates have had to be accepted. The cargo of Canadian spruce, ex Augusta, was offered on the 11th inst., but nearly all was passed in, the bidding not being up to importer' views.

Deliveries from the yards continue heavy, and the trade all seem to be doing a good business.

The arrivals have been-Drumlanric and Kamifiord, from Drammen, Helene, Elecktra, and Einar Thambarskelver, from Frederickstad, Juno and Erato, frem Christiana, with flooring; Sidney, from Geffe, Andrea Wilhelmina, from Skelleftes, and Java, from Soderham, with deals; Mesper from Port Gamble, with Oregon, laths, and pickets; Geraldine, from Saguenay, with spruce deals flooring and pickets; Empire, from Boston with clear pine, white pine shelving, T. & G. ceiling, spruce deals, laths, plaster and slates; Sobraon, Drumburten, Firth of Clyde, A.dborough, Crown of Scot-land, Bothwell Castle, Port Jackson, and Westmeath, from Great Britain, Melbourne, from Marseilles, and Adreas, from Hamburg, with flooring, slates, lead, galvanised iron and cement; Palace, Peerless, and Jules Marie, from Kaipara, with Kauri pino; Lady Franklin, from Ballina, Konoowarr, and Nemesis, from Sydney, with cedar.

carried off fivo modals and twonty-six first prizes at the exhibitions held at Toronto, Halifax, and St. John, N. B. These were awarded for the excellence and completness of their camping outfils, tents, flags, ends, tables and general supplies for camps. They have just issued an attractive illustrated catalogue which issued an attractive illustrated catalogue which is well worth sending for and may be had free.

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sold-MARMA brand, 0x3, realising 54d, to 52d, and MB 5d, to 5 1-16d.

STRUCE DEALS.—Imports: 23,551 pieces. The arrivals have been—Geraldine, from Saguenay; and Empire, from Beston. On the 11th inst., the carge of Augusta, was effered at auction, but only about 1,200 pieces were sold, 11x3 realising 3½d. per foot of 9x3. The small parcel, ex Empire, was also sold on same date.

Onegon Timber.—Imports: 750,429 feet super. The only arrival since our last has been Hesper, from Port Gamble. On the Sth inst., the carnees or Thes. R. Foster, Melrose, and L. B. Gilchrist,—amounting in all to upwards of 2,500,000 feet—were offered at auction, resulting in the clearance of the whole at prices ranging from £6 15s. to £6 7s. 6J.—average, about £6 10s.

LUMBER.—Imports: Clear pine, 120,287 feet super; white pine shelving, 231.629 feet super. These lines arrived in the Empire from Boston, and were sold by auction on 11th inst., Michigan clear pine, 1½ in. to 3 in., realizing £17 2s. 6d. to £17; 1½ in., £17 2s. 6d. to £15; white pine shelving (Peabody brand,) £13 7s. 6d. to £13 5s.; other brands, £13 5s. to £12 2s. 6d.; T. and G. Ceiling, £10 12s. 6d. to £10 10s.

Piren Pine,-Imports: Nil. Auction sales.
-Nil.

REDWOOD.—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.
—Nil.

FLOORING AND WEATHERBOARDS.—Imports: 10,013,040 feet lineal, from United Kingdom and Norway; 360,075 feet lineal from Canada. The arrivals have been Drumlanrig, Heleno, Elecktra, Drumburton, Firth of Clyao, and Aldborough, from Great Britain. Sales by auction have been confined to portions of cargoes ex Eduard and Bortha, from the Baltic, and portions ex Augusta, from Canada, and Firth of Clyde, from London; the following being prices realised:—Red, Gx1½ 10s. 6d. to 10s. 3d.; 6x½, 9s. 3d. to 8s. 9d.; 6x½, 6s. to &s. 9d.; 6x½, 4s. 9d.; 4 out weatherboards, 6s. 6d. White, 6x1½, 9s. to 8s. 6d.; 6x½, 4s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 6d. 6d.; 6x½, 5s. 9d. to Ts. 6d.; 6x½, 4s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 9d. to Ts. 6d.; 6x½, 4s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 9d. to 6s. 6d.

KAURI PINE.—Imports: 685,728 feet super. The arrivals have been Palace, Peerless, and Jules Maria. fmm Kaipara. The cargo, ex Jules Marie, and portions ex Palace were sold by auction on the 8th inst., hewn logs realising 12s, 9d. to 10s. 3d.; flitches, 14s. to 12s. 9d. All the flooring, ex F lace was sold, 6x1½ realising 10s. to 9s. 9d.; 6x1, 8s. 3d.; 4x1½, 10s.; 4x1½, 9s. 3d.; 4x1½, 9s.; 4x1, 6s. 6d.

CEDAR.—Imports: 262,032 feet super. The arrivals have been—Lady Franklin, from Ballina; Nemesis and Konoowarra, from Syd noy. The cargo, ex Lady Franklin, was offered at auction on 11th inst., when the beards only were sold; 41s. being the best offer for logs, they were withdrawn.

RED AND WHITE PINE (Colonial.)—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.—Nil.

Doors.—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.—Nil. LATHS AND PICKETS.—Imports: Laths, 4,.634 bundles; Pickets, 2,409 bundles. Sales by auction have been made of Oregon Laths, 44feet, at 37s. to 35s. 9d.; spruce, 44feet, 35s. 3d., showing a decline on last month's quotations.

SLATES.—Imports: 37,800 pieces. This line arrived in Empire, from Boston. There have been no sales by auction during the month. Auction sales.—Nil.

PLASTER.—Imports: 300 barrels. No business has been done by auction since my last report. Auction sales.—Nii.

CEMENT.—Imports: 5,150 barrels. We have no sales by auction to report this month. Shipments to arrive are very light. Private sales have been made during the month of parcels on arrival at up to 15s. 6d. for principal brands, and there are no stocks now in first hands. Auction sales.—Nil.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Imports: 830 tons. The only sale of aucton since our last has been a line of Rabbit brand, 20-gauge, damaged—all faults—at £17 10s. Sales privately have been very light, and but little business has been doing. Orb has had sales at up to £70 10s.; other brands, £19 10s. to £20.

PALINOS.—Auction sales.—11th January—Ex Corinna, 30,000 5-feet palings, at 6s. 3d. per 100.