

THE WOOD INDUSTRIES OF CANADA.

The timber rafts are received at Cap Rouge by the Cap Rouge Pier & Wharf Company as agents, on account of the sellers. The manager of this concern is Mr. N. Flood.

A year or two ago a report was made to the Local Government in Quebec as to the depreciation in the value of the timber coves, owing to the withdrawal of the square timber trade, which showed that the depreciation in value in fifteen years amounted to 4,000,000 dols., but notwithstanding that depreciation and also the absolute abandonment of shipbuilding, which, at one time, employed thousands of workmen, and consumed considerable quantities of hardwoods, besides a large demand for tools and implements, the people of Quebec are not standing idly aside, but have turned their attention to several smaller industries for which the inhabitants are well adapted, and shoe factories, glove factories, corset works, and other light industries have sprung up.

A most important project is the proposed extension of the new Parry Sound railway from Ottawa to Quebec, which, in conjunction with the deepening and widening of the St. Lawrence canal, will, it is hoped, convert Quebec into a depot for the shipment of the products of the Great North-West Territories. This railway would reduce the distance for grain shipments from Duluth to Liverpool 800 miles, compared with the present route *via* Buffalo and New York. The work of the enlargement of the canal, which is being carried on by the Government, to enable large barges and steamers carrying 100,000 bushels of grain in one bottom, instead of in the present 7 ft. draft barges, will entirely change the

engaged in shipping simply, others as manufacturers only, whilst some are both manufacturers and shippers. These three classes, with the necessary brokers and agents, go to make up the timber trade of the port, and the following are some notes concerning the *personnel* and operations of the firms now carrying on business, which, we think, will be found interesting to our readers.

KING BROTHERS, LIMITED, are extensive manufacturers of spruce and pine, and have been now for many years in the trade, the firm having been established in 1829 by the late Mr. Charles King, who erected his first mill at St. Antoine de Tilley. There are now three partners in the firm, viz., Mr. Edmund Alexander King, Mr. Charles King, and Mr. James King. King Brothers are noted for their careful and reliable selection of shipments, and their operations are carried on over a large area and in various localities.

Their principal sources of supply are the following:—Grand Pabos Mill is situated on the Gaspé coast in the Baie des Chaleurs district. The timber for this mill is taken from limits of the Crown covering an area of over 500 square miles, and is for the most part spruce, but there is also a considerable quantity of pine of the first quality, known in the locality as "Corky" pine, and in the Quebec market as the best kind of yellow pine. The capacity of this mill is about 10,000,000 ft. B.M. for the season.

The seignior of Matapédia, comprising an area of some 125 square miles, being all the land three miles deep around Lake Matapédia, and which is the private property of the firm, is situated in the county of Rimouski, and furnishes



THE UPPER AND LOWER MILLS OF KING BROS., LIMITED, ON THE RIVER OUELLE.

features of the St. Lawrence navigation, and when the port is brought into communication with the railway systems of the Grand Trunk, Quebec Central, and the Intercolonial railways on the South Shore, by a bridge across the river near Quebec, there is reason to look forward to an increase in the volume and prosperity of the shipping trade and that the best natural port of the St. Lawrence may gradually become the depot for the grain shipments from the interior and regain her position as the chief transshipping port of British North America.

The harbour is unrivalled in extent and every facility and accommodation is offered to ships loading and unloading in the Louise Dock and Basin.

Another important development is the commencement of cold storage facilities for the preservation of perishable commodities of all kinds, and the Government have promised aid so that a continuous line of cold storages may be established throughout the country, and the productions of the farmers thereby be collected in good condition and sent to Quebec for shipment.

The Quebecers are keeping good heart, and notwithstanding the trials from depression in trade they have passed through during the last twenty years, are hopeful that they have a brighter prospect before them in the near future, and that their shipping trade will again flourish, and the productions of the province will increase in value.

As regards the exportation of wood, some firms are

to the mill at Cedar Hall annually some 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 ft. B.M., principally spruce. Cedar Hall being situated on the line of the Intercolonial Railway, the lumber can be sent by rail to be shipped by water either from Dalhousie, at the head of the Baie des Chaleurs, or from Rimouski, or Rivière du Loup on the St. Lawrence. On the seignior there is an immense quantity of the best quality of cedar, a timber now largely used for making shingles, railway sleepers, telegraph and telephone posts, also for boat building, and many other purposes. In connection with this mill the firm also holds some limits from the Crown, the timber from which is brought to the mill by streams flowing into the Lake Matapédia.

At Rivière Ouelle, on the line of the Intercolonial Railway are two more mills, with a joint capacity of about 8,000,000 ft. B.M. per annum. The illustration shows these two mills, which are close to each other, both working from the same supply of logs. The timber is furnished from private land, of which the firm holds a considerable area, and from about 350 square miles of limits held from the Crown. The wood is chiefly spruce, but there still remains a quantity of pine. For the superior quality of both spruce and pine the mill has had, for a long time, a well deserved reputation in the trade.

The seignior of St. Jean des Chailions, in the County of Lotbinière, comprising an area of 135 square miles, the private property of the firm, is another prolific source of